

**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

Bangkok and online, 20–23 February 2024

**Report on the Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development\***

1. The Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), was held in Bangkok and online from 20 to 23 February 2024.
2. The Eleventh Forum was attended by more than 1,000 participants, including representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, international organizations and major groups and other stakeholders.
3. Representatives of the following member States attended: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Türkiye, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.
4. Representatives of Hong Kong, China, an associate member, also attended.
5. Representatives of the following Permanent Observers attended: Belarus, Italy and Sweden, as well as the European Union. A representative of the Holy See, an observer to the United Nations, also attended.
6. In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure of ESCAP, the Chair and Vice-Chairs examined the credentials of all the representatives and found them to be in order.
7. Under agenda item 1 (a), the Executive Secretary of ESCAP delivered opening remarks. Special remarks were delivered by the Deputy Prime

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\* Annex II is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Mr. Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara, and the President of the Economic and Social Council. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations delivered a statement. Statements on behalf of major groups and other stakeholders were delivered by the representative of the Asia-Pacific Peoples' Forum, Ms. Antonia Lillii, and the representative of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development Youth Forum 2024, Ms. Shilpa Lamichhane.

8. Under agenda item 1 (b), the following members of the bureau were elected:

Chair:	Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha (Nepal)
Vice-Chairs:	Mr. Vahan Kostanyan (Armenia)
	Mr. Korm Ribaun (Cambodia)
	Mr. Theng Pagnathun (Cambodia)
	Mr. Esrom Yosef Immanuel (Fiji)
	Mr. Phoxay Khaykhamphithoune (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
	Ms. Hajjah Hanifah Hajar Taib (Malaysia)
	Mr. Mohamed Kinaanath (Maldives)
	Ms. Rosemarie G. Edillon (Philippines)

9. Under agenda item 1 (c), the following agenda was adopted:

1. Opening of the Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development:
  - (a) Opening addresses;
  - (b) Election of officers;
  - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific.
3. Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through voluntary national reviews.
4. Review of regional progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and opportunities for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals:
  - (a) Progress towards the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 at the regional level;
  - (b) Implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the subregional level;
  - (c) Reporting on system-wide results of the United Nations at the regional level in Asia and the Pacific in support of the 2030 Agenda.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report on the Eleventh Forum.

10. Under agenda item 2, the participants in the Eleventh Forum took note of the notes by the secretariat on addressing the interlinked challenges of climate change, poverty and hunger in times of multiple crises in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/2) and on the summary of the Asia and the Pacific Sustainable Development Goals progress report 2024 (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/3 and ESCAP/RFSD/2024/3/Corr.1). The discussion on the theme of the Eleventh Forum, “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific”, started with a high-level panel discussion. The panellists exchanged insights on the regional priorities and key actions that had been identified for follow-up at the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit. Under the same agenda item, a high-level panel discussion was held on the theme “On the road to the 2024 Summit of the Future”, which was dedicated to the Summit of the Future, to be held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2024.

11. Under agenda item 3, the participants took note of the note by the secretariat on strengthening policy coherence through voluntary national reviews to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/4). They considered the experiences of member States in preparing their voluntary national reviews for the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, to be held in New York from 8 to 17 July 2024, discussed the use of the voluntary national reviews in development planning and shared national and subnational perspectives on challenges, progress, achievements and lessons learned.

12. Under agenda item 4, the participants took note of the note by the secretariat on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the subregional level (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/5). They highlighted different subregional approaches to eradicating poverty and effectively delivering sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.

13. Five round tables were organized to facilitate the conduct of regional multi-stakeholder dialogues on ways to accelerate action on the Sustainable Development Goals that would be under review at the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development, namely Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 2 (Zero hunger), Goal 13 (Climate action), Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). The participants noted the various views expressed during the round tables, which were intended to inform the high-level political forum.<sup>1</sup>

14. Representatives of member States, major groups and other stakeholders and United Nations agencies shared information on efforts made in the region and discussed possible priority areas for accelerated action and opportunities for greater policy coherence towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

15. The participants discussed the coordinated approach of the United Nations system at the regional level to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They shared information on actions taken and results achieved in 2023, including those taken by issue-

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<sup>1</sup> The summary of the various views expressed during the round tables, which was not negotiated, will be circulated for factual corrections by participants and issued as an addendum to the present report.

based coalitions established under the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific.

