Guidelines for Government Delegates

The purpose of this document is to assist delegations with their preparations for the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development.

The rules of the procedure of the Commission, including those pertaining to the decision-making process, shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Midterm Review, and can be found at: https://www.unescap.org/commission/about-the-commission.

The plenary sessions of the meeting will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation to Chinese, French and Russian, which are the working languages of the Commission. All official documentation for the meeting will be available in English, Chinese, French and Russian.

Meeting-related materials can be accessed before the meeting from the following website: https://www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/MTR-APPC.

Please note that, in accordance with the current efforts of the United Nations towards a digitized Secretariat, the ESCAP secretariat will only issue one set of printed meeting documents per delegation and only upon explicit request.
**Agenda items**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting</th>
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<td><strong>Expected outcome:</strong> The meeting will be opened by a high-level representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), followed by an opening statement by a high-level representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and an inaugural statement by a representative of the Thai Government. This will be followed by the election of officers and the adoption of the agenda.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please refer to the background document:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/APPC2018/L.1)</td>
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<td>This document can be downloaded before the meeting from</td>
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<tr>
<th>Agenda item 2. Review of progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expected outcome:</strong> The meeting will review the progress made in the Asia-Pacific region towards the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development, including in relation to commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The meeting will propose policy actions to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please refer to the background document:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (ESCAP/APPC/2018/1)</td>
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**Requirements for country statements:** The agenda item will be introduced by a video on the challenges and opportunities of population trends in Asia and the Pacific. This will be followed by a high-level panel discussion on the same topic after which the floor will be opened for Q&A to respond to the issues raised by the panelists or request further clarifications.

The panellists are expected to highlight the various elements of progress related to the implementation of the Programme of Action, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration. They should also address interlinkages with the 2030 Agenda and its specific goals, and identify lessons learned and ways forward.

Following the panel discussion with Q&A, the secretariat will make a presentation on progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. This will be complemented by a presentation by UNFPA summarizing the national reports prepared for this Midterm Review. Afterwards, member States will have the opportunity to deliver official country statements for this agenda item. **A maximum of five**
minutes will be allotted per official statement. The statements should be concise and focus on national experiences, lessons learned and recommendations for the future.

Delegates are requested to register their speaking request with the conference officers. Registration forms will be distributed on delegates’ desks. Speaking slots are allocated in the order of registration cognizant of seniority.

Longer versions of statements should be submitted to the secretariat for uploading on the website. Formal presentations using presentation software are not encouraged.

Representatives of intergovernmental organizations, United Nations organizations and civil society organizations will be afforded the opportunity to make thee-minute long statements on the agenda item, after member States have taken the floor.

**Expected outcome:** The meeting will review key issues and provide recommendations related to the emerging issues and gaps in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. The following subject areas will be highlighted through moderated panel discussions followed by open discussions with member States:

(a) Population dynamics and inequality in Asia and the Pacific [agenda item 3a];

(b) Advancing gender equality and universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights [agenda item 3b]; and

(c) Population dynamics, vulnerable groups and resilience to climate change and disasters [agenda item 3c].

Please refer to the following background documents:

- Population dynamics and inequality in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/APPC/2018/2)
- Advancing gender equality and universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (ESCAP/APPC/2018/3)
- Population dynamics, vulnerable groups and resilience to climate change and disasters (ESCAP/APPC/2018/4)

The deliberations under this agenda item are expected to result in enhanced understanding of priorities of the Asia-Pacific region with regards to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, key actions for its further implementation and the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development.
Requirements for interventions: Each sub-item will be introduced through a moderated panel discussion with experts from Government, academia, civil society and the private sector, as appropriate. The discussions will highlight key issues to the related areas, and they will set the stage for subsequent interactive dialogue among member States.

As part of the panel discussion and during the Q&A for each agenda sub-item, member States will have an opportunity to make ad-hoc interventions and pose questions, in relation to their experiences, challenges and priorities related to the theme of the sub-item, contributing to the interactive nature of this meeting. Formal presentations are not required.

Following the panel discussion with Q&A, member States will have the opportunity to deliver official country statements pertaining to particular agenda sub-items. A maximum of three minutes will be allotted per official statement. The statements should be concise and focus on national experiences, lessons learned and recommendations for the future. Longer statements can be uploaded to the meeting website. Delegates are requested to register their speaking request with the conference officers. Registration forms will be distributed on delegates’ desks. Speaking slots are allocated in the order of registration cognizant of seniority.

Agenda item 4. Indicator framework for monitoring progress towards the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development.

Expected outcome: The meeting will review key issues and provide recommendations related to a future indicator framework for monitoring progress towards the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development, with reference to the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation. The topic will be introduced by a short presentation by the secretariat, followed by a moderated panel discussion, including a mix of experts from Government, academia and civil society.

Please refer to the following background documents:

- Suggested indicator framework for monitoring progress towards the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (ESCAP/APPC/2018/INF/1).

Requirements for interventions: Panellists will highlight key issues with regards to the topic of this agenda item that will set the stage for subsequent interactive dialogue among member States.

As part of the panel discussion during the Q&A, member States will have an opportunity to make ad-hoc interventions and pose questions, in relation to their experiences, challenges and priorities related to the theme of this agenda item, contributing to the interactive nature of this meeting. Formal presentations using presentation software are not required.

Following the panel discussion with Q&A, member States will have the opportunity to deliver official country statements pertaining to this agenda item. A maximum of three minutes will be allotted per official statement. The statements should be concise and focus on national experiences, lessons learned and recommendations for the future. Longer statements can be uploaded to the meeting website. Delegates are requested to register their speaking request
with the conference officers. Registration forms will be distributed on delegates’ desks. Speaking slots are allocated in the order of registration cognizant of seniority.

**Agenda item 5. Consideration of the Chair’s Summary**

*Expected outcome:* The meeting will review the draft Chair’s summary, which, along with the report of the meeting, will serve as the regional input for the discussion on the Review and Appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the 52nd session of the Commission on Population and Development in New York in 2019. The report of the meeting, including the Chair’s summary will also be presented to the Committee on Social Development on 29 November 2018 for information only.

The draft Chair’s summary will reflect the Chair’s views of the meeting, including issues raised by participants during the meeting. Amendments will be considered by the Chair.

Please refer to the following background document:
- Draft Chair’s summary (ESCAP/APPC/2018/WP.1)

The draft Chair’s summary will be made available to participants by e-mail by 12:00 PM (noon) on Wednesday 28 November.

*Requirements for intervention:* Governments shall consider the draft Chair’s summary.

**Agenda item 6. Adoption of the report of the meeting**

**Agenda item 7. Closing of the meeting**

*Expected outcome:* The meeting will have before it the report of the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. The meeting will be invited to consider and adopt the report, including the Chair’s summary.

Please refer to the following background documents:
- Draft report (ESCAP/APPC/2018/L.2)

The draft report will be made available to participants by e-mail by 12:00 PM (noon) on Wednesday 28 November.

Under agenda item 7, closing statements will be delivered by high-level representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Chair of the meeting.

*Requirements for intervention:* Governments shall consider the draft report of the meeting for adoption.