



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

№ IO/161

*Enclosure:
as stated,
on 4 p.*

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honour to inform that in accordance with the CICA Plan of Implementation of Confidence Building Measures for 2024 the CICA Secretariat together with the UNESCAP Secretariat are going to organize a side-event dedicated to the leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific region, which is planned to be held on the margins of the 80th ESCAP Session (Bangkok, 22-26 April 2024).

In accordance with the General guidelines for conducting events on implementation of CICA CBMs the Secretariat has the honor to convey herewith the corresponding draft concept paper and kindly requests Member States to provide suggestions or comments, if any, they might have regarding it by 29 February 2024.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Astana, 9 February 2024



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**



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**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
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*Приложение:
упомянутое,
на 4 л.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь сообщить, что в соответствии с Планом СВМДА по реализации мер доверия на 2024 год Секретариат СВМДА совместно с Секретариатом ЭСКАТО ООН планируют организовать тематическое мероприятие, посвященное использованию цифровых инноваций в целях устойчивого развития в Азии и Тихоокеанском регионе, которое предполагается провести «на полях» 80-й Сессии ЭСКАТО (Бангкок, 22-26 апреля 2024 г.).

В соответствии с Общими руководящими принципами проведения мероприятий по осуществлению МД СВМДА Секретариат имеет честь препроводить проект соответствующей концепции и любезно просит государства-члены предоставить предложения или замечания к ней, при наличии, в срок до 29 февраля 2024 года.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

Астана, 9 февраля 2024 года

**ГОСУДАРСТВАМ-ЧЛЕНАМ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**



Қосымша:
аталған, 4 п.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (Азия Кеңесінің) Хатшылығы Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, Азия Кеңесінің 2024 жылға арналған сенім шараларын жүзеге асыру жөніндегі жоспарына сәйкес Азия Кеңесінің Хатшылығы БҰҰ АТМЭӘК Хатшылығымен бірлесіп 80-ші АТМЭӘК сессиясының аясында (Бангкок, 2024 жылғы 22-26 сәуір) Азия мен Тынық мұхиты аймағында тұрақты даму мақсатында цифрлық инновацияларды пайдалануға арналған тақырыптық іс-шара ұйымдастыруды жоспарлап отырғанын хабарлауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

Азия Кеңесінің сенім шараларын жүзеге асыру жөніндегі іс-шараларды өткізудің жалпы басшылық қағидаттарына сәйкес Хатшылық тиісті тұжырымдаманың жобасын жолдап, мүше мемлекеттерден 2024 жылғы 29 ақпанға дейін ұсыныстар немесе түсініктемелер жіберуді сұрайды.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Астана қаласы, 2024 жылғы 9 ақпан

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНЕ МҮШЕ
МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕР**

Draft concept paper
CICA - ESCAP side event on "Leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific"
Bangkok, 22-26 April 2024

Background

With diverse countries ranging from developed to developing, Asia and the Pacific faces both opportunities and challenges in sustainable development. In particular, despite the great progress in deepening regional connectivity through information and communication technologies, the region is still the most digitally divided one in the world. Millions of people are shut out from transformative digital opportunities in education, health and financial services.

At the same time, digital innovations are pivotal for building resilience, deepening connectivity, as well as for regional sustainable development. Leveraging digital technologies holds promise for economic growth, social well-being, and environmental conservation. Digital solutions, big data, sustainable digitalization, and green technologies, can catalyze progress for healthcare, education, agriculture, sustainability, environmental and financial inclusion, most importantly aligning with Sustainable Development Goals.

CICA plays a vital role in Asia in advancing SDGs through cooperation, workshops, and partnerships guided by its Catalogue of confidence building measures. Recognizing regional collaboration's essence, CICA engages with international organizations and development partners to promote best practices.

ESCAP promotes inclusive, resilient and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific by generating action-oriented knowledge, and by providing technical assistance and capacity-building services in support of national development objectives, regional agreements and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development, including in close cooperation with other United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations in the region.

The event could also deepen the policy dialogue among policy-decision-makers and key stakeholders on the key findings and policy recommendations of the Commission's 2024 theme study: "Leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region" and the follow-up Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Digital Inclusion and Transformation, to be hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in Astana¹, in September/October 2024.

Recognizing the importance of regional partnerships, it is reasonable to explore the potential of CICA and ESCAP collaboration for the benefit of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. The proposed side-event could be the first step in this direction.

Objectives

Objective 1: Highlight sustainable digital innovations in accordance with the CICA Catalogue of Confidence building measures and ESCAP Programme of Work.

Objective 2: Promote cross-border collaboration on digital innovations to address SDGs and climate risks.

Objective 3: Promoting digital inclusion across the region.

Objective 4: Share information on CICA and ESCAP regional profiles.

¹ Members and associate member States at the 79th session of the ESCAP Commission in May 2023 decided to convene a ministerial conference on digital inclusion and transformation to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and regional technology initiatives by adopting resolution 79/10 titled "Promoting digital cooperation and inclusion through the Action Plan for Implementing the APIS Initiative, 2022–2026."

Date and Time

One day between 22 – 26 April 2024 (Date TBC), as a side event of the 80th ESCAP Session

60-90 minutes

Venue

United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok, Thailand. (Meeting Room TBC)

Format of the event

Hybrid (TBC), to be broadcast via UN Web TV (TBC)

Working languages and interpretation

English and Russian with simultaneous interpretation.

Organizers of the Side Event

ESCAP secretariat and CICA Secretariat

- ESCAP secretariat: SONCA with IDD support
- CICA Secretariat

Target audience

Experts from the relevant ministries and agencies, academia from CICA and ESCAP countries, UN representatives, delegates of the 80th ESCAP Session, Bangkok's diplomatic corps

Proposed Agenda

Welcoming remarks/keynote speakers:

H.E. Mr. Kairat Sarybay, CICA Secretary General,

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and ESCAP Executive Secretary,

H.E. Mr. Murat Nurtleu, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan (TBC).

Speakers / Presentations: experts from ESCAP and CICA Secretariats, UN Resident coordinator in Thailand, Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, UNDCO, representatives from Thailand (sustainable development), Republic of Korea and Bangladesh (Information Technologies), members of CICA Think Tank Forum, officials from the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic to share their experience on the successful deployment of Central Asia Drought Information System in Kyrgyzstan.

Open Discussions: national interventions, Q&A

Expected Outcomes

Fostering a deeper understanding of sustainable digital innovations and their relevance to addressing pressing regional challenges, as well as promoting increased regional collaboration and partnerships in harnessing digital solutions for environmental and developmental issues, ultimately advancing sustainable development goals in Asia and the Pacific, synergy between CICA and ESCAP.

Outcomes and deliberations of the side-event could be included in a final report.

Contact Information

- ESCAP secretariat: SONCA with IDD support (TBC)
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