## Statement from the Royal Thai Government for the Nomination of the election for the Governing Council of the APCICT

After the pandemic had spread all over the world, we, as the government gave high priority to recovering the confidence of the people, both economic recovery and health care by using digital technology and innovation to fight and control the COVID-19 Pandemic that could mitigate the impact of the outbreak by ensuring access to ICT with high quality of digital infrastructure to support government applications/IT systems needed during the COVID — 19 outbreak, and supporting work from home to measure social distancing for workplace and applications.

Internet access has become increasingly more important than ever before for people around the world. Those who lack digital skills and have no access to digital technologies would have fewer opportunities and fewer advantages. Upskill/reskill and digital manpower will also be one of the priorities we should raise in the front line first.

In digital transformation era, we have been working continuously to achieve the goal and the obvious results came out as, but not limited to, plans and policies to bridge the digital divide and enable the environment to facilitate digital growth. One of those challenges is Trust and Security that we all should be aware of and work together more closely and build more collective efforts to ensure a secure and trusted ICT environment which boosts inclusive and sustainable growth in the region after the pandemic. Most importantly. We should adopt the emerging digital technologies in order to drive the world economy towards prosperity.

We, together, can strengthen the AP-IS initiative under UNESCAP and the development of APCICT training programs, will lead to the success of equal opportunities for all in our region. Thailand will continue to strongly support and collaborate activities of APCICT to improve our manpower and our people in the Asia — Pacific region to achieve sustainable development goals.

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