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DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

ESCAP/ADB/UNDP Sub-Regional Workshop on accelerated achievement of MDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda in South Asia¹

9-11 February 2013, Dhaka, Bangladesh

(As of 5 February 2013)

I: Introduction

ESCAP/ADB/UNDP regional partnership in cooperation with the Bangladesh Bank and the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) will jointly organize the South Asia sub-regional workshop on accelerated achievement of MDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 9-11 February 2013.

II: Background

The United Nations Secretary General's 2012 annual report, "*Accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals: options for sustained and inclusive growth and issues for advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015*", summarizes recent progress made towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and makes recommendations to advance consultations towards a Post-2015 development agenda. The report also states that the Post-2015 development agenda should be advanced consistent with the decision by the Member States in the 2012 Conference for Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to initiate negotiations around sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The recently concluded Rio+20 negotiations have great promise and implications for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), regional MDG partnership, which included a renewed political commitment to sustainable development. The regional MDG partnership, given its deep insight and experience in dealing with MDGs issues during the last one decade in the Asia-Pacific region, which faces the heaviest burden of deprivations in the world, can make an effective contribution to the on-going debate and discussion on the Post-2015 development agenda and the post-Rio+20 process. The Rio+20 adopted the outcome document entitled: "*The Future We Want*". It was adopted by the representatives of more than 190 countries in Rio de Janeiro and recognized the vital role that

¹ Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

regional commissions and regional bodies can play in the balanced integration of the three pillars – economic, social and environmental – into the sustainable development agenda. This provides an opportunity to enrich the regional partnership with the central objective of assisting the South Asian Member States in identifying key issues relevant for the post-2015 development agenda.

In line with the above, the regional partnership undertakes a series of regional and sub-regional workshops and consultations around the Post-2015 development agenda and the post-Rio+20 process, culminating in the publication and launch of the next *Regional MDG Report (2012/13) - The Post 2015 development agenda in Asia and the Pacific*. These consultations will also serve to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels through the integration of economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their inter linkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions.

Sub-regional consultations were held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 26-28 September 2012 with government representatives and other stakeholders from Central and some East Asian Member States and in Nadi, Fiji for representatives from Pacific Island Member States on 10-11 October 2012, and then in Bangkok for representatives from South-East Asian Member States on 21-23 November 2012. Another workshop was held for the Least Developed Member States on 17-19 December, 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The consultations are organized as a part of the ESCAP/ADB/UNDP regional partnership.

III: Objectives and Format of the Consultation

The workshops' main objectives are to (i) review MDGs achievements and assessing the sub-regional challenges during the remaining period to 2015, (ii) collect the views and perspectives of the Member States including, civil society and other stakeholders on the Post-2015 development agenda. Given that a key lesson from the conception and formulation of MDGs has been the importance of the full engagement and inclusive participation at country level of all development stakeholders the workshop format is designed to maximize opportunities for participants to contribute to the discussion.

At the same time and mainly for the purpose of organization and focus, every effort will be made to capture the country/sub-region specific experiences and views from MDG implementation, as well as elicit views on how these views can be reflected in the discussion taken globally and regionally on the Post-2015 development agenda. In this regard and in line with the call for a more integrated, inclusive and sustainable development approach, the workshop will discuss:

- a) Experiences and lessons learned from MDG implementation in South Asia as well as lessons drawn from other regions, including the MDG acceleration framework;
- b) How these lessons and experiences may best be reflected in global and regional consultations in building on the MDGs in shaping the post-2015 development agenda;
- c) The transitioning from MDGs to the Post-2015 development agenda and the integration of the economic, social and environment pillars;
- d) Strategies or enablers for inclusive and sustainable development, with reference to think pieces from the UN Task Team on Post-2015 development agenda
- e) The resource (financial, human and natural) and state capacity and institutional constraints (people, policies and processes) and constraints faced in achieving country priorities bearing in mind some of the lessons from the MDGs;

- f) How to harmonize country needs and priorities with global aspirations and ensure that the required financial and implementation resources are assessed in the formulation of the monitoring framework
- g) How to better use the sub-regional development cooperation in achieving the MDGs and to align the post-2015 development agenda.

There will be a UNESCAP/ADB/UNDP Survey session to receive perspectives on the post-2015 development agenda from the participants of the workshop.

The representatives of each country will have an opportunity to deliver a brief (10-15 minutes) presentation on the key issues, development challenges and their perspectives on the post-2015 development agenda. United Nations agencies and other inter-governmental organizations will also be invited to deliver brief statements under each key area.

IV: Participants

The South Asia sub-regional workshop will target selected policy makers and senior officials of national governments, local authorities, private sector representatives, civil society actors, academics and the media who are directly engaged in national processes for achieving the MDGs and the post-2015 development framework. Officials and experts from national, sub-regional, regional, bilateral donors and international organizations and agencies engaged in promoting development cooperation will be invited to participate in their own capacities.

V: Expected Outcomes

The policy makers from the eight South Asian countries and relevant stakeholders will exchange views during the three-day meeting.

The Workshop is expected to produce the following outputs:

- 1) A summary of priorities for the South Asian countries (i.e., areas of intervention/support and strategies) in order to accelerate achievement of MDGs between now and 2015. This summary will feed into the preparation of the next ESCAP/ADB/UNDP Regional MDG Report 2012/13; and
- 2) A summary of the key priorities of South Asian Member States (i.e., areas of intervention/support and strategies) for inclusion in the Post-2015 development agenda.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6548

