DAY 1

Opening Remarks

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana was appointed Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 13 September 2018. Ms. Alisjahbana was Professor of Economics at Universitas Padjadjaran and was Minister of National Development Planning and the Head of the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), Indonesia in 2009 to 2014. She was a member of the High-Level Independent Team of Advisors to support the ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations for the 2030 Agenda. Ms. Alisjahbana obtained her Ph.D in Economics from the University of Washington, USA.

H.E. Mr. Dato’ Lim Jock Hoi is the Secretary-General of ASEAN. He was the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam since 2006. During his tenure as Permanent Secretary, he served as Brunei Darussalam’s Senior Official for ASEAN Economic Community Pillar, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), and was Chair of the High-level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration in 2017. He was Chairman of the Governing Board of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) from 2011 to 2017. Dato Lim Jock Hoi received his Post Graduate Certificate of Education in 1977.
SESSION 1

Mr. Suthiphand Chirathivat is Executive Director of the ASEAN Studies Centre, Chairman of the Global Network of Chulalongkorn University, and Professor Emeritus of Economics at Chulalongkorn University. Until recently, he was a Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Chairman of the Ph.D. Program in Economics, and of Economics Research Centre and Centre for International Economics at Chulalongkorn University. He used to be Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Transport and Communications, including Economic Affairs Committee and Foreign Affairs Committee of the Thai Parliament. He holds a Doctorat en Economie from the University of Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris.

Mr. Surichai Wung’aeo is Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Faculty of Political Science, and Director of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies of Chulalongkorn University. He also serves as Chairperson of the Executive Board, Focus on the Global South, Social Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University. Previously Mr. Wung’aeo was Director of the Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute and Deputy Director for Research, Institute of Asian Studies. He also served at the Executive Board, Social Science Association of Thailand and was Deputy Dean for Research Affairs, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University. Mr. Wung’aeo earned his Ph.D. (ABD) from the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Hamza Malik is the Director of the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division at ESCAP. Before joining ESCAP in 2014, he worked as the Director of Monetary Policy Department at the central bank of Pakistan from 2007 to 2014 and also served as a member of the bank’s internal Monetary Policy Committee. He previously served as an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at Lakehead University, Canada where he taught macroeconomics, monetary economics and international finance. Mr. Malik graduated from McMaster University with a PhD in economics in 2002.

Ms. Brigida Brites Soares is Coordinator of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit in the Prime Minister Office of Timor-Leste. She has over 15 years of work experiences, including working in with Government agencies, non-governmental organizations and United Nations Agencies. She hold a master’s degree in development studies from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and a bachelor’s degree in development studies from the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL).
Ms. Sara Sekkenes was appointed as United Nations Resident Coordinator in Lao People’s Democratic Republic in May 2019. Previously, she served at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as Adviser on Partnerships and Conflict Prevention from 2015 to 2019, as Team Leader on Conflict Prevention and Recovery from 2011 to 2014, and as Adviser and Team Leader on Armed Violence Prevention, Mine Action and Small Arms from 2006 to 2011. Before joining the United Nations, Ms. Sekkenes worked with the non-governmental organization Norwegian People’s Aid as Country Director in Mozambique. She holds a Master from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden in the field of Human and Physical Geography.

Mr. Sukich Udindu is Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility at the Minor Group. Prior to joining the Minor Group, he was the director of Resource Development at CARE Thailand. Mr. Udindu is the founder and vice chairman of the CSR Club at the Stock Market of Thailand, and also the founder and president of ECOTOPIA, the alliance for Ecological Utopia and bridging network for climate change. He serves on a number of committees of the Royal Thai Government working on CSR and youth development and is an advisor for the Deputy Minister of Finance and as chairman of Finance for Society. Mr. Udindu holds a master’s degree in architecture from Pratt in New York, and an MBA from Thammasat University.

Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn is a senior fellow at Chulalongkorn University’s Institute of Security and International Studies. He has been a journalist for over three decades with the Bangkok-based English-language newspaper The Nation, first as correspondent in Phnom Penh and Hanoi and later as leading writer and editor. He served as special assistant to the secretary general of ASEAN from 1995 to 1996 before returning to journalism. Kavi was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University from 2001 to 2002 and president of the UNESCO Guillermo Carno World Press Freedom Prize jury from 2004 to 2007. He is the current affairs commentator of Nation News Channel’s One World Program. Kavi’s column, Regional Perspective, is in its 30th year.
Ms. Tientip Subhanij is Chief of Financing for Development in the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division of ESCAP. She has extensive experience in macroeconomics financial sector, international trade and investment issues. Throughout her career, she has served in several managerial and professional positions in academia, government and private sector, including the Bank of Thailand, the Stock Exchange of Thailand, Bank for International Settlements and South East Asian Central Banks. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the University of Cambridge.

