

**STATEMENT BY H.E.MR CH.BATTUMUR,  
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF MONGOLIA AT  
THE SEVENTY FIRST SESSION OF THE UNESCAP  
/ On Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region/**

Mr. Chairman,  
Madame Executive Secretary,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, let me extend my delegation's warm congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and the members of the Bureau for leading our deliberations.

Mr. Chairman,

I would also like to convey to you all the warm greetings and best wishes of His Excellency Foreign Minister of Mongolia Mr. Lundeg PUREVSUREN, for constructive and fruitful exchange at the 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the UN ESCAP.

My delegation aligns the previous speakers in commending the important initiative undertaken by the UN ESCAP and takes this opportunity to express the sincere gratitude to the people and Government of the Thailand for the gracious hospitality.

Policy issue for the Asia and Pacific region is all the more important and timely as the international community is making the last push towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and defining the post-2015 development agenda.

Asia and the Pacific is the region known with its fastest growth and as anchor of the stability in the world despite its numerous political, economic, social and environment challenges. As a one of the member state in the region, Mongolia is strongly committed to promote sustainable development and ensuring it at the national and regional level.

At the national level, I am pleased to note that Mongolian economy grew by 7.8 percent in 2014, and the unemployment rate was 7.7 percent. Our economic trend is positive and the growth will be sustained in coming years because we are doing our best to create a favorable investment climate. Big projects in mining, infrastructure, energy and construction are expected to enforce our economic potentiality. Timely implementation of these projects, mobilization of resources, policy responses and structural reforms are the current priority for Mongolia. However, we are still in need of meaningful integration into regional and world

economy, favorable trade access, and improved transit transportation environment, introduction of green technologies and increasing government revenue to finance a sustainable growth.

Countries are becoming more complex and interdependent. Nevertheless, each country from its own specifics has a different approaches and modalities for strengthening a regional cooperation. At the regional level, our Government aims to become a member of APEC and dialogue partner of ASEAN and to constructively engage in the East Asia Summit.

In the framework of the Initiative "Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on the Northeast Asia Security", introduced by President of Mongolia to enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the countries of Northeast Asia, reduce the risk of the regional sustainability, and make the decision of the economic and environmental issues.

My Government hosted several events in Mongolia including the Forum on "the Role of Women Parliaments of North East Asia to enhance peace and development through education" in 2013, and North East Asia Mayor's Forum on "Sustainable and inclusive cities" in 2014.

The rate of urbanization in Asian Cities is the highest in the world. Urbanization presents both opportunities including potential to lift people out of poverty but not well managed. We share the experience and lessons<sup>of</sup> North East Asian cities in overcoming challenges and their economic development strategies and models including how they are attracting revenue, promoting public-private partnership and creating jobs.

I would like to highlight that Mongolia was honored as the host country of the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Summit (ASEM) in July, 2016 which would coincide with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Summit. My Government attaches utmost importance to successful hosting this major international event. In the scope of the preparation, we are hosting various regional meetings to exchange ideas and share a good practice on sustainable and inclusive development and regional connectivity.

I am pleased to note that the Vienna Program for Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for Decade of 2014-2024 adopted during the Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing countries held in November 2014.

World market situation and high transport costs are a major problem to the development of landlocked developing countries. We believe that the Program will contribute to diffuse and realize the special needs for land locked countries, development and expansion of efficient transport and enhancement of competitiveness, expansion of trade, structural transformation, regional cooperation,

and promotion of inclusive economic growth and sustainable development to reduce poverty.

Also it has important role to create the International Think-Tank to improve the analytic capacity of the LLDC's will contribute to intensify cooperation in the implementation of Vienna Program for action and to define post 2015 development agenda. Meanwhile, I call on all ~~the~~ **the fellow landlocked developing countries of Asia to accede to the Multilateral Agreement on the establishment of an International Think Tank for landlocked developing countries in order to identify sustainable responses to development challenges caused by common geographic disadvantages and climate change negative impacts.** ✓

**Climate change is one of the challenge for the landlocked developing countries, especially its water resource scarcity, trans-boundary environmental problems. In this regard, Mongolia is appealing for joint activities cooperation and kind consideration to LLDC's to support our actions taking to combat.**

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation fully supports the initiatives and strategy introduced by the Commission to strengthen the regional cooperation in supporting an inclusive, sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific region. We fully agree that intergovernmental organizations such as ESCAP can play a vital role in bringing together Governments of its member countries other stakeholders to discuss and implement actions to overcome a key challenges expressed by Heads of delegations during this Session.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman I wish 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, social and environmental objectives and the broader development agenda of the region.

I thank you. Mr. Chairman.