

## **Fourth Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT)**

**29 October 2010  
Vientiane, Lao PDR**

***Venue: Meeting Room, Economic Research Institute for Trade (ERIT)***

### **BACKGROUND**

The Fourth ARTNeT Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee<sup>1</sup> (MSC) Meeting will be held on 29 October 2010. 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 2007. 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. Background documents prepared based on inputs received from ARTNeT members, advisers and focal points, including those collected through the ARTNeT Research Priority Survey 2010, will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

### **TENTATIVE PROGRAMME**

**29 October 2010**

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|---------------|---|
| 09.00 – 09.15 | <b>Registration</b>   |
| 09.15 – 09.30 | <b>Opening Remarks</b><br>Opening remarks by <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Ravi Ratnayake, Director, and Mia Mikic, ARTNeT Coordinator, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP</i></li><li>• <i>Evan Due, Senior Regional Programme Specialist, International Development Research Centre, Canada</i></li></ul>  |
| 09.30 – 11.00 | <b>Report on ARTNeT activities in Phase II and on the findings from the external evaluation of Phase II (2007-2010)</b><br>Presentation by ARTNeT Secretariat, ESCAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research programme implementation</li><li>• Research capacity building</li><li>• Research dissemination</li><li>• Network development</li><li>• Findings from the external evaluation</li></ul> <p>Roundtable discussion on lessons learned and suggestions for network development. ARTNeT members will be requested to provide feedback on their experience with and perception of ARTNeT activities during phase II as well as on the evaluation findings and the Secretariat's response to them.</p> |
| 11.00 – 12.00 | <b>Influencing policymakers and enhancing policy impacts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction by Evan Due, IDRC</li></ul> <p>Roundtable discussion on strategies of ARTNeT members and discussion on strategies to identify partners, including in the private and civil society sectors, who can help</p>  |

ARTNeT in more effectively reaching policymakers .

12.00 – 13.15

**Lunch break**

13.15 – 14.30

**Activities and Research Programme of ARTNeT Phase III**

Presentation by ARTNeT Secretariat, ESCAP

- Summary of the on-line survey and other inputs
- Programme of activities for Phase III
  - Research areas
  - Capacity development
  - Dissemination and dialogues

Roundtable discussion and approval of proposed programmes and activities.

14.30 – 15.15

**ARTNeT in the Future**

Roundtable discussion on:

- ARTNeT Advisory Board: desirable composition and number
- ARTNeT financial sustainability / potential new donors

15.15 – 15.30

**Closing**

**Note:**

Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an initiative of ESCAP 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 ESCAP is the Secretariat of ARTNeT, and operates through a grant from IDRC. WTO and UNCTAD are among the core network partners which provide substantive and financial support to the network. Visit [www.artnetontrade.org](http://www.artnetontrade.org) for details.

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