16. Under agenda item 5, no other matters were discussed.

17. Under agenda item 6, the present report (paras. 1–22), except the annexes thereto, was adopted on 23 February 2024.

18. It was agreed that the Chair’s summary of the discussions held during the Eleventh Forum (see annex I), which was not a negotiated document, would be circulated to member States for review to ensure factual accuracy; that the lists of the side events and other associated events held prior to and on the margins of the Eleventh Forum would be annexed to the present report (see annex II); and that the summaries of the five round tables organized under agenda item 4 would be issued as an addendum to the present report (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/6/Add.1) at a later date.

19. It was reiterated that, once reviewed for factual accuracy, the present report (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/6) and the summaries of the round-table discussions (ESCAP/RFSD/2024/6/Add.1) would be submitted to ESCAP at its eightieth session and were intended to inform the global dialogues on sustainable development, including the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development and the Summit of the Future.

20. The analytical report entitled *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024: Showcasing Transformative Actions* was prepared for the Eleventh Forum and presented to the media on 15 February 2024.

21. On 20 February 2024, the publication entitled *Addressing the Interlinked Challenges of Climate Change, Poverty and Hunger in Asia and the Pacific* was issued in the framework of the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goal Partnership between ESCAP, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

22. Between 15 and 23 February 2024, 44 side events and 10 other associated events were held (see annex II).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Additional information on the side events is available at [www.unescap.org/events/2024/apfsd11-side-events](http://www.unescap.org/events/2024/apfsd11-side-events), and additional information on the other associated events is available at [www.unescap.org/events/2024/apfsd11-associated-and-pre-events](http://www.unescap.org/events/2024/apfsd11-associated-and-pre-events).

## Annex I

### Chair's summary of discussions at the Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

1. The Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development was held on the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific”. During the Eleventh Forum, members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), intergovernmental bodies, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, and major groups and other stakeholders exchanged regional perspectives on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

#### I. Key messages

2. The key messages arising from the discussions held at the Eleventh Forum, further detailed in sections II to V below, are the following:

(a) Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals has been slow and uneven across Asia and the Pacific. At the current pace, the region as a whole will not achieve any of the 17 Goals by 2030;

(b) Climate change exacerbates poverty and hunger, threatening to reverse sustainable development gains, with vulnerable groups facing disproportionate impacts owing to their limited capacity to adapt and scarce resources;

(c) Ambitious climate action, coupled with robust investments in social protection, energy efficiency and renewable energy production and focused on gender equality and access for marginalized groups, is necessary to mitigate the adverse effects of climate-induced disasters and support livelihoods;

(d) Efforts by member States to ensure policy coherence can accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; voluntary national reviews are instrumental for aligning efforts at all levels of government and can foster collaboration and engagement, leading to forward-thinking, inclusive governance;

(e) Actions that also leverage science, technology and innovation can facilitate sustainable development and ensure that no one and no country is left behind. These actions can be supported by effective and ongoing international cooperation, including through South-South and triangular cooperation, for peace and prosperity in the region;

(f) Regional and subregional cooperation plays an important role in addressing transboundary challenges, enhancing connectivity and trade, strengthening food security, reducing the risk of disaster and managing water resources sustainably;

(g) The United Nations development system's technical and integrated support can effectively bolster collective efforts on climate action, resilience-building, the energy transition and gender equality while also ensuring the full and effective participation of all stakeholders in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

3. The participants in the Eleventh Forum identified many priority actions that could be taken to make progress in implementing the five Sustainable Development Goals under review (see ESCAP/RFSD/2024/6/Add.1).

## **II. Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific**

4. Under agenda item 2, the participants shared country-level experiences in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and finding solutions to the poverty-, climate- and hunger-related challenges confronting the region. They also discussed how to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Goals and deliver sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.

5. The participants highlighted that progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals had been slow and uneven across Asia and the Pacific. They recognized the escalating impacts of climate change, noting how they exacerbated poverty and hunger and undermined progress towards sustainable development. The participants highlighted the disproportionate burden borne by vulnerable populations, who were more at risk and less capable of adapting, and some representatives stressed that systemic changes in the international financial architecture were needed and, especially, that more resources needed to be directed to vulnerable populations to increase resilience to climate change. In particular, the interlinkages between climate change, poverty reduction and hunger alleviation were underlined, as was the need for a renewed commitment to achieving the Goals and ensuring that no one was left behind. One representative called for strengthening the political commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reinvigorated collaborative actions to accelerate its implementation.

