

## **CUTS International Become a Member of UNESCAP- SANS**

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) office has included Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International) as member of South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals (SANS) as a civil society member. SANS is network of government agencies, think tanks, and other organisations from South Asian countries namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. SANS has been developed to foster subregional cooperation by sharing good practices towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) amongst the government agencies, think-tanks, CSOs and other stakeholders in South Asia to build back better. This network is expected to accelerate action on SDGs implementation in the region.

CUTS International, a global public policy research and consumer advocacy organization, has been working in the area of sustainable consumption and sustainable development, for last more than two decades at national and international level. Currently CUTS is working on various issues related to SDGs. During 2019-21, CUTS did a study on SDG 12, titled “Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) – A Consumer Perspective”. The study mainly looked at SDG 12 from a consumer perspective based on The United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection (UNGCP). At present CUTS is in the process finalizing a study for analysing the SCP in the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) region.

George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS International said, *CUTS membership in SANS will further help to expand the work on sustainable consumption in the region and to promote regional cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development in South and South-West Asia. Being a consumer organization, upholding the consumer Right to Health Environment, and having vast experience in working in the area of sustainable consumption, made CUTS eligible for this prestigious membership*, George further said.