

# CONCEPT NOTE: APEF Review & Assessment Mechanism

## I. Background

ESCAP organized the ministerial-level Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (APEF), held in Vladivostok, Russian Federation, from 27 to 30 May 2013. The Forum's agenda was formulated through a series of subregional consultations, an expert group meeting and a regional preparatory meeting.

The Forum proceedings marked an important occasion for member States to identify cross-sectoral energy priorities and to renew their commitment to developing energy policies within the context of sustainable development. The outcome documents of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, a Ministerial Declaration and regional Plan of Action, established the region's 2014-2018 agenda aimed at enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy.

## II. Opportunities Presented by the APEF Energy Agenda

As the first Asia-Pacific ministerial-level energy forum convened under the auspices of the United Nations, APEF produced a Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action that establish the framework for potential significant efforts and progress in the areas of sustainable energy and enhanced energy security. These efforts and their results will carry national, regional, and also global implications. Through alignment within a common action framework, ESCAP member States have the potential to contribute to and benefit from regional coordination and cooperation. Additionally, with a shared agenda, the countries of Asia and the Pacific are enabled to speak with a common voice and better participate in global dialogues on energy and sustainable development, including the post-2015 development agenda and the Decade on Sustainable Energy for All, 2014-2018, which was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly.

## III. Mandate

The Secretariat has been tasked with developing a Review & Assessment Mechanism for this agenda, as well as establishing a platform for facilitating continuous dialogue and cooperation among ESCAP member States. These actions

### Mandate to the Secretariat

#### MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

44. Request the Executive Secretary:

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(c) To facilitate the dissemination of information, the exchange of best practices and the development and implementation of all energy related initiatives and projects aimed at enhancing energy access and energy security, diversifying energy sources and promoting the sustainable use of energy in the region;

(d) To work closely with UN-Energy, the other regional commissions and other relevant international and multilateral organizations in implementing the present Declaration and Plan of Action on Regional Cooperation, and to continue to promote cooperation and partnerships in a synergistic manner with the various intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, as well as private-sector and subregional organizations, funds and programmes that are playing an increasingly important role in enhancing energy security;

(e) To promote networking and information-sharing among national and subregional organizations in order to implement the present Declaration and the Plan of Action;

(f) To advance and periodically review, in close consultation with members and associate members, the progress made in the implementation of the present Declaration and the Plan of Action and to report thereon to the Commission on a regular basis;

#### PLAN OF ACTION

#### IV. Review and assessment mechanism

ESCAP will undertake a periodic review of the progress made in the implementation of the plan of action based on information provided by members and associate members on a voluntary basis, as well as by collaborating international organizations. The review report will be submitted to the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, to be held not later than 2018.

stem from the requests made by member States within the outcome documents of APEF. As outlined in the APEF outcome documents, a Review & Assessment Mechanism will be designed in a highly participatory fashion and will strive to facilitate dialogue and cooperation. Key to this mechanism is the “establishment of **a platform for facilitating continuous dialogue and cooperation** among ESCAP member and associate member States on enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy” as called for in paragraph II.A. of the Plan of Action.

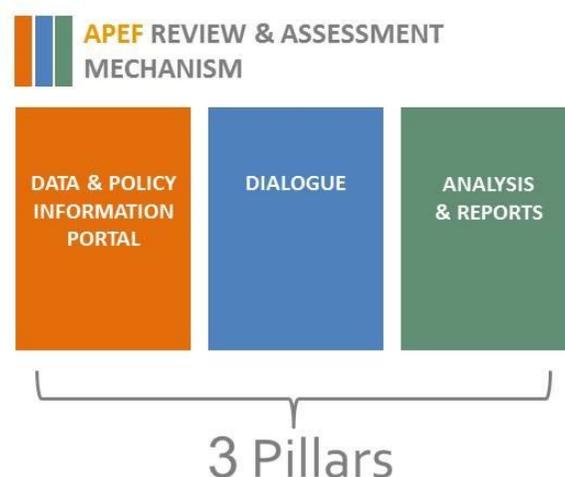
## IV. A Proposed Review & Assessment Mechanism for Advancing the Asia-Pacific Energy Agenda

In order to capitalize on the opportunities presented by this shared energy agenda, a clear understanding is needed of where member States and the region as a whole stand in the numerous action areas identified. Only with clarity in this regard can countries within the region begin to align efforts for greater impact, identify the most effective approaches and solutions, and push forward implementation of the region’s agenda. Therefore, a Review & Assessment Mechanism would have the explicit role of systematically gathering and analyzing information, which enables a) recognition of common challenges, b) dialogue for identifying solutions, c) evidence-based policy recommendations, d) targeted cooperation mechanisms, and (e) partnerships.