6. Several representatives stressed the need for enhanced partnerships, including through South-South cooperation. Areas of focus for future cooperation included trade and connectivity, food security, urban development, disaster risk reduction and management, and digital solutions to address development challenges. Several representatives expressed their appreciation to ESCAP for providing technical assistance and a platform for members and associate members in the region to share experiences and collaborate.

7. Representatives noted the cross-sectoral and substantial impacts of climate change and disasters on efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, emphasizing the need for greater resource mobilization, especially climate financing, inclusive development, localization of the Goals and local food production. Some representatives reaffirmed their commitment to achieving carbon neutrality and adopting innovative climate financing approaches. One representative called for the establishment of a regional water mechanism in the Aral Sea basin.

8. One representative noted the importance of developing transport networks to increase countries' economic competitiveness and promote sustainable development, while another representative highlighted the importance of improving connectivity through Asian highways, railways, dry ports and public-private partnerships for investment.

9. Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders emphasized the need to accelerate progress towards the Goals by 2030, advocating for a people-centred approach to mitigating the impacts of climate change on

livelihoods, and promote the transition to renewable energy for sustainable and inclusive development. They highlighted the disproportionate impacts of climate change and unsustainable agricultural practices on women and girls.

### III. Preparations for the Summit of the Future

10. Under the same agenda item, participants were briefed on the upcoming Summit of the Future, which was aimed at reaching a consensus on “A Pact for the Future”, with some speakers touching on the following topics: (a) sustainable development and financing for development; (b) international peace and security; (c) science, technology, innovation and digital cooperation; (d) youth and future generations; and (e) the transformation of global governance.

11. Several participants emphasized that urgent action was needed to address inequalities and the challenges posed by climate change, disasters, food insecurity, technological changes, the digital divide and financing gaps, which were having adverse impacts on marginalized groups and contributing to high levels of debt in many developing countries, among other consequences. They called for more effective and stronger international cooperation to achieve inclusive and sustainable development while emphasizing human rights, gender equality and the benefits of cooperating on science, technology and innovation. They underscored the role of inclusive multilateral solutions in realizing “A Pact for the Future”. They shared successful examples of such approaches in the areas of sustainable financing, digitalization, climate action and the empowerment of women and girls.

12. Several representatives of member States acknowledged the progress that had been made in the following key areas: reducing poverty, enhancing food security, expanding social protection coverage, improving the quality and accessibility of education and increasing the participation of women in politics and decision-making. Despite those achievements, climate change was a significant challenge that required efforts to mobilize financial and other resources for climate action.

13. Innovation and technology were among the key entry points. Calls were made by some representatives of member States to leverage science and technology for development, promote digital solutions, enhance digital connectivity and facilitate technology transfers, as appropriate. Those measures were seen as important for achieving more inclusive development outcomes.

14. The participants emphasized the critical role of international and regional cooperation, including South-South cooperation, in tackling shared development challenges. Calls were made for the reform of the multilateral system and the international financial architecture, highlighting the need for strengthened partnerships. Public-private partnerships were important for mobilizing financing for climate initiatives. Innovative solutions too were recognized as key to success.

15. Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders emphasized the importance of international cooperation that addressed the needs of women, girls, young people, persons with disabilities, refugees and internally displaced people. They highlighted the need for greater transparency and accountability in development, the creation of enabling environments for diverse stakeholder participation, including through capacity-building, and improved access to social protection. They also highlighted the need to address gender-based violence, enhance food security for those most in need, make disaster risk

reduction more effective for vulnerable communities and explore debt reduction or restructuring to tackle inequality.

#### **IV. Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through voluntary national reviews**

16. Under agenda item 3, a panel discussion was held to share country experiences and good practices in preparing voluntary national reviews. During the discussion, the participants examined how to strengthen policy coherence through the vertical and horizontal integration of voluntary national reviews with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other international development agendas.

17. The participants emphasized the need for integrated policymaking to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They recognized the crucial role of voluntary national reviews in aligning efforts at all government levels towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. They highlighted that voluntary national reviews were instrumental to fostering collaboration and engagement, leading to forward-thinking, inclusive governance.

