TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE PROPOSED DIGITAL SOLUTIONS CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Background

1. The Astana Ministerial Declaration on Digital Inclusion and Transformation in Asia and the Pacific requested the ESCAP secretariat to: "commission an independent feasibility study on the role, structure and financing of the proposed digital solutions centre for sustainable development to be established in Kazakhstan, and establish an ad hoc working group, open to all members and associate members, with online participation available, to review in a transparent manner the outcome of the independent feasibility study and recommend a road map for strengthening the sharing of practical digital solutions for the Asia-Pacific region, while recognizing the need to avoid duplication of efforts vis-à-vis other regional institutions of the Commission and specialized organizations, and to report on its progress to the Commission at its eighty-first session."

Task

2. Members of the ad hoc Working Group shall review in a transparent manner the outcome of the independent feasibility study and recommend a road map for strengthening the sharing of practical digital solutions for the Asia-Pacific region.

Organization of the work

3. The ad hoc Working Group will be led by a Chair(s) and Vice-Chair(s) elected by the members at its first meeting. The Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s) will be responsible for the preparation of the recommendations of a road map for strengthening the sharing of practical digital solutions for the Asia-Pacific region.
4. The secretariat will support and facilitate the work of the ad hoc Working Group. The ad hoc Working Group will be conducted in a hybrid mode and in the English language only.

Reporting modality

5. After the review of the outcomes of the independent feasibility study, the ad hoc Working Group will propose recommendations for a roadmap for strengthening the sharing of practical digital solutions for the Asia-Pacific region. The Chair(s) and Vice-Chair(s) with secretariat support, will compile a summary of the key recommendations and present it to the members of the ad

hoc Working Group for finalization. The secretariat will then distribute the adopted roadmap to members and associate members of the Commission.

Membership

6. Members and associate members are invited to nominate experts to serve in the ad-hoc working group, preferably two representatives, with relevant expertise on digital solutions.

Deliverable

The ad hoc Working Group shall deliver:

7. A report with recommendations on the way forward on the establishment of a Digital Solutions Centre; and
8. A road map for strengthening the sharing of practical digital solutions for the Asia-Pacific region.