### A. Review & Assessment Mechanism

#### Format: Three Pillars

The proposed platform put forth by the secretariat consists of three pillars: 1) a web-based Data and Policy Information Portal, 2) Dialogues, and 3) Analysis & Reports. These pillars will form the framework for ESCAP member States, the Secretariat, and development stakeholders to identify effective policy solutions and actions to implement the APEF regional Plan of Action.



#### 1. Web-based regional Data & Policy Information Portal

This portal will offer centralized access to the latest available data and energy-related policy information. Data and information will be available at regional, subregional and country levels and will be provided in a user-friendly interactive format to facilitate information extraction and application.

Essential to the regional data and policy information portal’s format is the combination of both quantitative and qualitative indicators. Data is inherently a *lagging indicator* indicative of past conditions, whereas qualitative information can act as *leading indicators* that suggest the future development path or condition. Quantitative information in the form of data is essential for examining trends and predicting future needs. Qualitative information, such as policy mechanisms utilized by countries, offers insight into the drivers of quantitative outcomes. From the subregional and regional perspective, policy information also facilitates the identification of opportunities for policy alignment in order to increase regional cooperation and integration.

The proposed quantitative and qualitative indicators will be derived from the agenda set within the

APEF outcome documents, and will align with relevant current regional and global initiatives. Countries will be able to chart their own progress as well as view it within the broader regional development context. See the Annex for a more extensive look at the regional data and policy information portal concept.

## 2. Dialogues

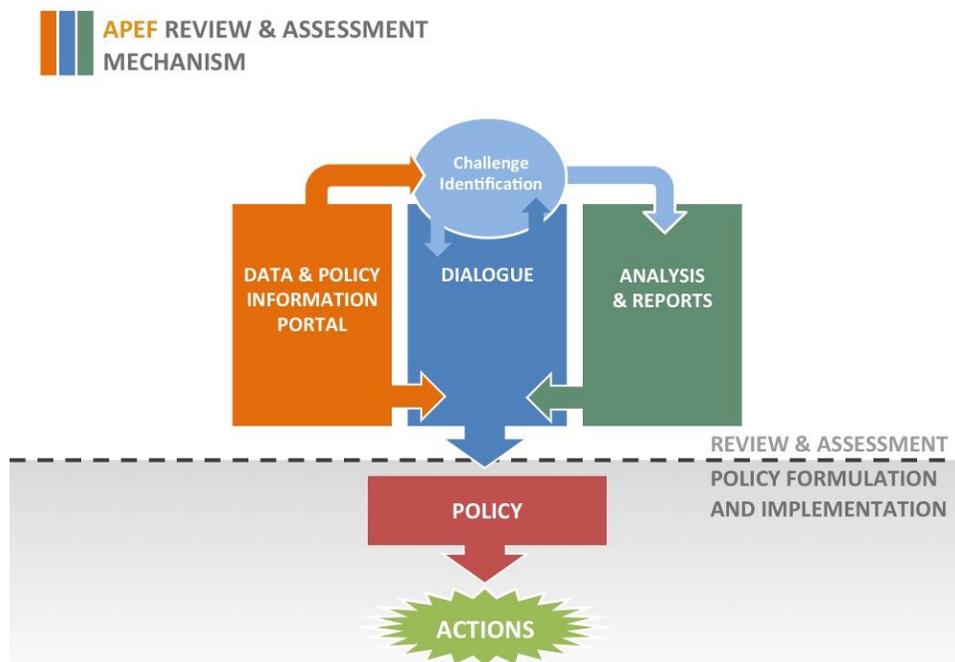
Regular conferences and meetings will be held focused on identifying, understanding and addressing key issues for realizing enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy. These include annual policy dialogues and expert group meetings that identify and respond to main challenges to implementing the APEF Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action. These dialogues will facilitate partnerships among stakeholders and the identification of policy options that can lead to policy implementation and actions. They also provide member States with the space to highlight their own activities and to share experience and strategies, therefore promoting knowledge sharing and cooperation at bilateral, multilateral and regional levels.

## 3. Analysis & Reports

Periodic ESCAP reports will provide analysis and insights regarding regional energy trends and the progress on actions outlined within the outcome documents. Regional energy trend reports will form the basis for annual policy dialogues. A more in-depth mid-term implementation review in 2016 and final progress assessment report in 2018 will provide the foundation for programming of the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum in 2018.

Additionally, the framework website will offer links to key resources such as regional databases, recent publications from relevant organizations, and case studies of successful projects that address the objectives within the APEF Declaration and Plan of Action.

