#### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

### **Standing Committee of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement Forty-fourth Session**

24-25 July 2014 UNCC, Bangkok

#### ANNOTATED AGENDA

#### 1. Opening of the session

The Secretariat delivers an opening statement.

#### 2. Election of officers

The Standing Committee is invited to elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson for the 44<sup>th</sup> session.

#### 3. Adoption of the agenda

The Standing Committee is invited to adopt the agenda.

#### 4. Supplementary criteria for Rules of Origin

The Standing Committee is invited to continue finalizing the negotiations on Rules of Origin and finalize the draft Protocol for the signature at the forthcoming Ministerial Council Meeting. The Standing Committee may also wish to decide on the date for the implementation of the supplementary criteria.

### 5. The Fourth Round of Tariff Concession Negotiations

The Standing Committee is invited to discuss and finalise the draft legal instrument to conclude the Fourth Round of tariff concessions, agree on a date for its implementation and recommend to the APTA Ministerial Council for approval.

### 6. Finalization of the draft Ministerial Declaration and preparations for the 4th session of the Ministerial Council

The Standing committee is invited to continue consultations on the final wording of the Ministerial Declaration and discuss any other matters relating to the conduct of the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the Ministerial Council.

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

The Standing Committee is invited to continue discussions and finalize the amendments to APTA, which will be in the form of a Protocol to amend the Agreement.

### 8. Date and venue for the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Standing Committee and the 4th Ministerial Council Meeting

The 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council Meeting will be preceded by the 45<sup>th</sup> session of the Standing Committee; therefore, the Standing Committee is invited to decide on the exact dates and the venue for the 45<sup>th</sup> session of the Standing Committee as well as for the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council session, tentatively scheduled for October 2014.

After the Ministerial Council session, the negotiations in the area of Trade Facilitation, Investment, and Trade in Services may begin for which adequate preparations, identification/finalization of focal points for the respective Working Group would be required.

In this regard, the following dates are proposed for consideration of and decision by the Standing Committee.

| List of Meetings                        | Proposed period & Venue                |
|---|--|
| The 45th Standing Committee of APTA     | October 2014, Dhaka<br>or UNCC/Bangkok |
| The 4 <sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council |  |
| The 46th Standing Committee of APTA     | December 2014, Delhi                   |

#### 9. Other matters

The Standing Committee may discuss any other issues not covered under the specific agenda items.

#### 10. Adoption of the report

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