

# Approach to the Mid-Term Review of the implementation of the outcomes of the first Asian and Pacific Energy Forum

The Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (APEF) *Plan of Action on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific, 2014-2018* identifies 15 areas where progress at national and regional levels can contribute toward realizing the shared vision of a sustainable energy future. Periodic analyses of progress, undertaken in cooperation with member States, are an opportunity to track advancement, draw from regional experience, and identify new solutions and opportunities for cooperation.

The APEF outcome documents and ESCAP Resolution 70/9 mandate the executive secretary to undertake a periodic review of progress made in the implementation of the APEF Plan of Action. A Mid-Term Review will be completed in 2016 by the secretariat in collaboration with member States and international organizations and will be submitted to the first session of the ESCAP intergovernmental Committee on Energy. Following the assessment and inputs of the Committee, the report will be presented to the 2017 Commission. Building upon this process, and in preparation for the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum in 2018, a Final Review will be prepared and submitted to the Forum. This review process will not only engage and inform member States, but also feed into ongoing dialogues, and support the setting of the post-2018 APEF action agenda.

The secretariat is currently preparing the *2016 APEF Plan of Action Mid-Term Review*, a preview of which is presented under Chapter 4 in the *2016 Regional Trends Report*. The proposed format includes statistical trends, key development issues, and a list of sample policies from selected member States under each of the areas for action. The data and policy information presented in Chapter 4 is in large part drawn from the contents of the recently launched Asia Pacific Energy Portal, an online knowledge platform aggregating energy statistics and policies for the region. To complete the Mid-Term Review, inputs will be sought from member States by engaging the APEF Focal Point network as well as the governments of the member-states to enable a more complete review that accurately reflects national and regional activities. The objective is to provide overall trends, make note of key barriers, and highlight the positive efforts being undertaken within the region. The provision of policy and programme examples will further facilitate knowledge exchange on government approaches to solving energy challenges.

At the 2016 Policy Dialogue on Energy for Sustainable Development, participants are requested to offer viewpoints on how the secretariat can best reflect the interests of member States within the information gathering, review, and reporting processes. Identification of the principles and responsibilities that will drive the development of the review documents, the expectations of member States for the report content and structure, and potential sources and methods of collecting reliable information will be addressed. The conclusions from the Policy Dialogue will then be incorporated into the development of a robust process that will result in relevant Mid-Term Review and consequently Final Review. These reviews will support the larger purposes of continuous dialogue, mutually agreed actions towards sustainable development and regional cooperation.

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