

STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. TUGSBILGUUN TUMURKHULEG, AMBASSADOR
AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA
TO UN ESCAP AT THE 4th ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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*/On Agenda item 2c for regional perspectives on the implementation,
follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/*

2c

Mr. Chairman,
Madame Executive Secretary,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

First of all, allow me to join the previous speakers in expressing our gratitude to the participating countries in the Voluntary National Review for sharing their experiences and best practices in implementing the SDGs at the national level.

I wish to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of the Report on "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing Asia-Pacific", which reflects major trends of the region. I hope that it would help to highlight the key developments, challenges and regional cooperation opportunities.

Mongolia is endeavoring to build a more inclusive and enabling environment for sustainable development and provide equal opportunities for all of its citizens. My Government attaches high importance to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. By 2030, Mongolia aims to be a stable middle income country that has eradicated poverty in all its forms and preserved its ecological balance.

I would like to share with you the policies and actions taken by my Government towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for SDGs.

- "Mongolia's Sustainable Development Vision-2030" was approved by the Parliament in February, 2016.
- The Law on Development Policy Planning and the General Procedure for Drafting Development Policy Documents provided the legal framework for coordination of sectoral and local development policies in Mongolia.
- The National Development Agency was established in 2016 with the purpose to ensure Mongolia's economic stability, strengthen cross-sectorial policies and improve the living standards of the people.
- The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2021 for Mongolia has been developed as an integrated program from the UN in support of the efforts to attain the "Mongolia's Sustainable Development Vision-2030".

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of Mongolia is working on designing a medium term integrated plan through identifying priority areas to ensure harmonization of sectors and address cross-cutting issues.

Over the last 15 years, the goals of reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS and building an information society have all been achieved. The poverty rate in Mongolia was reduced to 21.6 percent in 2014 from 36.3 percent in 1995. Moreover, Mongolia has been classified as a high Human Development country since 2015. Furthermore, there has been a significant progress in promoting gender equality and increasing women's participation in politics and decision-making.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to underscore the significance of the Intergovernmental Agreement on International Road Transport along the Asian Highway Network between Mongolia, Russia and China, facilitated by the UNESCAP. As a good practice in the region, this infrastructure network provides impetus for economic cooperation and serves as a platform for regional cooperation. There is no doubt that it would make a substantial contribution to the implementation of the program on establishing of the Economic Corridor between Mongolia, Russia and China signed by heads of state of the three countries.

It goes without saying that like many other developing countries, Mongolia will not be able to achieve the global goals on its own. Therefore, I would like to underline the following points as input to our deliberations:

- The effective partnership plays a significant role in supporting the implementation of 2030 Agenda. We are of view that the enhanced cooperation between multi-stakeholders would be of crucial importance, involving government, private sectors, international organizations, civil societies and development agencies.
- We all have in common a responsibility with our own particularities. Thus, comprehensive determination of indicators, initiating researches and surveys, analyzing policy coherence and designing appropriate development model are needed at the moment for developing countries and those with special needs.

Mr. Chairman,

Finally, I would like to emphasize that the Regional Road Map could be a significant tool for Asia and the Pacific region in implementing the global goals more effectively and efficiently. Furthermore, I do believe that the APFSD, as an inclusive intergovernmental forum, will act as a catalyst to assist the Asia-Pacific countries in fulfilling their international obligations including Sustainable Development Goals.

Taking this opportunity, may I reiterate Mongolia's strong commitments to achieve its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thank you for your attention.