

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY

4 February 2016

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## **Ministerial Council of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement**

### **Fourth session**

27 April 2016

Bangkok, Thailand

### **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

Inaugural session open to all ESCAP members and associate members

#### **1. Inaugural session**

- (a) Welcome remarks by *Dr. Susan Stone*, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP.
- (b) Inaugural address by *Dr. Shamshad Akhtar*, Executive Secretary, ESCAP.
- (c) Opening statements by Representatives of Member States.
- (d) Presentation on “APTA: Progress made and future roadmap” by *Dr. Susan Stone*, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP.
- (e) Web launching of the “APTA Tariff Concessions (**MoPs**), **NTMs** and **RoO database**” by the Ministers.

Closed session open to APTA Participating States and countries in accession

#### **2. Election of officers**

A chairperson will be elected for the session.

### **3. Adoption of the agenda**

The Ministerial Council will deliberate on the agenda before them for adoption.

### **4. The Protocol to amend Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: Second Amendment**

The Ministers are invited to review the Second Amendment of the Protocol to amend Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement as proposed by Standing Committee and sign the Protocol which amends APTA:

- (i) Preamble to welcome Mongolia as new member of APTA;
- (ii) Revised National Lists of concessions incorporating the Fourth Round concession list;
- (iii) Rules of origin.

### **5. Establishment of the APTA Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI)**

On the basis of the recommendation of the APTA Business Forum, the APTA Standing Committee has recommended for the establishment of the APTA CCI. The Ministers may consider approving the formation of APTA CCI and its terms of reference.

### **6. Future roadmap of APTA**

Ministers are invited to direct the future development of APTA.

### **7. Date and venue of the fifth session of the Ministerial Council**

Ministers are invited to consider the date and venue of the fifth session of the Ministerial Council of the Agreement.

### **8. Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration**

Ministers are invited to consider and adopt a Ministerial Declaration outlining the future direction of work for the APTA.

### **9. Closing session**

Following official proceedings, the fourth session of the Ministerial Council will be closed.

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