



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia



Institute for Strategic Studies of Mongolia

## **ULAANBAATAR DIALOGUE ON NORTHEAST ASIAN SECURITY Ninth International Conference**

### **The Concept Note**

Ulaanbaatar Dialogue International Conference on Northeast Asian Security has been held regularly since 2014 to contribute to the establishment of a dialogue mechanism within the region. However, due to the pandemic, the conference was canceled in 2020 and 2021 and resumed in 2022.

The International Conference is not only in line with the Foreign Policy Concept of Mongolia but also highlights Mongolia's historical tradition of multilateral cooperation efforts. The conference has been co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Institute for Strategic Studies of the National Security Council of Mongolia.

The UBD2024 will be held in Ulaanbaatar on 06–07 June 2024. The conference consists of the following main parts.

#### Session One: Northeast Asian Security Challenges and Opportunities

Despite the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic and crisis in Ukraine, security tensions remain high in Northeast Asia due to the ongoing geopolitical and geo-economic rivalries among great powers and uncertainty in the Korean Peninsula. The session will provide a platform for regional experts, policymakers, and academics to discuss security challenges and opportunities in the sub-region.

#### Session Two: Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Asia

Although the Northeast Asian region lacks an overarching security mechanism, numerous efforts have been made to build confidence and trust. State actors as well as even non-state actors have put forward and tried to promote various types of confidence-building measures (CBMs). The session will welcome experts from the sub-region and beyond to share their perspectives on effective CBMs, examine past and current examples, and explore practical steps for developing and implementing sustainable CBMs in the region.

#### Session Three: Climate Change and Security Challenges in Northeast Asia

Climate change is a salient issue for the countries of Northeast Asia in terms of impacts, adaptation, and mitigation. The region has been severely affected by climate change and climate extremes, witnessing notable natural disasters that caused large numbers of fatalities, injuries, and displacements. At the same time, there are urgent calls for large greenhouse gas emitters in the region to make great strides in climate action.

Being exposed and vulnerable to climate risks and responding to the global calls for climate action, countries in Northeast Asia are raising their climate ambitions and accelerating the transformation of development pathways towards a low-carbon and resilient future. The session hopes to facilitate regional dialogue by coordinating joint action on tackling climate change, which is a common but neutral ground for collaboration

in the region. The session will help foster greater trust, transparency, and habits of cooperation.

#### Session Four: Secure and Affordable Energy Transition in Northeast Asia

The session will be jointly organized with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to welcome governments, regional experts, and academics on energy cooperation. Participants will share their views on how Northeast Asia should tackle the energy transition, in light of recent developments such as the COP28 outcome. Drawing on the work done by ESCAP with countries of the region on developing SDG7 road maps and the Northeast Asia Green Power Corridor Roadmap launched in 2023, the session will discuss how national policies together with bilateral and multilateral cooperation can be developed to harness the full benefits of the transition to sustainable and low carbon energy.

#### Session Five: Developing Sustainable and Resilient Value Chains for Critical Energy Transition Minerals

This session, jointly organized with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, will welcome government representatives, regional experts, academics, and other relevant stakeholders to share their views on how to develop sustainable and resilient value chains for minerals and materials critical for the energy transition. Drawing on ESCAP's work assessing the sustainability of critical raw materials and the work of the UN Secretary General's Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development, panelists in this session will discuss how the countries of Northeast Asia can collaborate to meet increasing demand for critical raw materials and identify opportunities to move up the value chain for energy transition technologies.

The conference participants will be responsible for their own accommodation and travel expenses. The organizers will cover the cost of local transportation and cultural events. Meals will be provided during the conference.

For further inquiries, please contact the UBD organizing team at [ubdialogue2024@iss.gov.mn](mailto:ubdialogue2024@iss.gov.mn). Please refer to UBD2024 website at <http://ubd.iss.gov.mn> for more information.

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