## **Press Release**

On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020, SWITCH-Asia RPAC organized the session "Moving the needle on climate change – business actions for a 1.5°C future" during the UN Virtual Forum on Responsible Business and Human Rights. The objective of the session was to share experiences of companies in the Asia-Pacific region who are taking ambitious action on climate (through climate impact assessment, reporting, target setting and action), to inspire action by others and discuss how to further advance climate related target setting and action among companies in the region.

The session engaged eight experts representing business (large and SME), government and civil society representatives. The dialogue reiterated the need for adopting ambitious climate actions by businesses while improving transparency of actions, giving commitments to actions, transforming businesses in response to climate change, and measuring impact of implementing climate actions. The panel highlighted the **need for collaborative action by governments and businesses to support a conducive ecosystem for market innovation** (propose a series of solutions/alternates) and influence investment based on decarbonisation. The panellists also addressed the impact of COVID-19 and how it reshapes operation of the world, which is an opportunity to enable more companies to carry out and expand climate actions.

Mr. Giuseppe Busini, Deputy Head of Mission, European Union to the Kingdom of Thailand presented the **European Green Deal**, which can serve as an important example for the Asia Pacific region. The Green Deal can promote cooperation amongst enterprises, drive responsible consumer behaviour, and become a market force to foster the demand for sustainable products and services.

The session witnessed attendance of over 250 individuals. The session recording is available at this link.

Learn more about this event here.

Contact details:
Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon
Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency
United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Project Manager
Regional Policy Advocacy Component
(SWITCH-Asia – the European Union funded programme)
Email: memon@un.org