STATEMENT of the Russian Federation on its decision to seek re-election to the Governing Council of the UN APCICT

February 14, 2025

The Russian Federation presents its compliments to the Member States of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and has the honor to inform that the Government of the Russian Federation has decided to seek re-election to the Governing Council of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT).

The Russian Federation has been an active Member of the Governing Council since 2018. During this period we have devoted our time and effort to make sure that the APCICT remains an important institution, delivering on its core mandate to "build the capacity of members and associate members of ESCAP through training programmes in the use of information and communication technology (ICT) for the purposes of socio-economic development".

The Russian Federation appreciates that the APCICT has been actively engaged in our subregion of North and Central Asia with tailored capacity-building content. This support is invaluable for the training institutes, which often lack human and financial capacity to localize or develop the courses. The APICICT training modules help to bridge the digital divide, to raise awareness of crucial socio-economic considerations in planning digital policy, and to facilitate ICT skills proliferation among youth.

To this end, the Russian Federation remains committed to providing in-kind contributions in the form of translation of the APCICT training modules to the Russian language. Once elected, the Russian Federation would continue to support the APCICT with technical expertise and knowledge to ensure high-quality and applicable training materials are developed and disseminated under its auspices.

In the near future and with the rapid advancement of digital technologies, there are significant opportunities for the Centre to become a key driver of meaningful digital transformation in Asia-Pacific. The Russian Federation will steer the APCICT towards more streamlined process of modules development and review, closer engagement with the existing UNESCAP programme of work related to ICT, and the external capacity-building frameworks, such as International Telecommunication Union Academy (ITU Academy).

The Russian Federation kindly requests the Member States of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to support its candidature for the re-election to the Governing Council of the APCICT.