

Outcome of the 17th Session of the Governing Council of APCICT/ESCAP

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Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for ICT for Development, I am pleased to brief you on the outcome of the Council's deliberations during its 17th Session, held on 9 November 2022 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The Governing Council commended the Centre's work on building human and institutional capacities for digital development in the region. Among the Centre's notable achievements over the last year are regional launches of new training programmes on frontier ICTs and promoting broadband connectivity; a sub-regional training for policymakers in North and Central Asia on digital government and transformation; and national workshops for civil servants in six countries. The Centre has also been supporting women entrepreneurs in the region on e-commerce, digital marketing, and ICT tools for financial management.

The Governing Council took note of the findings of the information and communications technology capacity-building needs assessment conducted by the Centre, which will contribute to identifying priority actions and focus areas, in line with the work of ESCAP.

The Governing Council endorsed the Centre's work plan for 2023, to broaden its reach to all subregions, trickle its programmes down to local governments, and deepen support to member States through advisory services. The Centre will continue to work closely with national partners to localize its programmes to fit national contexts, as well as increase its visibility and enrich its network by building partnerships with sub-regional and national organizations.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to express sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea for its continued support of the work of APCICT. I would also like to thank member States that have provided valuable voluntary contributions, as well as programme partners for their in-kind support to implement the Centre's programmes.

I take this opportunity to invite all ESCAP member States to collaborate and support the important work of the Centre, including through voluntary and in-kind contributions.

Thank you.