



Distr.: Limited

11 August 2025

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Twenty-eighth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-28) of the North-East Asian Subregional
Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC)

22-23 September 2025

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Review of Draft NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030

(Item 7 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the Secretariat

CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	2
II.	DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEASPEC STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030	2
III.	ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION.....	3

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 is set to guide NEASPEC's efforts in advancing environmental cooperation across North-East Asia, building upon the achievements and lessons learned from previous strategic plans. Building upon the achievements and lessons learned from previous strategic plans, the new plan aims to strengthen subregional collaboration in addressing pressing environmental challenges, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the unique needs of North-East Asia.

2. Developed in close consultation with member States, the Strategic Plan 2026-2030 also seeks to further operationalize and carry forward the *NEASPEC Commemorative Statement on Promoting Environmental Cooperation in North-East Asia* adopted by member States on 23 November 2023 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of NEASPEC. Member States envisioned: (a) accelerating the progress of NEASPEC's activities, projects and platforms in five programmatic areas; (b) bolstering NEASPEC's relevance to tackling environmental challenges and delivering concrete benefits for the subregion and beyond; (c) developing subregional knowledge base and capacity through NEASPEC's works for the member States; and enhancing the effectiveness of NEASPEC's work.

II. DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEASPEC STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030

3. The draft NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 was developed over the course of a year through a structured and consultative process involving member States and relevant stakeholders. The key stages of this development process are summarized in **Table 1** below.

4. The process began with an Expert Group Meeting on 13 December 2024, held in conjunction with SOM-27. The meeting provided a forum for member States, experts, and practitioners to exchange views on how to implement the goals outlined in the Commemorative Statement and to discuss the timeline and approach for drafting the new Strategic Plan.

5. Subsequently, a National Focal Points Meeting was convened on 10 April 2025 to first present the zero draft of the Strategic Plan 2026-2030 and confirm the next steps and timeline for its review and finalization.

6. Following the meeting, the zero draft of the Strategic Plan was circulated among National Focal Points for comments and feedback. Through iterative exchanges, the secretariat consolidated the feedback and incorporated revisions into a revised draft, which was subsequently shared for final review. Based on the final round of inputs from member States, the draft Strategic Plan 2026-2030 was finalized for presentation at SOM-28.

Table 1. Timeline for the Development of NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030

Time	Activity
13 December 2024	Expert Group Meeting held in conjunction with SOM-27: Discussed approach and timeline for the development of the Strategic Plan 2026-2030
January-March 2025	Drafted and circulated an annotated outline for preliminary feedback.
March-April 2025	Prepared the zero draft of the Strategic Plan 2026-2030.
10 April 2025	National Focal Points Meeting: Presented zero draft and confirmed next steps and timeline.
April-June 2025	Circulated the zero draft among member States (through National Focal Points) and stakeholders for review; and collected feedback.
June 2025	Revised the draft based on comments received.
July-August 2025	Recirculated the revised draft for final feedback and confirmation.
August 2025	Finalized the draft with consolidated inputs from member States (through National Focal Points).
22-23 September 2025	SOM-28: Present the final draft for review and adoption at SOM-28.

III. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

7. The Meeting may wish to invite member States to review, share views, and approve the NEASPEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 (Annex I).