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**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Twenty-fourth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-24) of NEASPEC

12-13 October 2020

Virtual meeting

Annotated Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

Opening and welcoming remarks will be delivered by the Head of the ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office and the Head of delegation of the Russian Federation as the Host Government, respectively.

2. Election of officers

A chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a rapporteur will be elected.

3. Adoption of agenda

The provisional agenda, drawn up by the Secretariat, in accordance with the established practice of the previous sessions and in consultation with the host Government, will be adopted.

4. Statements by delegations of member States, UN and international organizations on issues related to sustainable development in North-East Asia

The heads of national delegations and representatives of UN and international organizations will be invited to deliver their statements on policies, initiatives, and proposals in relation to sustainable development in North-East Asia.

5. Review of programme planning and implementation

Documents for the following agenda items will be submitted to member States for the review of progress in developing and implementing activities of NEASPEC and decisions on follow-up actions:

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- a) Transboundary Air Pollution: To review and decide on the recommendations and draft NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025 presented by the Science and Policy Committee of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP) through its Second Meeting (SPC-2) in June 2020 and subsequent consultations.
 - b) Nature Conservation in Transboundary Areas: To review progress in the implementation of the project on “Transboundary cooperation on the conservation of Amur tigers, Amur leopards and Snow leopards in North-East Asia”, and review the findings and recommendations of the study on the “Transboundary cooperation among protected wetlands in the Tumen Estuary”.
 - c) Marine Protected Areas: To review the key findings of the study on “Strengthening the subregional cooperation through knowledge sharing on sustainable management of marine protected areas”, and the recommendations proposed on the North-East Asia Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN) through the NEASPEC evaluation exercise and informal consultation meeting in June 2020 with the Steering Committee members.
 - d) Low Carbon Cities: To review the progress in expanding the North-East Asian Low Carbon City Platform (NEA-LCCP) into new cities in the Russian Federation (Ulan-ude and Irkutsk) and Mongolia (Chinggis City and Tsetserleg City) proposed at the SOM-23, and the collaboration with initiatives at subregional level such as the joint workshop in October 2019 with the research project on decarbonization of cities under the Tripartite Environmental Cooperation among China, Japan and the ROK (TEMM).
 - e) Desertification and Land Degradation (DLD): To review the proposed concept and activities on integrating NEASPEC’s work on DLD with interlinked issues and developing a subregional approach to nature-based solutions for addressing climate change and DLD.

6. Review of the Strategic Plan

The meeting will review the implementation of the current NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2016-2020, taking into consideration of the secretariat survey and external evaluation of NEASPEC, and will consider the draft NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2021-2025, revised following to the NEASPEC National Focal Points Meeting held virtually in August 2020, for adoption. The meeting will also review the results of the external evaluation and discuss the way forward.

7. Review of the Core Fund

The meeting will review the status of the Core Fund and project funds of NEASPEC and consider the proposed budget plan for 2021-2025 for decision. Member States are invited to announce intended cash and/or in-kind contributions for 2020-2021.

8. Venue, date and provisional agenda of the Twenty-fifth SOM (SOM-25)

The meeting will invite the member State hosting the next SOM to inform its tentative plan for the meeting.

9. Other issues

The meeting may raise any other issues not covered under the items mentioned above.

10. Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting

The Report of the Meeting consists of two major parts, i.e. (i) the conclusions and recommendations, and (ii) the proceedings of the SOM. The first part of the Report will be adopted by the SOM, and the second part will be prepared by the Secretariat after the Meeting and will be circulated to member States for review and approval.

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