Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation, Connectivity and Inclusive Development in South and South-West Asia

28-29 November 2013, Le Meridien Hotel, New Delhi, India

Tentative Agenda

DAY 1: 28 November 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:00</td>
<td><strong>Opening Session</strong></td>
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<td>Opening statement: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director, ESCAP-SSWA</td>
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<td>Keynote address: H.E. Dr. Ajay Chhibber, Director General, Independent Evaluation Organisation, Government of India</td>
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<td>Special address: H.E. Mr. Mohammad Tariq Ismati, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Afghanistan</td>
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<td>Inaugural address: H.E. Dr. E.M.S. Natchiappan, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Government of India</td>
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<td>Launch of new publications by the dignitaries</td>
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<td>Vote of thanks: Ms. Lise Grande, United Nations Resident Coordinator, India</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:30</td>
<td>Group Photo and Tea and coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 – 13:00</td>
<td><strong>Session 1: High-level Panel on Potential of Regional Cooperation, Connectivity and Inclusive Development</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Chair: H.E. Mr. Qaiser Shaikh, Member of National Assembly, Pakistan</td>
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<td>High-level Panelists</td>
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<td>Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>Prof. Guven Sak, Managing Director, Economic Policy Foundation (TEPAV), Turkey</td>
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<td>Amb. M. Humayun Kabir, Vice President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute</td>
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<td>Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, Board of Governors, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad</td>
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Ms. L. Savithri, Director, SAARC Secretariat
Ms. Pramila Acharya Rijal, Chairperson, SAARC Chamber
Women Entrepreneurs Council, Kathmandu
Mr. Vikramjit Sahney, Chairman, SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (tbc)
Open discussion

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 Session 2: Strengthening Regional Connectivity, Transport and Trade Facilitation
Chair – Prof. Guven Sak, Managing Director, Economic Policy Foundation (TEPAV), Turkey
Panelists
Mr. Abolghasem Tahmasebi, Deputy Secretary General, Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO Secretariat)
Mr. Li Yuwei, Chief (TFS), Transport Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok
Dr. Shaheen Afroze, Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies, Dhaka
Mr. TCA Srinivasa Raghavan, Senior Fellow, Asian Institute of Transport Development
Mr. Y.S. Shahrawat, Chairman, Land Ports Authority, Government of India
Mr. T.A. Khan, Controller of Certifying Authorities, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Govt of India and Vice Chairman, UN/CEFACT
Open discussion

15:30 – 16:00 Tea and coffee break

16:00 – 17:30 Session 3: Launch of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2013
Chair: Mr. Sumanta Chaudhuri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India
Presentation: Dr. Mia Mikic, Chief (TPAS), Trade and Investment Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok
Panelists:
Dr. Surajit Mitra, Director-General, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade
Dr. Poshraj Pandey, Executive Chairman, SAWTEE, Kathmandu
Mr. Manab Majumdar, Assistant Secretary-General, FICCI
Dr. Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Additional Director, Research,
### Day 2: 29 November 2013

**Session 4: Regional Cooperation Agenda for Food Security**

*Chair:* Prof. G.K. Chadha, President, South Asian University, New Delhi (tbc)

*Panelists*

- **Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel**, Chairman, Board of Governors, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad
- **Dr. Poshraj Pandey**, Executive Director, SAWTEE, Kathmandu
- **Dr. Saman Kelegama**, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka
- **Dr. S. Mahendra Dev**, Director (Vice-Chancellor), Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
- **Mr. Muhammad Al Amin**, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka
- **Mr. Matthew Hammill**, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP-SSWA

**Open discussion**

10:00 – 11:30

**Session 5: Regional Cooperation for Energy Security**

*Chair:* H.E. Mr. Mohammad Tariq Ismati, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Afghanistan

*Panelists*

- **Dr. Jyoti Parikh**, Executive Director, Irade: Regional power trade
- **Dr. Leena Srivastava**, Vice Chancellor & Professor, TERI University
- **Mr. Hongpeng Liu**, Chief (ESWRS) Environment and Development Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok
- **Mr. Iqbal Tabish**, Secretary-General, SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Islamabad

*Iran (tba)*

**Open discussion**

11:30 – 11:45

**Tea and coffee break**

11:45 – 13:00

**13:00 – 14:00**

**Lunch**
Session 6: Special Session on Regional Cooperation, Human Development and Water

Launch of *Human Development in South Asia 2013: Water for Human Development*

(in collaboration with Mahbub-ul-Haq Human Development Centre and the India Water Foundation)

Chair – H.E. Dr. Mihir Shah, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India (tbc)

Presentation of the Report: H.E. Mr. Qaiser Shaikh, Member of National Assembly, Pakistan and Member of the Board, Mahbub-ul-Haq Human Development Centre, Lahore

Panelists

H.E. Amb. Tariq Karim, High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India

Dr. Arvind Kumar, President, India Water Foundation

Mr. Hongpeng Liu, Chief (ESWRS) Environment and Development Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok

Mr. Arunabha Ghosh, Chief Executive Officer, Council for Energy, Environment and Water, New Delhi

Open discussion moderated by Ms Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, Director, UN Information Centre

15:30 – 16:00  Concluding Session

16:00  Tea and coffee served