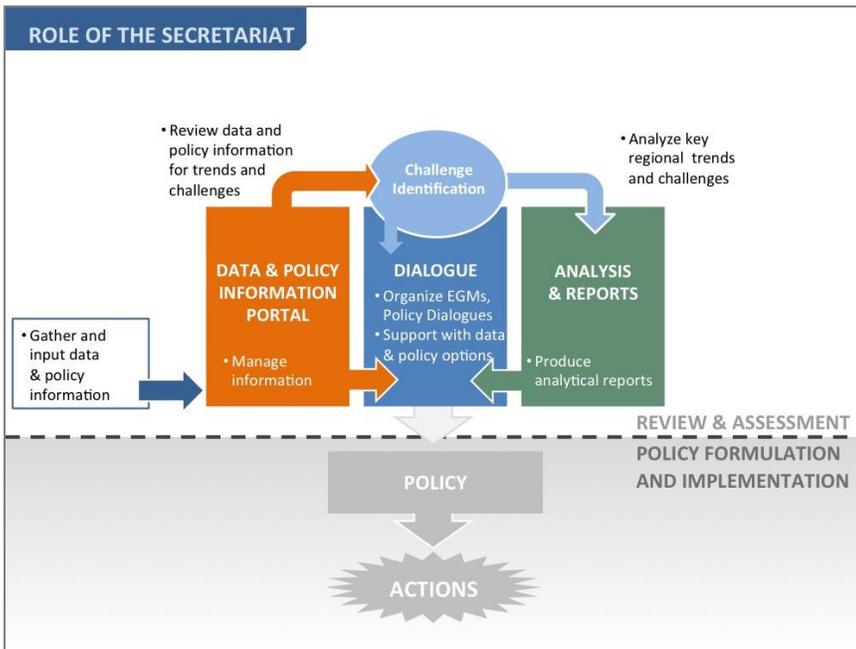
### ***B. A Systematic and Informed Approach for Challenge Identification and Policy Decision-Making***



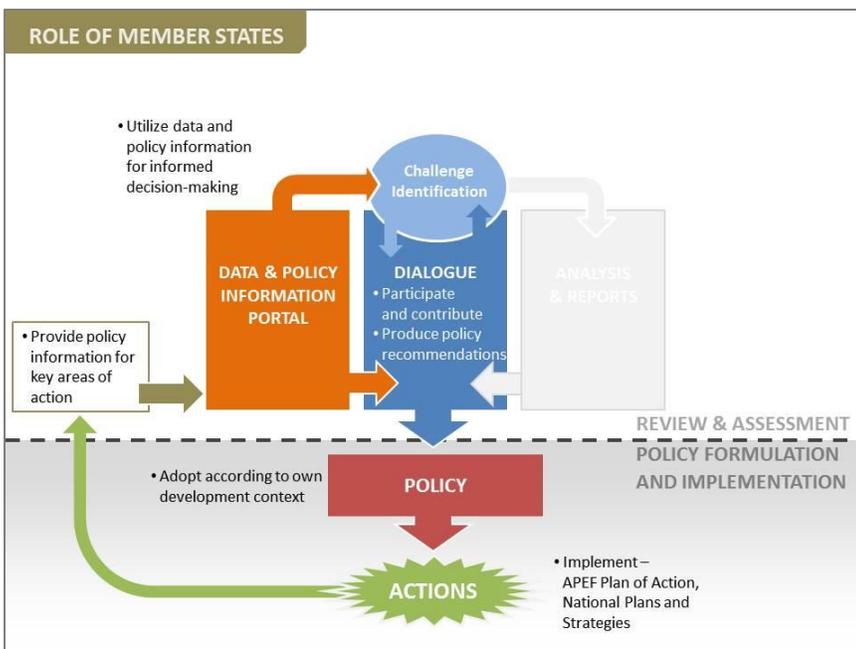
The three pillars form the framework for a systematic and informed approach to identifying common challenges and effective policy solutions. The Data & Policy Information Portal is used to identify challenges and inform Dialogue. Analysis & Reports based on identified challenges further inform Dialogue, which can produce additional challenge identifications. The mechanism continues to circulate the issues until it is ready to output informed and considered Policy Recommendations, which then lead to Actions.

