





23 - 27 May 2022 Bangkok | THAILAND

High-level thematic roundtable on

Realizing Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific

24 May 2022; 14:00-14:40 (GMT+7)

Background

Climate change remains among the most significant threats to the Asia-Pacific region. The Glasgow Climate Pact adopted at the COP26 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in November 2021, recognizes that "limiting global warming to 1.5 °C requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2010 level and to net zero around mid-century, as well as deep reductions in other greenhouse gases"1.

Responsible for over 60 per cent of the share of the total global GHG emissions, any climate actions taken by Asia-Pacific countries would have a significant impact on global efforts to mitigate anthropogenic climate change.

However, without region-wide carbon neutral pledges, supported by more ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets, carbon neutrality is not within the reach of the Asia-Pacific region by 2050. This will require all stakeholders to collaborate and build a strong case for decisive climate action.

The roundtable will discuss how to build on the important Glasgow Climate Pact outcomes for the Paris Agreement implementation, including:

- importance of international collaboration on innovative climate action, including technological advancement, across all actors of society, sectors and regions, in contributing to progress towards the objective of the UNFCCC and the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- accelerating the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and providing support for a just transition;
- protecting, conserving, and restoring ecosystems for mitigation and adaptation, and supporting local communities and indigenous peoples' livelihoods; and

¹Decision -/CP.26: Glasgow Climate Pact; para 17 available at https://unfccc.int/documents/310475







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 making financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development, including through deployment and transfer of technology.

Objectives and link between COP26 and COP27

The objectives of the roundtable are to:

- 1. Identify opportunities to support transition towards low-carbon resilient development in Asia and the Pacific.
- 2. Identify opportunities for creating a regional alliance of governments (national, subnational and local), the private sector, civil society and financial institutions to steer the region's ingenuity and dynamism into a low-emissions development pathway.
- 3. Identify areas for effective support from ESCAP and the regional UN and international partners to support enhanced climate action.