

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

**Second Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee Meeting of
the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT)****6 March 2009
Manila, Philippines****Venue: Renaissance Makati City Hotel****BACKGROUND**

The ARTNeT Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSC) Meeting will be held on 6 March 2009. The MSC, composed of policymakers, research institutions, international organizations, and civil society and private sector representatives, was established as part of the launch of ARTNeT Phase II on 12 September 2007¹. It is the lead advisory body to the ARTNeT Secretariat and its annual meeting is expected to provide an inclusive forum for discussing the development and activities of the network to help it enhance its impact and reach its objectives. Documents prepared based on inputs received from ARTNeT members, advisers and focal points, including those collected during the ARTNeT Trade and Investment Research Priority Survey 2008, will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

PROGRAMME**FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2009**

14:00 – 14:10

Opening Remarks

Opening remarks by representatives of

- *ESCAP*
- *IDRC*

14:10 - 15:15

Summary of ARTNeT activities in 2008

Presentation by ARTNeT Secretariat, ESCAP

- Research programme implementation
[Briefing by Regional Study Team Leaders – 10 mn. each]
- Research capacity building
- Research dissemination
- Network Development

Roundtable discussion on lessons learned and suggestions for network development

15:00 - 17:00

Activities and Research Programme 2009/10

Presentation by ARTNeT Secretariat, ESCAP

- Research programme and activities 2009
[Briefing by Core Partners on joint activities/contribution]
- Research capacity building and Dissemination
- Anniversary Conference

Roundtable discussion and approval of proposed programmes and activities

17:00-17:15

Closing**Note:**

Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an initiative of UNESCAP and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada is an open regional network of research and academic institutions specializing in international trade policy and facilitation issues. Network members currently include leading national trade research and academic institutions from over 15 developing countries from East, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific. The Trade and Investment Division of UNESCAP is the Secretariat of ARTNeT, and operates through a grant from IDRC. WTO, as a core network partner, provides substantive and financial support to the network. Visit www.artnetontrade.org for details.

¹ Composition and terms of reference of the MSC are available at: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/about.asp>