### C. Roles of the Secretariat, Member States and Development Stakeholders

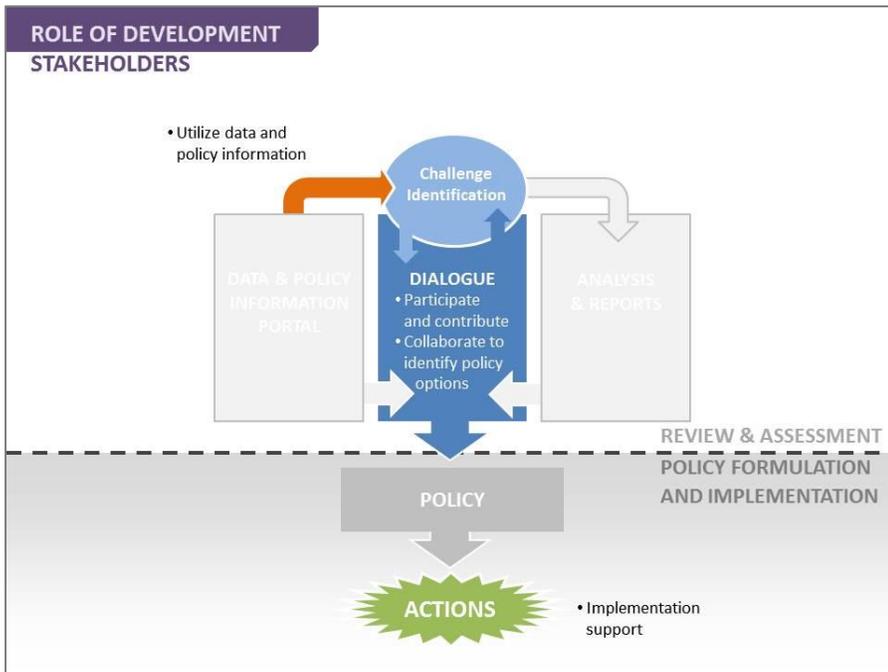
The Review & Assessment Mechanism incorporates coordinated roles between member States and the Secretariat, as well as provides room for development stakeholder inputs.



*The Secretariat's Role* – The Secretariat will manage the information portal, review information to identify trends and challenges, organize dialogues, and produce analysis and reports. These functions will support the implementation of the APEF Plan of Action by **creating a platform for continuous dialogue and cooperation.**



*Member States' Role* – Member States cooperate by providing policy information to the Portal and also participating and contributing to Dialogues. Within these Dialogues, and through the collaboration of member States and development stakeholders, policy recommendations are produced. Member States also implement the outputs of the Review & Assessment Mechanism – Policy and Actions.



*Development Stakeholders' Role –* Development stakeholders, such as UN-Energy, development agencies, banks, NGOs, private sector entities, and research institutions, are offered space to participate in dialogues and contribute their views, experience, best practices, and more. The public Data & Policy Information Portal will act as a resource to development stakeholders and also align their participation with the energy development agenda established by ESCAP member States.

#### ***D. Establishing Baselines for Assessing Progress***

The secretariat has been requested to review and report on progress, which requires the establishment of baselines. Quantitative indicator baselines for measuring progress in action areas will be derived from existing, established data sources such as UN Data and the International Energy Agency. Qualitative baselines regarding policies and actions will be based on member State contributions. The secretariat requests input regarding the best approach to collecting policy information during initial baseline establishment efforts in 2014 and subsequent updating efforts.