Mr. Aladdin D. Rillo is appointed as the Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Economic Community for 2018 to 2021. Before assuming this role, he was a Senior Economist with the Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo. Mr. Rillo worked at the ASEAN Secretariat for more than 10 years where he served in various positions; the latest as Director and Chief Economist of the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (2010 to 2013). Mr. Rillo holds PhD and MA degrees in economics from the University of Hawaii, and an AB in economics from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Ms. Zeti Akhtar Aziz was appointed Group Chairman of Permodalan Nasional Berhad in July 2018. Prior to that, she served as Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia from May 2000 to April 2016. She was also the Chair of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) Central Bank Governance Group and a founding member of the BIS Consultative Council Group for Asia. She was also a member of the Council of Eminent Persons which advised the Government on the institutional and structural reforms in Malaysia in 2018. Ms. Zeti holds a PhD in Economics from University of Pennsylvania, United States of America.

Ms. Amalia Adininggar Widyasanti is a senior advisor to the Minister for Economy and Financing at the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas), Indonesia. Prior to this, she served as Director of Macroeconomic Planning and Statistics Analysis from July 2016 to February 2018. She was also appointed Head of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) National Coordination Team Secretariat in 2018 and has held that role until now. Ms. Widyasanti started her career in the Ministry since 1999 and previously served as Director for Trade, Investment and International Economic Cooperation. She obtained her PhD degree in economics from the University of Melbourne, Australia.
**Daw Kyi Kyi Khin Swe** is the Director of Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar. She has joined the Securities and Exchange Commission since 2015 and served as Director for Market Oversight and Market Supervision Department. She has 16 years of experience in banking as a manager in Myanmar Economic Bank, Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry. She holds the Executive Master of Public Administration Degree from Yangon University of Economic in Myanmar.

**Mr. Cedric Rimaud** is ASEAN Programme Manager at the Climate Bond Initiative. He has extensive experience in the fund management industry as well as with investment banking firms (JP Morgan, Citi and Credit Suisse) and has been managing fixed income portfolios and analyzing corporate bonds most recently as Head of Emerging Markets Corporate Credit Research at an independent credit research company. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder and member of the CFA Society in Singapore. Mr. Rimaud holds a master’s degree in Finance from the London Business School, United Kingdom.

**Mr. Rajeev Kumar Gupta** is Programme Manager at the United Nations Development Fund (UNCDF), Bangkok office. He has joined the office since 2016. Prior to UNCDF, he worked for more than a decade with BASIX, a livelihood and financial inclusion promotion organisation in India, where he was involved in range of financial inclusion interventions, in setting up State level livelihood mission, and heading the international consulting work in countries in South Asia, South-East Asia and Africa. Mr. Gupta did his Forestry Management from Indian Institute of Forest Management, and bachelor’s degree in Chemistry (Hons) from Delhi University in India.

**Mr. Randall Shannon** is a full-time lecturer at the College of Management, Mahidol University in Bangkok. He is also the director of the Masters in Marketing program and co-director of the consumer life course studies group (CLSG), which encourages research related to aging consumers. Prior to becoming a full-time academic, Mr. Shannon previously worked as a market researcher with Nielsen (Thailand) and in 2004 co-founded a market research firm, AtVantage. He specializes in cross-cultural consumer behavior and retailing and has conducted market research in the region for over 25 years. He holds a Ph.D. in Marketing.
**SESSION 4:**

Ms. Katinka Weinberger is the Chief of Environment and Development Policy Section, Environment and Development Division of ESCAP. Prior to joining the Section, she was the Head of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty for Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA) of ESCAP and before that worked in different scientist positions within the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). She has more than twenty years of experience in research for development, has been involved in empirical field research in collaboration with national and international partners in Asia and the Pacific and across Africa, and authored more than 80 publications.

Mr. Phu Huynh is an Employment Specialist based in Bangkok for the International Labour Organization. He has conducted economic and labour market analysis and monitored emerging policy trends throughout the Asia-Pacific region for nearly 15 years. He advises policymakers mainly in Southeast Asia in the design and implementation of employment and labour market policies. Mr Huynh has authored various research publications, which most recently have focused on working conditions in Asia’s garment industry, the impact of ASEAN economic integration on skills demand, and the future of jobs at risk of technological automation in ASEAN. His academic background is in both economics and international relations and is a graduate of Northwestern University and Johns Hopkins University, United States of America.

Ms. Therese Bjork works as a Human Rights Officer at the South East Asia Regional Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Ms. Bjork has worked in various capacities for the United Nations since 2005, both in Bangkok, Geneva and in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She is currently responsible for supporting the integration of human rights in the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda and for mainstreaming human rights into the United Nations’ development work at the country level. She has a Bachelor of Social Science and a Master of Laws (LL.M.).

