

Twelfth Session of the Assembly  
13-14 May 2025, Mongolia

## Agenda Item 6.2

### Information Session with Asian Development Bank

#### I. Background

1. In pursuit of the objectives set forth by the Eighth Special Session of the Assembly (Decision 49-VIII-23S), the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) has developed a comprehensive Climate Action Plan (2025–2034) that complements its Strategic Plan (2024–2030). As part of its efforts to deliver on this vision, the AFoCO Secretariat has been working to broaden strategic engagement with international institutions that offer proven expertise in sustainable development finance, forest-based climate solutions, and ecosystem-based resilience.

2. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, is one of the leading multilateral financial institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. ADB's core mission is to foster inclusive, sustainable, and climate-resilient growth across its 49 regional member countries. In alignment with its long-term corporate strategy, **Strategy 2030**, ADB prioritizes operations that address climate change, promote environmental sustainability, and build resilience in infrastructure, natural resources, and vulnerable communities. ADB has supported thousands of projects throughout the region through loans, grants, equity investments, and technical assistance. These projects span key sectors such as energy, transport, water, agriculture, and natural resources, including forestry and biodiversity.

#### II. Introduction to Asian Development Bank and its Strategic Engagements

3. This session aims to introduce AFoCO member countries to the overarching institutional priorities of ADB, and to explore opportunities for synergy in the areas of climate action and sustainable forest management. Key areas of discussion will include:

##### a. Institutional Overview

ADB will provide an introduction to its governance structure, operational mandate, and the organizational divisions responsible for environmental sustainability, climate action, and natural resources management.

##### b. Strategic Priorities under Strategy 2030

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has outlined several strategic priorities under its Strategy 2030 framework. Key operational focus areas include:

- **Tackling Climate Change and Enhancing Environmental Sustainability:** ADB aims to scale up support for climate change mitigation and adaptation, ensuring that a significant portion of its operations address these critical issues.
- **Strengthening Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risks:** The bank focuses on building resilience against climate and disaster risks through comprehensive approaches, including risk-sensitive land use management and climate-resilient infrastructure design.

- Promoting Regional Cooperation and Integration: ADB enhances connectivity and competitiveness among its developing member countries, supporting regional public goods and collective actions to mitigate cross-border risks such as climate change and pollution.

**c. Project Portfolio**

ADB will showcase examples of past and ongoing projects that demonstrate ADB's approach to nature-based solutions, forest landscape restoration, climate-resilient infrastructure, and ecosystem-based adaptation. Reference will also be made to the 2023 Annual Portfolio Performance Report, which offers insights into ADB's investments and outcomes across the region.

**d. Opportunities for Collaboration**

ADB and AFoCO will explore potential entry points for technical collaboration, co-financing of regional forest-climate initiatives, joint capacity development, and pipeline development for scalable, bankable nature-based projects.

**III. Points for consideration**

4. The Assembly may wish to take note of the information and provide further guidance and recommendations, as appropriate.

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