

Concerning Item 3 (i) : subregional offices

Thank you for giving me the floor, Mr. Chair.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to appreciate that the ESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East has made great contributions to the achievement of the millenium development goals in the subregion by assisting ESCAP's programs and providing various activities including capacity building in major economic, social and environmental areas.

As one of the leading countries to promote the concept of the Green Growth, Korea has attached great importance to the regional cooperation in the area of environment and climate change, especially green growth as an implementation strategy of addressing climate change. Korea has not only participated in the ESCAP's programmes primarily through KECF (Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund), but also conducted various multilateral and bilateral projects to enhance capacity-building of LLDCs and LDCs. In this context, I hope ESCAP will continue to pursue green initiatives with active participation of member States.

In addition, promoting trade facilitation is significant for the region's sustainable and inclusive growth. To this end, Korea has been participating in relevant activities with an aim to deepening regional cooperation and supporting capacity building of neighboring countries. I highly value the contribution of Subregional Office of East & North-East Asia in this area so far.

I am sure that the Office, as the hub of the region, will continuously play a key role in promoting regional integration and narrowing the economic and social gap in the region. I also believe that the Office will continue to meet regional-specific demands in other fields as well, and, in this respect, the Korean government will remain supportive of its future activities.

Thank you Mr. Chair.