



Secretary General

WELCOME REMARKS

Ms. Yizhi Feng, Chair of the Correspondence Group for the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2027-2029 (CGSP),

Vice-Chairs - Ms. Nadia Ghazali and Mr. Abhishek Shukla,

Expert Members of the CGSP, and Distinguished Delegates,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first meeting of the Correspondence Group for the APT Strategic Plan 2027–2029 (CGSP-1). I am delighted to see you all joining us today and would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all participants for your presence and engagement. I would also like to express my gratitude to the APT Members for nominating their experts to contribute to this important process. Your continued support, expertise, and dedication are essential in shaping the strategic direction of our organization.

During the 49th Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-49), held last year, the Committee approved the establishment of the CGSP, along with its Terms of Reference, Work Plan, and the nominations for its office bearers (PR China as Chair, and Malaysia and India as Vice-Chairs).

The APT Ministerial Meeting 2025, convened in Tokyo, marked a significant milestone in advancing regional cooperation in the digital domain. Bringing together leaders from 31 APT Members under the theme of leveraging emerging technologies for inclusive and sustainable digital transformation, the meeting culminated in the adoption of the Tokyo Statement. This landmark outcome sets out six strategic priorities and a comprehensive roadmap aimed at bridging the digital divide, harnessing transformative technologies such as artificial intelligence and 6G, and fostering a resilient and digitally empowered Asia-Pacific region.

In line with the approved Work Plan, the APT Secretariat has prepared the Initial Draft of the APT Strategic Plan for 2027–2029. The draft builds upon the achievements and lessons learned from the implementation of the 2024–2026 Strategic Plan, reflects the vision articulated in the Tokyo Statement, and takes into account relevant global and regional developments. The Secretariat circulated the draft to CGSP experts in advance of this meeting, and we are grateful for the constructive feedback received, which will greatly enrich our deliberations today.

As outlined in the Work Plan, the Correspondence Group will convene this virtual meeting, followed by an in-person meeting later this year, while much of its work will be carried out through correspondence. Despite the challenges posed by different time zones, I am

confident that, through your active engagement and spirit of cooperation, our discussions will be both meaningful and productive.

The APT Secretariat remains fully committed to supporting the work of the Correspondence Group throughout this important process.

I wish you fruitful deliberations and a successful meeting.

Thank you.
