

**Tentative Programme
Expert Group Meeting
“Navigating Non-Tariff Measures toward Sustainable Development”**

**11-12 July 2019, ESCAP UNCC
Bangkok, Thailand**

THURSDAY 11 JULY 2019

- 13:00 – 13:30 Opening remarks & introduction to theme of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2019**
Mia Mikic, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division (TIID), ESCAP
- 13:30 – 15:00 Session 1: The Rise of Non-Tariff Measures: Why it matters for sustainable development?**
This session will discuss the nature and economics of NTMs, and their linkages with sustainable development, regional and sub-regional overview of prevalence and diversity of NTMs in the region.
Speaker: Alexey Kravchenko, TIID, ESCAP
Discussants: 1) Arun Jacob, Environmental and Development Division, ESCAP
2) Maria Semenova, TIID, ESCAP
3) Durairaj Kumarasamy, ASEAN India Centre, RIS
Group Discussion
- 15:00 – 15:20 Group photo and coffee break**
- 15.20 – 16:45 Session 2: NTMs and their relationships to international standards**
This session will discuss how WTO SPS and TBT Agreements promote the use of international standards, to what extent international standards are available for countries to use, taking the food and agricultural sector and international standards as a reference.
Speaker: Ralf Peters, UNCTAD (through skype)
Discussants: 1) Ravi Khetarpal, The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI).
2) Watcharas Leelawat , Maekong Institute.
Group Discussion

FRIDAY 12 JULY 2019

- 09:00 – 10:30 **Session 3: Measuring the Development Impact of Non-Tariff in Asia and the Pacific**
This session will present estimates of the existing costs associated with NTMs, impacts of NTMs on trade and FDI are presented, estimated potential impacts from a reduction in the costs of compliance with NTMs on sustainable development.
Speakers: 1) Alexey Kravchenko, TIID, ESCAP
2) Heather Lynne Taylor-Strauss, TIID, ESCAP
Discussants: 1) Jose Elias Duran Lima and Marcelo Dolabella, ECLAC
2) John Gilbert, Utah State University
3) Sufian Jusoh, Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS)
Group Discussion
- 10:30-10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45 -12:00 **Session 4: Maximizing Benefits of NTMs for Sustainable Development**
This session will discuss regional good practices in streamlining procedures associated with implementation of NTMs, opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation in this area, including the need for regional quality infrastructure development and harmonization of NTM-related provisions in regional trade agreements.
Speaker: 1) Yann Duval, TIID, ESCAP
Discussants: 1) Javier Lopez Gonzalez, OECD
2) Nimal Aluthgama Gamladdalage Karunathilake, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka
3) Allwyn Netto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand
Group Discussion
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch
- 13:00-14:30 **Session 5: Emerging issues shaping NTM research frontier and policy implications**
This session will discuss emerging issues, findings from the frontier of research, and implications to the future of trade and trade policy in the region.
Speakers: 1) Ernawati Munadi, Ministry of Trade Sub Facility, Indonesia
2) Simon Lacey, Huawei Technologies
3) Mary Elizabeth Chelliah, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore
Group Discussion
- 14:30-14:45 Coffee break
- 14:45-16:15 **Roundtable discussion on APTIR 2019**
Moderator: Mia Mikic, TIID, ESCAP