ANNEX IV.

Regional strategy for ICT proposed by ESCAP

Policy, regulatory and legal framework

- Open and transparent competition policy to act as a driver for better-quality service and lower prices

- Investor-friendly to attract domestic and foreign investment by declaring the ICT industry a "priority" and providing preferential tariffs, interest rates on borrowed capital and other fiscal incentives

- Level playing field

- Regulatory and legal framework to boost confidence

- Universal access

Regional broadband network

- Providing for broadband interactive services

- Providing for Internet exchanges in countries in accordance with a regional master plan to be developed based on techno-economic and national considerations for the routeing of domestic and intraregional traffic

- Providing for a win-win situation for all stakeholders

- Providing for digital television broadcast and other multimedia services

E-readiness index

- Identifying and promoting the application of the agreed e-readiness index and relevant indicators for quantifying the digital divide

Security

- Developing network security policy at the national, regional and global levels

- Promoting data integrity and prevention of dissemination of viruses and hacking

- Encouraging the enactment of national cyberlaws and their regional harmonization and cooperation to build confidence, trust and security and prevent the use of ICT for terrorist purposes, transnational cybercrimes or other activities harmful to society

- Promoting international convention on the security of ICT networks and systems

- Promoting a regional/international convention to prevent the use of ICT for purposes incompatible with international stability and security

Human resources development

- Capacity-building for ICT and promotion of ICT literacy and skills

- Application of ICT to improve basic and advanced education

- Strengthening the institutions and networks for the production, acquisition, absorption and dissemination of knowledge products and services

- Building national capabilities to administer information systems and develop sustainable ICT projects

- Creation and dissemination of multicultural and multilingual content

Research and development

- Promotion and creation of technological incubators linked to universities and research centres

- Encouragement of R&D efforts for the development of low-cost terminals and related devices for IT access, new broadband access technologies

- Study of migration from IPv4 to IPv6

- Development of technologies especially suitable for disadvantaged people

- Standardization: based on platforms of internationally interoperable open system standards

Language and culture

- Promotion and development of multilingual translation software to permit all the world's languages to be present and used on the Internet

- Preservation of cultural diversity:
  - Application of ICT in archiving
  - Production of content in local languages

A handbook on good practices and success stories from the Asia-Pacific region to be prepared and reissued periodically as a permanent sharing exercise

Governance of the Internet for domain name registration

- Conducting a feasibility study and entrusting the work to a regional body, taking into account the concerns of national sovereignty, regional cooperation and global coordination

Model ICT projects aimed at youth and gender equality objectives

- School-Net
- Text to Teach

Special programmes for least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries

Partnerships

- Global and regional digital compact to create a new pattern for partnership and interaction between Governments and non-governmental agencies, based on division of labour, specialized responsibilities and the identification of specific and common interests

- Innovative resource mobilization and other forms of ICT development projects

- Networks of e-centres of excellence to support ICTs in the region