

Excellencies

Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

As the incoming Chair of the AP-IS Steering Committee and Vice Chair of Working Group 1 on Connectivity for All, we would like to impress on the Chair and this Committee the energy and enthusiasm of member states and the bureau in their approach to the new Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Action Plan 2022 - 2026.

We are delighted to report the continued support from AP-IS member states to the Bureau.

We also note, with much gratitude, the work of the Secretariat in keeping the momentum going. In particular the leadership of UN ESCAP and the secretariat of individual Working Groups.

Distinguished Delegates,

We look forward to the endorsement of the AP-IS Action Plan 2022-2026 by this Committee and its recommendations to present the Action Plan to the upcoming Ministerial Meeting and then to the Commission.

The Bureau remains committed to the implementation of the AP-IS Action Plan towards tackling the digital divide across our region and bring digital opportunities through active engagement of its members in the three thematic areas of Connectivity for All, Digital Technologies and Applications and Digital Data.

We would like to thank the member states who volunteered to co-chair and co-vice chair these working groups and reaffirm our commitment to work with you in implementing the Action Plan.

Thank you.

