

Governments of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Finance  
Economic Relations Division  
DE-1 Section  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

## Press Release

### **Seventy-ninth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Bangkok and online, 15–19 May 2023**

The five-day-long 79th session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Commenced on 15 May with a call for accelerating climate action in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable development.

The session has invited Government leaders from across Asia and the Pacific and other key stakeholders to discuss policy options and areas of regional cooperation to accelerate climate action in the region and beyond. With dedicated discussions on catalyzing climate finance and investments, complemented by a climate solution fair, the session allowed identifying opportunities, sharing solutions and facilitating engagement of a broad set of partners and stakeholders, to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change and to foster ambitious climate action in Asia and the Pacific towards net-zero pathways and to limit global temperature rise to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius.

In the leaders' segment Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina delivered a video message where she made a 4-point recommendation to the ESCAP to consolidate regional partnerships to fight against the perilous threats of Climate Change and to make the world a safer and better place for our future generation. She reiterated that Climate-vulnerable developing countries, especially in Asia and the Pacific, require adequate finances to implement their National Action Plan (NAP) as well as to achieve Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets. In this regard, she put emphasis on International Support Measures of knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and innovation-driven trade and investment to be placed for a transition towards climate resilience growth for the graduating countries. To deal with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and to mitigate the challenges of climate change, she emphasized on the availability of trade facilitation measures, digital trade, and IT-enabled services in developing countries.



For promoting climate actions for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, Hon'ble Prime Minister suggested that Sub-regional cooperation is to be strengthened, especially accelerating the current partnership and developing new partnerships.

An 11-member Bangladesh delegation led by the Secretary Economic Relations Division (ERD) Ms. Sharifa Khan is participating in the Commission Session both online and in-person and contributing to the session by projecting Bangladesh's positions in different agenda items and Commission's outcome. During the inaugural session, the Ambassador and PR of Bangladesh to UNESCAP H.E. Mr. Mohammed Abdul Hye, and Alternate Permanent Representative Mr. Syed Rashedul Hossen were present in person, and other members of the delegation attended through the online platform. Secretary ERD, Ms. Sharifa Khan presented the Country Statement of Bangladesh centering on the overarching theme "Accelerating climate action in Asia and the Pacific for Sustainable Development".



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