

**STATEMENT BY MS. SUVDAA BADARCH, ACTING PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA ,AT THE 69TH SESSION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
/Agenda item 8a/**

Mr. Chairman,
Madame Executive Secretary,
Distinguished delegates,

It gives me pleasure on behalf my delegation to extend warm congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your unanimous election and pledge our full support and cooperation in discharging your important duties.

My delegation commends the work done by the Secretariat led by Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in providing valuable assistance to and supporting the efforts of the member states to achieve their economic and social development goals.

Mr. Chairman,

Mongolia is strongly committed to promoting the sustainable development and ensuring the three pillars of the sustainable development at the national, regional and global levels. At the national level Mongolia has been implementing the National Comprehensive Development Strategy based on the Millennium Development Goals. Most of them have been achieved or are likely to be achieved. However, the MDGs related to poverty reduction and environmental sustainability are progressing slowly despite the targeted measures undertaken by the Government.

Mongolia gained a significant achievement in creating a legal environment for sustainable development. Mongolia's economic performance looks bright due to booming mining industry with projected growth of around 15 % in 2013-2014. But we are aware that too much focus on mining sector development may lead to neglect of

other sectors of the economy, resulting in greater disparities in income and access to basic services. ^{Other} ~~Another~~ challenges facing us are ^{also} ~~are~~ related to high rate of unemployment, especially among the youth, the growing disparity between the rural and urban areas, ensuring an equitable distribution of national wealth to all citizens. Addressing these challenges, protecting people with low income from the impact of high inflation and enabling their full participation in economic growth through greater employment and access to core public services are of high priority in the development agenda of our Government.

In pursuit of sustainable development the Government is paying much attention to promoting green economy and using renewable energy resources as one of indispensable pillars of sustainable development.

But, we are still in need of meaningful integration into regional and world economy, favorable trade access, improved transit transportation environment, introduction of advanced technologies and innovative sources of financing for development. Therefore, we intend to continue to actively engage ourselves with our development partners, so that to ensure a people-centered sustained and inclusive development to the benefit of all.

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Mongolia holds the view that building resilience to multiple shocks is one of the most pressing contemporary development challenges faced by Asia and the Pacific. Economic crisis and natural disasters are on the rise, they straddle wide geographic areas, spread across all sectors of economic activity.

The increasing trend of natural disasters affecting the region highlights the need for concerted efforts by the member countries, international organizations and other stakeholders in tackling natural disasters, social inequalities, food security and other challenges, in building economic and social resilience and creating inclusive and sustainable Asia-Pacific region.

We fully agree that shared prosperity can be attained through enhancing regional integration, promoting sustainable and inclusive economic and social development.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of Mongolia looks forward to more intensive cooperation and technical assistance in such areas of interest as trade and investment, macro-economy, transport and infrastructure, ICT and disaster risk reduction, social protection, statistics and environment. Of continued importance for landlocked Mongolia are supportive actions undertaken by the Executive Secretary and ESCAP Secretariat to address the countries with special needs which face the biggest challenges in getting engaged with regional integration and get equal benefits from such integration.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to reiterate my delegation's firm belief that under your able stewardship this Session will be able to provide greater impetus to our common efforts towards achieving economic and social objectives and the broader development agenda of the region. I would like also to reiterate the commitment of the Government of Mongolia to increased cooperation with the regional countries and the Secretariat in the joint endeavors for prosperity and well-being of all the peoples in the region.

Thank you for your attention.