



UNESCAP celebrates move to new premises in I-Tower

Press Release

(22 May 2013, Incheon, ROK) – The East and North-East Asia Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP-ENEA) together with UNESCAP-APCICT, UNCITRAL and UNISDR celebrates their move to the new premises in I-Tower in Songdo, Incheon and holds jointly with Incheon City an opening ceremony from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM on 31 May 2013.

The ceremony includes speakers such as Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, H.E. Mr. Yun, Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, Mr. Song Young-Gil, Mayor of Incheon City and H.E. Dr. Han, Seung-soo, Former Prime Minister of Republic of Korea. Ambassadors of the member States of UNESCAP-ENEA including Japan, Mongolia and Russia are among other guests to attend.

“I am very pleased about the move that’s been carefully planned and implemented for almost three years. This will enable Songdo to become the hub of multilateralism, and it has been the first attempt in consolidating the UN offices in one building. I believe the move will strengthen our ability to deliver as one UN”, said Kilaparti Ramakrishna, director of UNESCAP-ENEA.

The Office will occupy the 6th and 7th floors of the building. There will be a library that exclusively houses the United Nations materials and is managed by the Incheon City, as well as the state-of-art conference facilities with spacious office rooms and skydeck garden. The Secretariat of the Green Climate Fund and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership Secretariat are scheduled to move in later this year. The Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ) has already started settling into their new home in the 33-story building.

The I-Tower is located in the newly developed city of Songdo where economic, social and environmental sustainability is key to the inception and future development of the city, with well-developed green infrastructure and parks.

With the move to the new building, UNESCAP-ENEA will continue to carry out programmes that promote sustainable and inclusive development in North-East Asia.

Programme

15:00 - 16:00 Seminar on the UN and ROK (1st Floor, Global Center)

Keynote speakers

- Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP

- H.E. Dr. Han, Seung-soo, Former Prime Minister of Republic of Korea

16:00 - 17:00

Opening of the new UN premises (1st Floor, Lobby)

- (1) Cultural performance
- (2) UN flag raising
- (3) Opening and congratulatory speeches

Opening remark

- Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP

Congratulatory remarks

- H.E. Mr. Yun, Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea
- Mr. Song, Young-Gil, Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan City
- Mr. Lee, Sung-Man, Chairman of Incheon Metropolitan City Council

- (4) Ribbon-cutting
- (5) Group photo

17:00 - 18:00

Reception (6th Floor, Atrium)

Features of the new building include:

- UN library on the 2nd floor; open to the public in December 2013.
- UN conference halls on the 8th floor, equipped with high-tech facilities.
- Skydeck garden on the 29th floor overlooking at a 100-acre Songdo's Central Park.

For further information about the ceremony or to set up individual interviews, please contact:

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About UNESCAP-ENEA

The UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office was inaugurated on 17 May 2010 in Incheon, the Republic of Korea with the objective of strengthening the effective and efficient delivery of various UN development-related mandates with special emphasis on six member States of ESCAP – China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation. The Office is currently the only comprehensive multilateral hub for all six North-East Asian countries and also serves as the Secretariat of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC).

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