18. It was recognized that the voluntary national review process was important, especially in landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as an enabler for South-South and triangular cooperation, the mobilization of finance and evidence-based data collection and analysis. The participants called for enhanced regional cooperation to share experiences and good practices on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the twinning programmes for the voluntary national reviews facilitated by ESCAP.

19. Representatives emphasized the importance of aligning voluntary national reviews with national development plans, including transition strategies aimed at a smooth graduation from the category of least developed countries. The principle of leaving no one behind and the need for continuous engagement and inclusive decision-making with stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and international partners, were highlighted. The importance of complementarities among development agendas was also underlined. Several representatives noted the increase in voluntary local reviews and in efforts to integrate the 2030 Agenda into local development planning.

20. The participants stressed the need to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems for voluntary national reviews and called for further support in capacity-building. The availability of open and disaggregated data was noted as crucial for evidence-based policymaking. The participants expressed their appreciation for online tools developed by ESCAP, including the National SDG Tracker, and called for the continued support of ESCAP in data gathering and statistical analysis, as well as in preparing the voluntary national reviews.

21. Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders emphasized the need for the enhanced collection of non-traditional, citizen-generated and disaggregated data to facilitate policies for vulnerable groups. They also called for more inclusive participation in consultations, planning and reporting. Furthermore, the efforts of ESCAP and the Penang Platform for Sustainable Urbanization in developing regional guidelines for voluntary local reviews in the Asia-Pacific region were acknowledged.

## **V. Review of regional progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and opportunities for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals**

### **A. Progress towards the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 at the regional level**

22. Under agenda item 4 (a), summaries of five round tables on Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 were presented.<sup>1</sup>

23. Participants in the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No poverty) highlighted the need to focus on the multidimensionality of poverty. Priority areas for action included: adopting integrated policy planning for inclusive, adaptive and rights-based social protection to leave no one behind; improving domestic resource mobilization and leveraging external financing; strengthening disaster risk reduction strategies at all levels; and harnessing digitalization. They also highlighted the need for upgrading skills and improving access to decent jobs, especially for young people. Inclusive and disaggregated data collection, stronger capacities for data collection, production, use and analysis, and greater policy coordination across different government entities were important for policy coherence.

24. Participants in the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero hunger) highlighted the urgency of investing in sustainable and diversified food production systems. Priority areas included: enhancing food production and productivity; reducing food waste; focusing on climate adaptation and resilience; enhancing agrifood value chains; supporting agroecology practices; strengthening biodiversity conservation; and valuing food sovereignty. The participants also emphasized the need to integrate women in the agrifood sector; secure improved land rights for vulnerable groups; foster youth entrepreneurship and employment; support smallholders by strengthening farmers' organizations as agents of change; and strengthen transboundary collaboration on water, statistics and data-sharing. That implied overcoming vested interests and reconciling different visions.

25. Participants in the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate action) highlighted the urgency of accelerating progress towards achieving the Goal. Key priority areas included: increasing ambitions in respect of the nationally determined contributions; improving mobilization and alignment of resources for climate action; promoting the production, accessibility and use of data on gender and the environment; adhering to the principle of leaving no one behind in climate action; integrating transport-related targets for greenhouse gas emission reduction into climate change policy; promoting access to information about climate change and climate action among people in vulnerable situations, civil society organizations and environmental human rights defenders; and ensuring meaningful youth engagement in climate action.

26. Participants in the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) highlighted the importance of promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies based on whole-of-society contributions to address governance, human rights and rule of law issues. Priority areas for action included: strengthening national and subnational capacities, accountability and public institutions; increasing efforts on data collection for measuring progress; leveraging the tools, resources and

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information on the round tables, see ESCAP/RFSD/2024/6/Add.1.

collaboration made available by international partners; promoting survivor-centred and evidence-based approaches in dealing with victims of trafficking in persons and people who use illicit drugs; and advancing the rule of law, especially to protect human rights defenders, journalists and other civil society actors.

27. Participants in the round table on Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) underscored the need to combat illicit financial flows, strengthen tax systems, increase transparency in public procurement, evaluate the true costs of public-private partnerships and strengthen the rule of law. They highlighted the importance of clear accountability mechanisms for climate finance instruments, including debt swaps and green or blue bonds. Enhanced data-sharing and transparency, research and capacity-building, and multi-stakeholder partnerships were identified as vital for ensuring that policies were coherent and addressing inefficiencies.

