# Virtual High-Level Policy Dialogue on COVID-19 and South Asia: Socio-Economic Impacts, National Strategies and Regional Cooperation for Building Back Better

**9 July 2020, 5.00-7.00 PM (Bangkok time); 3.30 PM – 5.30 PM (New Delhi)**

**Tentative Programme**

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| 15.30 – 15.50 PM | **Opening Remarks**  
Chair: H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP |
| 15.50 – 16.05 PM | **Introduction of the UNESCAP Policy Paper**  
Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director, UNESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi |
| 16.05 – 17.00 PM | **Distinguished Speakers:**  
- H.E. Dr. Mustafa Mastoor, Minister of Economy, Government of Afghanistan  
- H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan, Minister of Planning, Government of Bangladesh  
- H.E. Mr. Lyonpo Loknath Sharma, Minister of Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan  
- H.E. Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India  
- H.E. Mr. Mohamed Aslam, Minister of National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, Government of Maldives  
- H.E. Prof. Dr. Puspa Raj Kadel, Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal  
- H.E. Dr. Shabnum Sarfraz, Member Social Sector, Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan  
- Dr. Sugath Yalegama, Director General, Sustainable Development Council, Government of Sri Lanka |
| 17.00 – 17.25 PM | **Open discussion** |
| 17.25 – 17.30 PM | **Wrap up by the chair** |