



**Seventieth session of
the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

Regional Consultation on Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Concept note

Date: 5 – 6 August 2014

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

BACKGROUND

Robust reporting and accountability at the global, regional and national levels will be critical for the implementation of a post-2015 development agenda. The President of the General Assembly convened an interactive dialogue on 1 May 2014, to address the "Elements for a monitoring and accountability framework for the Post-2015 Development Agenda." Emergent views included that such a framework should be guided by national ownership and leadership, engaging all stakeholders and going beyond the MDG frameworks to close existing gaps. The dialogue reaffirmed the importance of an accountability framework at the regional level as countries in the same region shared similar challenges and were likely to make greater progress by collectively addressing them.

OBJECTIVES

In follow up to the global dialogue, and based on the emergent critical role of the regional dimension of accountability, the Regional Consultation on Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda will share perspectives on elements that may constitute a regional accountability framework nested within an wider framework with national and global links, and with emphasis on the key role of the Regional Commission and intergovernmental platforms, such as the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) as the annual regional forum to feed into the High-Level Political Forum. It is understood that the subject of accountability will be further revisited once the post 2015 agenda is globally adopted and the SDGs are agreed upon, however, the regional consultation provides the opportunity to feed into current global discussions shaping the future accountability framework.

SCOPE OF THE DISCUSSION

Participants at the consultation will engage in lively discussion on accountability at the national, regional, and global levels. Sessions will enable a sharing of experiences in national accountability, a cornerstone of effective accountability, and discuss the role of the Regional Commissions and the APFSD in coordinating support for strengthened capacity. Based on a sharing of best practices from existing Asia-Pacific regional accountability mechanisms, the form and future format of the APFSD as a leading regional accountability platform linking the national, regional and global level mechanisms will be investigated. Sessions will further deliberate on how a renewed global partnership for the post-2015 development agenda can learn from the past and be grounded in an effective accountability framework, based on inclusive participation of all stakeholders. Finally, new approaches in philanthropic engagements will be shared by leaders in the field to accentuate the growing role the private sector, philanthropic organizations, and foundations will have in delivering on the post-2015 development agenda, and strengthen the links between the public, private and civil society sectors.

PARTICIPANTS

- High-level government officials from ESCAP member and associate member States engaged in monitoring and implementation of economic, social and sustainable development strategies, including environmental protection, finance and development planning among other.
- Accredited representatives of civil society, private sector representatives and other stakeholders.
- Representatives of United Nations organizations, regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions and regional multilateral development banks.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A Chair's Summary of the Regional Consultation on Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda will be transmitted to the Secretary-General by mid-October 2014 to inform his Synthesis Report that would launch the intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda.

To register your interest to participate in this important session, and for more information, please contact escap-esdd-evs@un.org

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