ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Office of the Executive Secretary

OES/B/8 16 November 2020

MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration Bangkok and videoconferencing, 10 to 12 March 2021

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/195, it is our honour to invite your Government to attend the Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, which will be jointly organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Regional United Nations Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok and via videoconferencing from 10 to 12 March 2021.

The Regional Review will provide an opportunity for ESCAP member States to:

- undertake a first assessment of the overall progress made in implementing the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), with the participation of all relevant stakeholders;
- highlight common challenges, opportunities, gaps and emerging issues; discuss regional priorities and highlight resources required in implementing the GCM;
- provide a common platform for interaction between all relevant stakeholders and exchange lessons learned and good practices between them and those that might be relevant to other regions;
- discuss potential areas for regional cooperation on international migration in line with the vision and guiding principles of the GCM, and
- facilitate the formulation of key findings and recommendations to inform the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF).

The meeting will adopt an inclusive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach and will review all aspects of the GCM, according to its vision and its cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles.

Please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the Regional Review. All relevant information to facilitate the participation of your delegation will be made available in due course on the ESCAP website at https://www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/asia-pacific-regional-review-implementation-global-compact-safe-orderly, including the timetable of meetings, pre-session documents and the information note for participants.

It would be highly appreciated if a letter of credentials communicating the name(s) and designation(s) of the members of your delegation, ensuring senior representation, could be submitted as soon as possible, preferably by 15 February 2021, to escap-sdd@un.org. Kindly note that all delegates who appear on the letter of credentials are required, in accordance with standard United Nations security procedures, to also register online by 15 February 2021 at https://meetings.unescap.org to facilitate security clearance and entrance to the premises.

In view of the thematic focus of the Regional Review, your Government is encouraged to include in its national delegation senior officials and policymakers from the range of ministries responsible for implementation and formulation of policies relevant to international migration. Given the whole-of-society approach to implementing the GCM, your Government may also wish to include in its national delegation representatives of relevant stakeholder organizations, as identified in paragraph 15(j) of the Global Compact. Delegations are also encouraged to aim for gender parity among their representatives.

Please note that the secretariat is monitoring the situation with regard to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak and is putting into place measures to mitigate public health risks associated with mass gatherings. The secretariat continues to receive guidance from the World Health Organization, the authorities of the host country of ESCAP and the Secretariat of the United Nations. Information concerning any change to the schedule or modality of the Regional Review to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants will be communicated as soon as practicable.

Mr. Srinivas Tata, Director of the Social Development Division, is the focal point of this meeting and can be reached via escap-sdd@un.org or telephone +66 2 288 1513.

We look forward to the active participation of your Government and a vibrant dialogue during the Regional Review.

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

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António Vitorino
Coordinator, United Nations Network on
Migration and Director General,
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(IOM)

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Enclosure