28. Several representatives of member States shared information on initiatives and priorities linked to their Governments' efforts to achieve the Goals. These ranged from enhancing adaptive social protection and human capital development to building robust legal frameworks and transparent institutions; accelerating subnational/local development plans and governance reform; integrating the Goals into national and local development plans; mobilizing international and domestic resources for sustainable development; organizing special events dedicated to young people, such as the World Youth Festival; and strengthening international cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships to leave no one and no country behind. Representatives also highlighted the importance of undergoing a food system transformation; promoting sustainable industries; transitioning to clean energy sources; and adopting a science/data-driven approach to climate change policy. The representatives reiterated their commitment to achieving the Goals and continuing to partner across countries in the region.

29. One representative from an international organization highlighted the human rights and gender aspects of sustainable development and added that such issues needed to be recognized as interlinked and mutually reinforcing, that they must be placed at the centre of economic and social policies and that they should be accompanied by inclusive, rights-based data partnerships. A representative of major groups and stakeholders advocated for the empowerment of women in water resource governance and the enforcement of collective responsibility, with the engagement of all stakeholders.

## **B. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the subregional level**

30. Under agenda item 4 (b), subregional progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals was reviewed. It was noted that insufficient progress had been made towards achieving the Goals and that States had regressed in respect of Goal 13. While recognizing the diversity of the subregions, common opportunities and priority actions for accelerating progress on the Goals under review, including by strengthening partnerships and mechanisms for sustainable development, were underscored.

31. Having reviewed the varied progress made and the experiences gained at the subregional level, the participants underscored the importance of taking ambitious climate action and establishing strong partnerships and collaborations to curb climate-induced disasters, whose adverse effects on livelihoods were exacerbated by the disparities that already existed across and within subregions. They called for robust investments to be made in energy

efficiency and renewable energy production and for ensuring equitable energy access for all. In view of water resource depletion, the participants recognized the need for countries to cooperate and coordinate at the subregional level for better water resource management. They acknowledged the continued need for technical support from the United Nations development system.

32. The participants acknowledged that some subregions were highly dependent on fossil fuels and faced challenges in terms of energy security. They highlighted the need for a systematic approach and effective collaboration for a just energy transition. Noting the limited progress that had been made on Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) in the region, water resource management and its links to poverty reduction and inclusiveness were emphasized.

33. Representatives underscored the importance of taking a coordinated and whole-of-society approach to strengthening policy coherence. They stressed the need for continued cooperation, partnerships and multi-stakeholder collaboration at the subregional, regional and global levels.

34. Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders highlighted the importance of inclusive engagement and the participation of representatives of civil society and marginalized communities, including women, persons with disabilities, older persons, children, youth and Indigenous Peoples, in the governing process and in decision-making to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **C. Reporting on system-wide results of the United Nations at the regional level in Asia and the Pacific in support of the 2030 Agenda**

35. Under agenda item 4 (c), the participants considered the work of the United Nations development system at the regional level to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They were informed of system-wide actions taken and results achieved in 2023, including those attained through the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific and its issue-based coalitions and working groups.

36. The participants highlighted areas requiring accelerated efforts for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including those facilitated or supported by the United Nations development system. Those areas encompassed: securing sustainable development financing; addressing inequalities and all forms of discrimination; transforming food systems; and ensuring the full and effective participation of stakeholders in policymaking. They also highlighted ongoing efforts in the region, such as the development of national dashboards to track progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, the conduct of voluntary national and local reviews and the implementation of both the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business and the Early Warnings for All initiative.

## Annex II

### **Lists of side events and other associated events held prior to and on the margins of the Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development**

1. On 20 February 2024, 6 side events were held on the following topics: “Accelerating SDGs implementation to support the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent: Working towards development planning, strategic coordination and effective partnership”; “Future-forward Development Planning in Asia and the Pacific: a UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue”; “Promoting Synergistic Approaches in Asia and the Pacific: Addressing the Triple Planetary Crisis”; “Inclusion of Women in Climate-Resilient Skill Education and Livelihoods in Asia-Pacific Region”; “Building synergies at the climate-health nexus in Asia and the Pacific”; and “Harnessing Technology, Capacity and Data for Climate Resilient Development”.