Mr. Aziz Elbehri is a senior economist/senior policy officer at the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He leads work on trade and development issues, focusing on farm support policies, climate-smart agriculture, sustainability of biofuels, and policies to support smallholder market integration. Prior to joining FAO in 2008, he served as an economist with the USDA Economic Research Service since 1999 and as a research associate at Penn State University for 3 years and consulted for the World Bank on WTO policy issues. He is educated in Morocco (Master’s degree in agronomy), University of Minnesota (Masters in applied economics and agronomy) and Purdue University (PhD in international trade).
Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon is Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific located in Bangkok. He is supporting resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, green economy, green financing, sustainable public procurement, sustainable tourism, sustainable industries and various areas for Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Memon is also Project Manager for the Regional Policy Advocacy Component of the European Union-funded SWITCH-Asia Programme to promote sustainable consumption and production and uptake of SDG 12 in Asia. Mr. Memon has a Doctorate degree in environmental and resource economics from Hiroshima University in Japan.

Mr. Bishwa Nath Tiwari is Programme Specialist at the Inclusive Growth Team of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangkok Regional Hub. He writes UNDP’s flagship reports – human development report and SDG report. He leads the work on multidimensional poverty and social protection measures in UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub and provides support to country offices in programming, and review and follow-up of the SDGs. Prior to joining Bangkok Regional Hub, he worked at UNDP Nepal and Bangladesh. His career started in Tribhuvan University, Nepal. Mr. Tiwari holds Ph. D. in Economics from University of Rajasthan, India.
Mr. Kung Phoak is appointed the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community from 2018 to 2021. Mr. Kung was the Undersecretary of State at the Office of the Council of Ministers of Cambodia and was working on foreign policy in the Office of the Prime Minister of Cambodia. He co-founded the Cambodian Institute for Strategic Studies as a network of Cambodian and foreign scholars called Cambodian Strategic Study Group. Mr. Kung is a Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Cambodia. He holds a PhD in political science and international relations from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom. He obtained a master’s degree in public policy and Graduate Diploma in public administration at Australian National University.

Mr. Suriyon Thunkijjanukij is currently work as a Senior Advisor on Policy and Program Office, Office of The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), Office of the Prime Minister. He obtained a master’s degree in public policy and Graduate Diploma in public administration at Australian National University.

Mr. Giuseppe Busini was appointed Deputy Head of Mission, Delegation of the European Union to Thailand in September 2018. Mr. Busini has worked in the European Union External Relations service for more than 20 years, covering inter alia South Caucasus, Islamic Republic of Iran, Central Asia, the Gulf Cooperation Council and India. Before his appointment to Bangkok, he was responsible for the European Union's relations with ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum. Mr. Busini holds a PhD in International Relations and Contemporary History, University of Perugia, Italy.

Ms. Sita Sumrit is Head of Poverty Eradication and Gender Division and Assistant Director of the Human Development Directorate at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta. Prior to joining the ASEAN Secretariat, Ms. Sumrit was Chief of Women and Children Empowerment Programme at the Thailand Institute of Justice. She has also worked on development issues in South-East Asia at Oxfam, the United Nations as well as at academic institutions. Ms. Sumrit was awarded United Nations Development Programme Human Development Academic Fellowship on the theme of Gender Equality and is an alumni and mentor of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Women’s Leadership Academy. She received her PhD from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.
Ms. Shailaja Fennell is Reader in Regional Transformation and Economic Security, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge. She is a member of the Global Challenges Research Fund bid Transforming India's Green Revolution by Research and Empowerment for Sustainable food Supplies led by the University of Cambridge, as well as leads the academic team in writing the ASEAN Development Outlook on Inclusion and Sustainability due to be launched in 2020. Ms. Fennell has led research projects in Asian and African countries for past 15 years and her research interests include institutional reform and regional transformation. She received MA and MPhil in Economics from the University of Delhi, and MPhil and PhD at the Faculty of Economics and Politics, University of Cambridge.

Mr. Arman Bidarbakht-Nia is Head of Statistical Data Management Unit, Statistics Division, ESCAP. He previously worked for the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) of ESCAP and the Statistical Centre of Iran. He has more than 15 years of experience in a mix of theoretical research, application and training of official statistics and measurement of human development. His areas of professional interest include measures for sustainable development, poverty analysis, consumer demand analysis, survey methodology, and small area estimation. He holds a PhD degree in economics.

Ms. Marie Lisa Dacanay is the founding President of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA). She is a Social Innovation Thought Leader of the Year 2019 Awardee of the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship and World Economic Forum. She leads the Social and Community Enterprise Constituency as part of the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism engaging ESCAP on the Sustainable Development Goals. Most recently, she led the action research that resulted to a multi-stakeholder platform promoting a set of Benchmarks for Transformational Partnerships and Women’s Economic Empowerment in Agricultural Value Chains in Southeast Asia and beyond.

Concluding Remarks
Mr. Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah is the Head of the Subregional Office for South-East Asia at ESCAP. He coordinates the work on sustainable development in the areas of economic and social cooperation of the eleven South-East Asian countries as well as with ASEAN. Previously with the ASEAN Secretariat for many years where he served in various positions. He received degrees from the University of Oregon and the University of Missouri-Kansas City.