

Remarks on APCICT's Programmes and Activities

[Session of the Committee of the Whole on Agenda Item 4 (i) Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology, and Innovation]

Intervention of Member State: Philippines

On behalf of the Philippine government, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) which is the Academy partner in the Philippines would like to commend and congratulate the APCICT (Centre) for having been very instrumental in strengthening the human and institutional capacities of Member States in the area of digital development. And for its continued implementation of capacity-building programs despite the challenges of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

At the DICT, we have incorporated almost all the Modules of the Academy in the gCIO Competency Development Program, and the Upskilling and Retooling for Government Program. We have expanded our reach nationwide through our Regional Offices, partnerships with academic institutions such as State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), as well as the conduct of trainings online. And in the immediate future, we will be establishing more Digital Transformation Centers (DTCs) where the Academy Modules will likewise be accessed, and the Centre's capacity-building resources utilized.

Furthermore, we would like to once again pledge our support to the Centre. The Government of the Philippines, through the DICT, will continue to provide in-kind contributions to support the delivery and promotion of the Centre's programs thereby contributing to the attainment of its goals and objectives. We will continuously conduct the Academy Modules nationwide, support the localization of training modules, and host Training-of-Trainers (ToTs), Expert Group Meetings, consultative meetings and other training-related activities of the Centre.

Moreover, we would like to encourage all Partner Countries to collaborate and support the Centre's programs, projects and activities, as well as the sharing of experiences, best practices, and resources with each other. Additionally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Member States for the vote of confidence to once again be part of the Governing Council. We assure our continued support to earnestly further advance and foster capacity-building in the area of digital technologies in the region in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the post COVID-19.

Once again, congratulations to the APCICT for all its efforts to build the human and institutional capacities of Member States in the area of digital development. Rest assured of our continued support and we look forward to more responsive and forward-looking capacity-building programs and services.