

Embassy of Bangladesh
Bangkok, Thailand
Press Release

Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina gives video message in the 76th Commission of UNESCAP held today in Bangkok on virtual platform chaired by Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand and Permanent Representative to the ESCAP

Bangkok, 21 May 2020: For the first time in the history, the 76th Commission Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) was held on virtual platform today amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand and Permanent Representative to the ESCAP HE Mr. Md. Nazmul Quaunine was elected as the chair of the 76th Commission of UNESCAP. Thailand was elected as the Vice-Chair.

The theme of the 76th Commission's session is "Promoting economic, social and environmental cooperation on oceans for sustainable development". Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina was scheduled to attend the meeting in Bangkok and deliver keynote speech; however, as the Session is taking place virtually, Prime Minister delivered her message through video message. In her message, Prime Minister stressed on regional cooperation for capacity building of developing countries for sustainable use of marine resources.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand and PR to UNESCAP HE Mr. Md. Nazmul Quaunine upon his election as the Chair of the 76th Commission' Session in his acceptance speech expressed sincere thanks to the 53 member countries of the ESCAP for reposing their confidence in Bangladesh in electing him as the Chair. He underscored the commitment of Bangladesh under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister HE Sheikh Hasina to the regional and multilateral engagements and cooperation and Bangladesh's very active participation in and contribution to the works of the UNESCAP.

Besides the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Prime Minister of Thailand H.E. Prayut Chan-o-cha, Fiji Prime Minister H.E. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and Tuvalu Prime Minister H.E. Kausea Natano also sent their video messages in the opening Session. In the session, the Asia Pacific nations have agreed to cooperate in addressing the socio-economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemics and adopted a resolution.

Video message of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh and chairing the Commission' Session by the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Thailand and the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UNESCAP have greatly elevated the profile and visibility of Bangladesh in the 53-members annual conference of the largest UN body of the Asia Pacific Region. A 7-member Bangladesh delegation led by Secretary, Maritime Affairs Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Md. Khurshed Alam participated in and contributed to the session through projecting Bangladesh' positions in different agenda items and Commission's outcome. A video clip of the Session is attached for press and media publicity.