

8th Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Network

United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand
25-26 September 2018

The Eighth Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Network will discuss current developments and challenges in FDI policy making, promotion and facilitation in the region. It will also explore ways to improve the national legal frameworks and international investment agreements (IIAs) system to ensure it better supports the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Network members will discuss national experiences, best practices and challenges, which are to be fed into the global discourse at the World Investment Forum (WIF) 2018 (22-26 October, Geneva, Switzerland).

Partners:

- Asian Academy of International Law (AAIL)
- International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)
- The World Economic Forum (WEF)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Tentative Agenda:

Day 1: Foreign direct investment promotion and facilitation

25 September 2018

08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.45	<p>Welcoming Statement <i>by Mia Mikic, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division (TIID), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</i></p> <p>Introduction <i>by Marc Proksch, Chief, Investment and Enterprise Development Section (IEDS), TIID, ESCAP</i></p>
09.45 – 11.00	<p>Session 1. Trends and developments in Asia and the Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends and developments in FDI, national policies, and IIAs in the Asia-Pacific region– based on the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2018 (upcoming) <i>by Soo Hyun Kim, IEDS, TIID, ESCAP</i> • Measuring investment policy reform in the Asia-Pacific region <i>by Stephen Thomsen, Head, Investment Policy Reviews, OECD</i> <p>Country Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian Federation <i>by Anna Kostina, Officer, Ministry of Economic Development</i>
11.00-11.15	Break

11.15-12.00	<p>Session 2. Establishing a stronger Asia-Pacific FDI Network: online platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARTNET on FDI – upcoming initiative to incorporate Asia-Pacific FDI Network into the ARTNeT by <i>Jonas Flake, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP</i>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch
13.00 – 14.45	<p>Session 3. Attracting sustainable FDI in strategic sectors Examining challenges and best practices for attracting FDI to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the region with a focus on selecting and prioritizing strategic sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attracting sustainable FDI in strategic sectors by <i>Andreas Dressler, Managing Director, FDI Center</i> • Attracting sustainable FDI in strategic sectors by <i>Stephen Olson, Research Fellow, Hinrich Foundation</i> • FDI in agriculture: challenges and opportunities by <i>William Speller, Economist, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</i> • Optimal Investment Conditions for ICT and Technology by <i>Simon Lacey, Vice-President, Global Government Affairs, Trade Facilitation and Market Access, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.</i> <p>Country Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India by <i>Vijay Kumar Tyagi, Director, FDI, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance</i> • Viet Nam by <i>Phan Thi Thanh Nhan, Official, Foreign Investment Agency, Ministry of Planning and Investment</i>
14.45 – 15.15	Break
15.15 – 17.00	<p>Session 4. Public-private partnerships for sustainable investment Exploring the role of public-private partnership for sustainable investment, with consideration to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, a global framework for financing sustainable development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPP and Infrastructure Financing in Asia and the Pacific by <i>Tientip Subhanij, Chief, Financing for Development Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development, ESCAP</i> • International partners for promoting investment in the SDGs by <i>Bostjan Skalar, Executive Director - CEO, World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)</i> • India's first global marketplace for artisans by <i>Siva Devireddy, Founder & CEO, GoCoop, India</i> <p>Country Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia by <i>Suon Sophal, Director, Public Relations and Investment Promotion Department, Council for Development</i>

09.00-11.00	<p>Session 1. Integrating sustainable development in IIAs: case of the Asia-Pacific LDCs and LLDCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable FDI characteristics by <i>Mr. Karl Sauvart, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia Centre on Sustainable Investment; Senior Fellow, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) (by video-link)</i> • Presentation of a study “Promoting and Facilitating Foreign Direct Investment for Sustainable Development: An Empirical Study of the Sustainable Development Provisions in BITs of Asian-Pacific LDCs and LLDCs” by <i>Manjiao Chi, Professor and Founding Director of the Center for International Economic Law and Policy, Law School, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), China</i>
11.00 – 11.15	Break
11.15 – 12.30	<p>Session 1. Integrating sustainable development in IIAs: case of the Asia-Pacific LDCs and LLDCs (continued)</p> <p>Country Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mongolia by <i>Enkhbold Vorshilov, Director-General, Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i> • Nepal by <i>Khomraj Koirala, Joint Secretary, Economic Management Division, National Planning Commission</i>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.45	<p>Session 2. Modernizing IIAs and synergies between IIAs and national legal framework for investment</p> <p>Exploring modernizing IIAs of best practices in the region and also examining discord and conflicts between IIAs and national legal framework and discuss viable solutions and national, regional and global efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement as a Model for Best Practices in Asia Pacific IIA (and for domestic law) by <i>Sufian Jusoh, Director, Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), National University of Malaysia</i> • Synergies between IIAs and the National Legal Framework for Investment by <i>Elisabeth Tuerk, International Investment Agreements Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD (by video-link)</i> • <i>Manjiao Chi, Professor and Founding Director of the Center for International Economic Law and Policy, Law School, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), China</i> • Domestic Tax Policies and IIAs Issues and Options by <i>Julien Chaisse, Centre for Financial Regulation and Economic Development, Faculty of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China</i>

	<p>Country Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myanmar by <i>Than Aung Kyaw</i>, Deputy Director General, Directorate of Investment and Company Administration • Sri Lanka by <i>Ganga Hiroshini Palakatiya</i>, Deputy Director, Research & Policy Advocacy Department, Board of Investment • Uzbekistan by <i>Khamraev Oybek</i>, Head of Department, The State Committee for Investments
15.45 – 16.00	<i>Break</i>
16.00 – 16.50	<p>Session 3. ISDS prevention and management</p> <p>Review options to pro-active prevention and management of investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Asia-Pacific Regional Mediation Organization (ARMO) Initiative by <i>Rajesh Babu Ravindran</i>, Professor of law, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, India • Prevention & Management of ISDS by <i>Vee Vian Thien</i>, Associate, Allen & Overy
16.50 – 17.00	<p>Summary and Closing</p> <p>by <i>Marc Proksch</i>, Chief, IEDS, TIID, ESCAP</p>