

**U.S. National Statement  
78<sup>th</sup> UNESCAP Commission  
Bangkok, Thailand, May 23-27, 2022  
Virtual Participation Via Prerecorded Video**

- **It is an honor for the United States and for me personally to join fellow member states in celebration of ESCAP's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**
- **Special thanks to Executive Secretary Alisjahbana [*ah-lease-jah-bah-nah*] for her excellent leadership and to ESCAP for serving as a trusted, transparent platform where our region can come together to address our common challenges.**
- **The United States is committed to peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and working together to address our most pressing issues, while remaining true to the four pillars upon which the UN Charter and ESCAP stand: peace and security, development, rule of law, and human rights.**

- **Our support for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development frames how the United States engages in ESCAP. We commend ESCAP's leadership on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly on health and pandemic recovery, climate and the environment, and food security, all of which are top priorities for President Biden.**
- **To advance SDG 3 on health and pandemic recovery, the United States has led an ambitious campaign to fight COVID-19, strengthen global health systems, and finance future pandemic preparedness. We have already donated more than 539 million COVID-19 vaccines globally, and we are working with COVAX and other partners to get shots in arms around the world.**
- **Protecting the environment and advancing SDGs 13, 14, and 15 are a top focus. We strongly supported the UN Environment Assembly's launch of negotiations of a global agreement on plastic pollution and, back**

**home, we have endorsed the goal of conserving at least 30% of land and water by 2030.**

- We are also focused on SDG 2 – zero hunger. This is made all the more urgent by Russia in the context of its unprovoked and unjustified war against Ukraine, which has increased the prices of food and fertilizer globally. While the Kremlin pursues a brutal war in clear violation of the UN Charter, the ESCAP region is burdened by commodity price increases and supply chain disruptions.**
- The United States developed and proposed a Global Action Plan and is leading sustained high-level dialogue at the United Nations to address the food security crisis, increase humanitarian assistance, and cushion the impact on the most vulnerable worldwide.**
- Yet the most effective solution remains for Russia to end this senseless war, and we are working with our partners to urge Russia to**

**immediately cease hostilities and withdraw from Ukraine.**

- **As ESCAP celebrates 75 years of remarkable achievement and support for the four pillars of the UN Charter, I will conclude with a simple invitation: reach out to us with ideas on how we can embrace the UN's cooperative spirit and partner at ESCAP to recover from the pandemic, protect our planet, and achieve the SDGs. Thank you.**

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