

# **Capacity Building Workshop for Mongolia on How to Utilize Opportunities from APTA Membership**

**15 November 2017**

**Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia**

Organized by

**United Nations Economic and Social Commission  
for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)**

and

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mongolia**

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Developing Countries**

The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), was signed in 1975 under the name of Bangkok Agreement, as an initiative of ESCAP to support member States in regional integration. Being the oldest preferential trade agreement among developing countries in Asia-Pacific, APTA aims to promote economic development through the adoption of mutually beneficial trade liberalization measures that will contribute to intra-regional trade expansion and provides for economic integration through coverage of merchandise goods, services, investment and trade facilitation.

Open to all developing ESCAP member States, APTA is a truly region-wide trade agreement spanning East and South Asia, with potential to expand to other sub-regions, including Central Asia and the Pacific. APTA is the first plurilateral agreement among the developing countries in the region to adopt common operational procedures for certification and verification of the origin of goods and it has the longest effective implementation period amongst the trade agreements in the entire Asia-Pacific.

Mongolia notified the Executive Secretary of ESCAP of its intention to accede to the APTA on 2 October 2009. Subsequently, Mongolia concluded its bilateral negotiations on tariff concessions with the current Participating States (PSs), and is ready to become the seventh member of APTA.

The workshop intends to raise awareness of Mongolian stakeholders on application and best practices in trade under APTA, with a view to facilitating Mongolia's utilization of the agreed concessions in actual trade. The workshop will introduce APTA, including its background, history, current implementation status and its future direction. The workshop will also invite stakeholders from existing PSs, especially China and ROK which have close economic relationships with Mongolia and share their perspectives on and utilization of APTA by trade community to gain trade and development benefits.

**\*Tentative Programme**

Time	Tentative Programme
1330 - 1340	<p><b>Opening Remarks</b></p> <p>Ms. Battsetseg Tuvshintugs, Deputy Director General, Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mongolia</p>
1340 – 1500	<p><b>Session 1: Introduction to APTA</b></p> <p>Mr. Dong-Oh Nam Expert on Regional Cooperation in Trade and Investment Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations ESCAP</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>
1500 - 1520	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
1520- 1700	<p><b>Session 2: Experience from China and Republic of Korea in benefitting from APTA Membership</b></p> <p>Mr. Chen Zhiyang Division Director, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, China</p> <p>Mr. Jung In Youn Director of Customs Cooperation Division Ministry of Strategy and Finance, Republic of Korea</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>
17:00	<p>Closing</p>