2. On 21 February 2024, 15 side events were held on the following topics: “Shaping Asia CSOs’ position for the Summit of the Future (SoTF) 2024”; “Rising Tides: The power of a healthy ocean to accelerate climate action”; “Addressing systemic barriers in the multilateralism to deliver the 2030 Agenda and prevent the climate crisis”; “Food Systems Transformation as Accelerator for SDGs Implementation and Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific Region”; “Meaningfully Engaging Youth in Climate”; “Mitigation of Impact of Climate Change on Dalits and Marginalised Communities”; “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Eradicating Poverty, and Addressing Multiple Crises in Asia and the Pacific Through Localizing SDGs”; “Securing rights to land, territories and resources (LTR) enable to address poverty, hunger, climate change, and peace and security”; “Advancing the Global Agenda toward Peaceful and Inclusive Societies - Bridging Humanity, Security, and Sustainability”; “Anchoring the Pacific Roadmap for Economic Development to support the Sustainable Development Agenda in the Pacific”; “SDG 13 and climate action through sustainable transport: challenges and opportunities in developing national electric mobility ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific”; “Building a Greener Future: Education as a climate solution”; “Financing Local Actions for SDG 13: Enabling Frameworks to Accelerate City Climate Finance in Asia-Pacific”; “Peace and SDGs in North-East Asia: Tipping Point or Status Quo?”; and “Advocating Universal Social Protection (USP) Floors for Asian Countries”.

3. On 22 February 2024, 15 side events were held on the following topics: “Unlocking investment and financing to tackle biodiversity loss in the Asia and the Pacific region”; “Migration and Sustainable Development: Stronger International Partnership on Migration Governance to Tackle Global Challenges”; “Social Inclusion in Climate Change; Future Road map in Southeast Asia”; “Accelerating actions towards SDGs through the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”; “Unlock Localisation in Asia and the Pacific — Strategies, Challenges and Promising Practices”; “Enhancing CSO Engagement for SDGs: Interlinkage between UN to Global Summits (G20, G7 & BRICS)”; “The Rise of New and Emerging Cities in Asia: Leveraging VLRs for a Sustainable Urban Future”; “Urban Regeneration for Safe, Resilient, and Inclusive Cities in the Asia Pacific”; “Empowering People through Human Rights to Accelerate Climate Resilience and Food Security in Asia-Pacific”; “Enabling Social Enterprises towards Innovative Solutions to Eradicate Poverty and Reinforce the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia Pacific”; “Elevating Innovation and Building Capacity towards Resource-Efficient, Circular, Low-

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Carbon, and Climate-Resilient Economy in the Pacific”; “Managing Ecosystems for multiple benefits via EbA for Climate Adaptation and Resilience”; “The Multi-Sectoral Approach to Building Resilience in Asia Pacific Cities: Empowering Women and Girls in Addressing Urban Poverty and Hunger”; and “Unlocking SDG Target 16.4: A UNODA-UNODC Joint Event”.

4. On 23 February 2024, 9 side events were held on the following topics: “Advancing a Sustainable, Rights-Based Development to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”; “Engaging Youth in a Green and Just Economy Transition at Scale”; “Crafting sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for climate action in Asia and the Pacific from human rights, gender equality and SRHR lens”; “ENOUGH: Together we can End Child Hunger and Malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific”; “Progress with rolling out the Early Warnings for All initiative in Asia and the Pacific”; “Means of Implementation for Feminist Development Justice in Asia Pacific: Feminist Solutions and Practices in Achieving the 2030 Agenda”; “Nutrition for food sovereignty: Building climate resilient food systems”; “Increasing agricultural productivity through testing standards for sustainable agricultural machinery”; and “A Localization Roadmap to Reach the Furthest Behind”.

5. The following associated and pre-events were held: APFSD Youth Forum 2024: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Eradicating Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises: The Effective Delivery of Sustainable, Resilient and Innovative Solutions in Asia and the Pacific with Young People at the Forefront; Asia-Pacific People’s Forum for Sustainable Development 2024: Change the System, Shift the Power: Advancing People’s Demand for Development Justice!; New Frontiers on Social Protection in a Changing World; Global Workshop on Policy Experimentation and Regulatory Sandboxes on Digital Technologies for Sustainable Development; Regional Workshop for the Voluntary National Reviews: Leveraging Data to Leave No One Behind; SIDS Partnership Symposium; Local and Regional Government Assembly; APFSD Youth Climathon; Strengthening capacity, governance and policy coherence in small island developing States; and APFSD11 Networking Meetup.