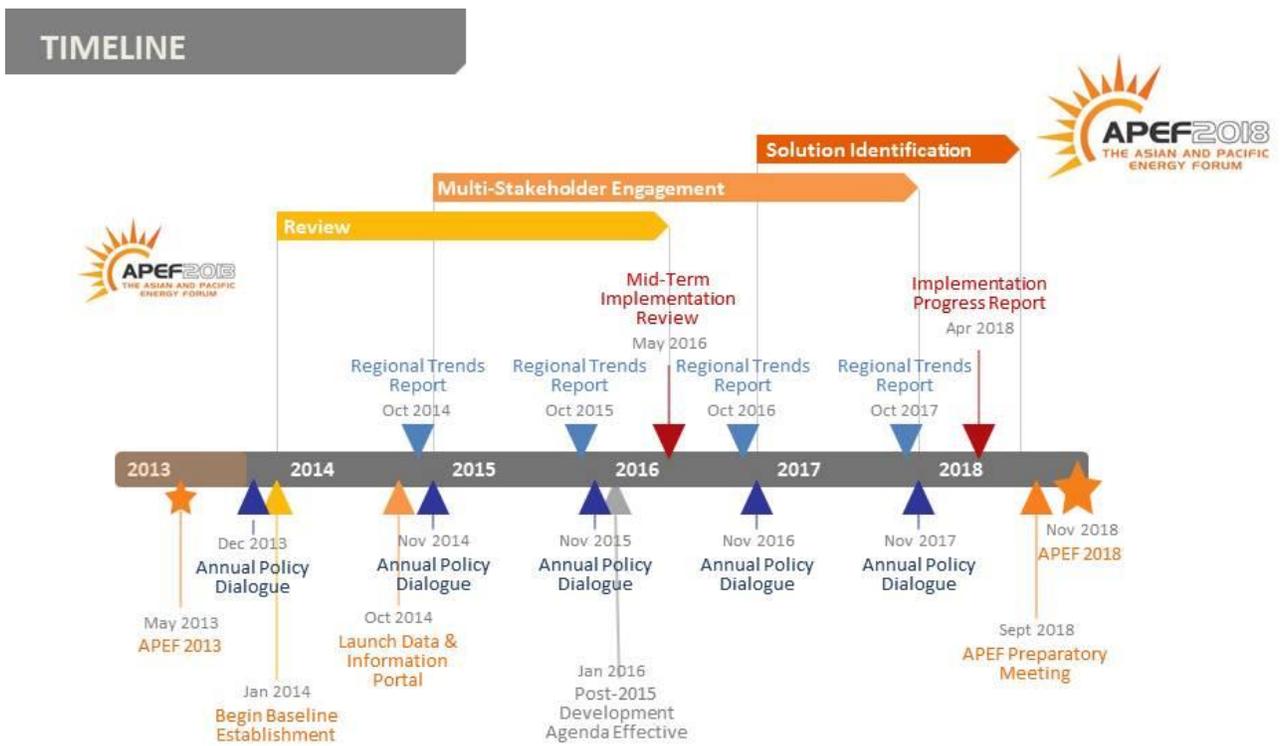
### E. Timeline: Progressing toward APEF 2018

The Review & Assessment Mechanism will be functional along a timeline building to the 2018 Asian and Pacific Energy Forum. Three phases – Review, Multi-Stakeholder Engagement, and Agenda Setting – provide the framework for moving forward the sustainable energy development agenda. The first phase, Review, which extends to APEF 2018, will be dedicated to baseline establishment and the launching of the Data & Policy Information Portal. From this phase, the ESCAP secretariat and member States can gain a comprehensive and in-depth view of the regional energy situation. The annual Regional Trends Report will be launched during this phase, identifying trends and gaps in sustainable energy development, and providing a basis for the annual Policy Dialogue agenda.

The second phase, Multi-Stakeholder Engagement, will invite more in-depth participation from development partners, research institutions, the private sector, and others to provide their inputs on various facets to the challenges the region faces, as well as present potential solutions. This engagement will be grounded in the Review & Assessment Mechanism, especially the dialogues, which will generate policies and implementation actions.

The third phase, Agenda Setting, will consolidate knowledge gained on regional progress on the APEF energy agenda, consider the many potential solution pathways for regional challenges, and focus on identifying effective policy options. This phase will serve as the preparatory phase for APEF 2018.

These three phases will ensure that APEF 2018 is supported with comprehensive data and policy information, leverages experience and knowledge from a broad range of stakeholders within the energy development realm, and provides evidence-based direction for new and/or improved policy actions.



## V. The Benefits and Relevance of the Review & Assessment Mechanism

### Provides a Centralized Information Source that Supports Regional Dialogue

- The Secretariat can provide consolidated data and policy information upon which to base review and assessment of progress against the APEF Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action.
- Data and policy information will enable challenge identification at regional and country levels as well as provide the basis for informed dialogue, analysis, and policy recommendations.

### Enables a Comprehensive Approach to Energy

- The mechanism builds on existing sustainable development activities at regional and global levels, as well as addresses the growing demand for substantive country-level reporting on progress.
- The framework extends beyond access, renewables and efficiency to address energy in a comprehensive manner that reflects more fully the needs of the region.
- Inter-linkages between action areas are made apparent through the ability to cross-reference data and information.

### Offers Contextualization Capability

- Member States will be able to chart their own progress as well as view it within the broader regional development context.
- With the inclusion of qualitative policy information, the framework uniquely contains tangible policy aspects and highlights the flexibility of approaches undertaken by individual member States based on their own innovation and development contexts.

### Supports Regional Cooperation

- Opportunities for policy and action alignment are more easily identified, promoting broader

### Distinguishing Features of the Review & Assessment Mechanism

The proposed Review & Assessment Mechanism distinguishes itself from other web-based data and information sources in the following ways:

- The mechanism integrates a web-based information portal, dialogue, and analysis and reports.
- It reflects the priorities of member States that were identified through an intergovernmental process.
- The scope of data and information is highly comprehensive, yet focused enough to be easily accessible.
- Statistical indicators are juxtaposed with policy information and can be compared between countries.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/reportId=5\\_5874](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/reportId=5_5874)

