Statement of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the Election of the Governing Council of APCICT April 2025

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan is honored to submit its candidacy for election to the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT). Uzbekistan greatly appreciates the Centre's significant contributions to the development of the Asia-Pacific region, particularly in Central Asia, and remains committed to supporting the Centre's efforts to bridge the digital divide and promote ICT for development.

The Republic of Uzbekistan recognizes the importance of APCICT's specialized educational materials in strengthening the digital capacity of Central Asian countries. In a region where educational institutions often face challenges related to human and financial resources, APCICT's training modules play a vital role in raising awareness on key socio-economic aspects of digital policy and in disseminating information and communication technology skills among young people. These efforts are critical in fostering a digitally inclusive and competitive Central Asia.

As part of its commitment to regional cooperation, Uzbekistan is eager to contribute to the Centre's initiatives aimed at enhancing the accessibility of training modules across Central Asia. Uzbekistan is also prepared to actively support the organization of regional events, workshops, and training sessions, leveraging its logistical capabilities and regional expertise to facilitate impactful gatherings that promote knowledge exchange, capacity building, and the development of practical ICT skills tailored to the needs of Central Asian countries.

The Republic of Uzbekistan believes that, with the rapid advancement of digital technologies, APCICT has a significant opportunity to become a key driver of digital transformation in the Asia-Pacific region. If elected to the Governing Council, Uzbekistan will focus on the following key priorities:

1. Promoting the development of forward-thinking educational modules that incorporate the latest trends in ICT, such as artificial intelligence and big data.
2. Actively engaging with the UN ESCAP work program in ICT and collaborating with external bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Academy, to enhance the Centre's capabilities and those of its members.
3. Establishing regional platforms for exchanging best practices and experiences in digital transformation, with an emphasis on developing digital skills and fostering entrepreneurship among young people.

Uzbekistan is confident that its participation in the Governing Council of APCICT will contribute to the Centre's mission and further strengthen regional collaboration, ultimately advancing the development of digital skills and ICT capacities across Central Asia and the wider Asia-Pacific region.