Agenda Item 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- Looking Ahead to the Summit of the Future

ESCAP Hall, United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok

Tuesday 20th February 2024 14:30 - 17:30 (UTC+7)

Background

The world has been confronted with a series of dramatic challenges in recent years – wars, COVID-19, accelerating climate change, global economic and development downturn, worsening inequalities and transformative technological changes against a background of growing tensions and eroding trust between nations. In our efforts to tackle these challenges, it is becoming evidently clear that we cannot effectively address problems or harness opportunities with institutions that were designed for an earlier era. There is a growing call for strong, effective, and revitalized multilateral governance and institutions fit for the challenges of today and tomorrow.

In September 2024, world leaders will come together at UN Headquarters in New York to consider and address gaps in global governance at a Summit of the Future. The outcome of the Summit will be an inter-governmentally negotiated Pact for the Future that will include chapters on: (i) Sustainable Development and Financing for Development; (ii) International Peace and Security; (iii) Science, technology, and innovation and digital cooperation; (iv) Youth and future generations; and (v) Transforming global governance.

As recognized in the Political Declaration adopted at the 2023 SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future 2024 will serve as an “important opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs”. Building on the outcome of the 2023 SDG Summit, the overall aim of the Pact will be to reform and reinvigorate the multilateral architecture so that it reflects the political and economic realities of today and positions us to chart a course towards a sustainable and equitable future.
The Secretary-General has offered a set of recommendations across all of these areas for the consideration of Member States as they prepare for the Summit in the coming months. These recommendations can be found in a set of Policy Briefs that the Secretary-General issued to support Member States in their deliberations.

The session will bring together speakers and representatives from governments and other stakeholders attending the forum’s deliberations to provide Asia-Pacific perspectives on the Pact for the Future and generate momentum towards the Summit of the Future. The session would also allow for an interactive dialogue among the participants and speakers.

**Key objectives of the session:**

(i) Ensure a shared understanding of how inclusive and networked multilateralism can help deliver an ambitious Pact of the Future that will help turbocharge the implementation of the SDGs at the regional and national levels.

(ii) Solicit input and ideas for action from diverse stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to support effective multilateralism that responds effectively to new threats and opportunities for present and future generations.

(iii) Highlight examples of multilateral solutions from the region that take advantage of better use of innovation, foresight, data, digital, and behavioural science.

**Guiding questions**

- What is the necessary foundation for effective multilateral cooperation that can deal with today’s challenges as well as new threats in the future?
- How can we ensure that the opportunity of the Summit of the Future is not missed, in spite of the fraught geopolitical landscape?
- What are the most consequential gaps in global governance and how can we address them?
- What can we expect the Summit to achieve? How do we build and sustain the political momentum needed for success?
- What are some examples of effective multilateral solutions (at global, regional, or national level) in the areas of sustainable finance, digital transformation, and climate change that can help to accelerate SDG implementation?

**For more information, please contact:**

Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Sustainable Development Officer, mesiano@un.org
Ms. Van Nguyen, Sustainable Development Officer van.nguyen@un.org

#APFSD #GlobalGoals #SDGs #2030Agenda #AsiaPacific

**Follow us:**

- [https://www.unescap.org/](https://www.unescap.org/)
- [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/)
- [youtube](https://www.youtube.com/)
- [twitter](https://twitter.com/)
- [linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/)
- [@unescap](https://www.unescap.org/)
- [@unitednationsescap](https://www.unescap.org/)
- [@united-nations-escap](https://www.unescap.org/)