Media advisory

**Event:** South Asian Policy Dialogue on Women’s Entrepreneurship

**When:** Wednesday 27 November 2013, 10.00 to 17.30 hours

**Where:** Conference Hall, Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi

**Organizers:** United Nations ESCAP-SSWA Office, FICCI-FLO, SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council, with support from the Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and the South Asian Women’s Network

Women in South Asia face severe deficits in health and education and in their access to power, voice and rights. Women’s entrepreneurship, which is conditioned both by the status of women and the status of entrepreneurship in a given country, remains widely untapped across South Asia.

The South Asia Policy Dialogue on Women Entrepreneurship is organized jointly by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, South and South-West Asia Office (ESCAP-SSWA), the SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council (SCWEC) which is part of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry Ladies Organization (FLO), in partnership with the Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the South Asia Women’s Network. It will aim to identify challenges and barriers to women’s entrepreneurship common to South Asian countries, consolidate policy findings and recommendations to create a more enabling environment for female entrepreneurship.

The Policy Dialogue builds on the National Consultation on Creating an Enabling Environment for Women’s Entrepreneurship in India, organized jointly by ESCAP and FICCI Ladies Organization in collaboration with Goldman Sachs in February 2013 in New Delhi.

**Highlight:**

A keynote address will be delivered by H.E. Ms. Krishna Tirath, Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Government of India, who has graciously accepted the invitation.
Other speakers for the inaugural session include:

- **Ms. Anuradha Goel**, Vice Chairperson, SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council, India
- **Dr. Nagesh Kumar**, Chief Economist, ESCAP and Director, ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi
- **Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal**, Chairperson, SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneurs Council (SCWEC), Kathmandu
- **Ms. Madhu Kanoria**, Former Vice-Chair, SCWEC India

The tentative programme is attached.

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**For more information about the Policy Dialogue** visit: http://sswa.unescap.org

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