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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Twenty-ninth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-29) of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC)

25-26 November 2026
Moscow, Russian Federation

Annotated Provisional Agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting**

   Opening and welcoming remarks will be delivered by the Head of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) East and North-East Asia Office and the Head of delegation of the Russian Federation as the host Government.

2. **Election of officers**

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

3. **Adoption of agenda**

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

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

   The heads of national delegations and representatives of the United Nations 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**

   Progress in implementing the activities of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), together with appropriate documentation prepared by the secretariat, will be reviewed across the following programmatic areas:

   a) **Air Pollution:** Review the progress in the implementation of activities on air pollution facilitated under the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP),

including (1) review the implementation of the NEACAP Activity Plan 2026; (2) review the outcomes of the eighth Science and Policy Committee (SPC) Meeting of NEACAP; and (3) review and approve the proposed NEACAP Activity Plan in 2027.

b) **Low Carbon Cities:** Review the progress in the implementation of activities on low carbon cities facilitated under the North-East Asian Low Carbon City Platform (NEA-LCCP), including (1) review the implementation of Activity Plan for Low Carbon Cities in 2026, including the 6th International Forum on Low Carbon Cities (23-24 November 2026); and (2) review and approve the proposed Activity Plan for Low Carbon Cities in 2027.

c) **Desertification and Land Degradation:** Review the progress in the implementation of activities on desertification and land degradation (DLD), including the outcomes of side events at the 82nd Session of ESCAP held in Bangkok in April 2026 and the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Ulaanbaatar in August 2026, highlighting the launch of the Mongolia-TCS-ESCAP Joint Initiative on Addressing Sand and Dust Storms (SDS) in North-East Asia; and review and approve the proposed Activity Plan in 2027.

d) **Biodiversity and Nature Conservation**: Review progress on Biodiversity and Nature Conservation activities, including (1) review the progress of the project "Connectivity conservation for habitats of flagship migratory birds in North-East Asia (Black-faced Spoonbills, Hooded Cranes, and White-naped Cranes)", transboundary big cat conservation, capacity building, and the knowledge-sharing platform; (2) review the draft Terms of Reference for the North-East Asian Big Cat Network and consider approving the establishment of the Network and its Terms of Reference; (3) provide guidance on updating the NEASPEC Nature Conservation Strategy; and (4) review and approve the proposed Activity Plan for Biodiversity and Nature Conservation in 2027.

e) **Marine Protected Areas:** Review progress in the implementation of activities facilitated under the North-East Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN), including (1) review the proceedings of the workshop on marine and coastal other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), marine mammal conservation, and cooperation with regional and global partners on MPAs; (2) review the outcomes of the NEAMPAN Steering Committee meeting and provide guidance on site participation and capacity building; and (3) review and approve the proposed Activity Plan for Marine Protected Areas in 2027.

6. Review of the Core Fund and Project-based Fund

The meeting will review the status of the Core Fund and project-based funds of NEASPEC. Member States are invited to announce intended cash and/or in-kind contributions.

7. **Venue, date and provisional agenda of the Thirtieth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-30)**

   The meeting will invite the member State hosting the 30th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-30) to inform the provisional plan for SOM-30 organization.

8. **Other issues**

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

9. **Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting**

   The report of the meeting consists of two major parts: (1) the conclusions and recommendations and (2) the proceedings of the Senior Officials Meeting. The first part (i.e., conclusions and recommendations) will be adopted by SOM-29, and the second part (i.e., proceedings) will be prepared by the secretariat after the meeting and will be circulated to the member States for review and approval.

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