



ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM 2023

## Navigating toward a Carbon-Neutral Future through Clean Energy Solutions

13-16 JUNE 2023



### Regional Leadership on Sustainable Cooling and the COP 28 Global Cooling Pledge

Session 2: 4:00 – 5:30pm: Regional Leadership and the Global Cooling Pledge (90 minutes)

#### Read Out

Opening Remarks: Mr. Hongpeng Liu, Director, Energy Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

- Noted the support UNESCAP has provided for countries in the region on managing energy demand for cooling and highlighted the fact that sustainable cold chains are a major investment opportunity.

Scene Setting Presentation on Progress on Regional Cooling Policy and Ambition: Ms. Anna Lobanova, Sustainable Energy Specialist, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Pacific

- Provided an overview of UNESCAP engagement with Cambodia in the development of the National Cooling Action Plan and why it is a model other countries in the region can follow if they want to show a commitment to the Global Cooling Pledge.

Mr. Ali Majid, Deputy Minister, Environment, Climate, and Technology, Government of Maldives

- *Described the steps Maldives have taken in recent years to show leadership on sustainable cooling internationally, highlighting the HCFC phase out.*
- *Indicated that cooling is vital for both health and safety, as well as economic development in the Maldives.*
- *Indicated that the Maldives would support the Global Cooling Pledge in principle and would encourage other countries to do the same.*
  - *Note: continues to be open to being a cooling champion.*

Ms. Rithy Sileap, Economist, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Government of Cambodia

- *Described why access to sustainable cooling is important for the people of Cambodia and why it was important for the Government of Cambodia to draft a comprehensive National Cooling Action Plan.*
- *Highlighted how sustainable cooling in Cambodia has the potential to improve the economic productivity of key sectors, including agriculture, fishing, and tourism. But this will require substantial investment.*
- *Indicated that she would be supportive of Cambodia signing up to the Global Cooling Pledge, but that she cannot speak for the Government in her capacity. Her view was that it was aligned with Cambodia's stated policies and that it would likely be possible.*

Ms. Herlin Herlianika, Advisor, CLASP: Sustainable Cooling Policy Progress in Indonesia

- *Highlighted the suit of policy progress in Indonesia that helps to manage demand growth for cooling.*
- *On the Global Cooling Pledge, noted that Indonesia has been working to show international leadership with net-zero planning and that the country has been engaged in the Development of a National Cooling Plan, which could provide a hook for commitment. Follow up and engagement with Energy Ministry would be an important next step.*

Mr. Alexander Ablaza, Chief Executive Officer, Philippine Energy Efficiency Alliance

- *Provided examples of innovative approaches to financing cooling can help improve energy efficiency and cooling, highlighting the role of ESCOs in the regions to help on-bill financing.*
- *Shared his views on how the current policy and market conditions in the Philippines align with the commitments proposed in the Global Cooling Pledge.*
- *He indicated that he saw the possibility of the Philippines joining the Global Cooling Pledge, but that early engagement would be necessary. Many of their policy reforms in recent years are aligned with sustainable cooling if not explicitly addressing it. This could be a good opportunity to do so.*