Item 3: ICT, Disaster Risk Reduction & APCICT

- Korea expresses its sincere supports for the ongoing programmes and works made by the ESCAP Secretariat to strengthen the ICT connectivity in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Korea believes that strengthening ICT connectivity is the most fundamental to bridging the digital divide and achieving ICT-driven development in the region, and therefore, brisk investment needs to be made in the coming years.
- Especially, specific projects such as “Asian Information Super Highway”, which is in a stage of a policy study under ESCAP, need to be reinforced.
- To that end, Korea strongly supports the ESCAP secretariat’s close collaboration with ITU, regional public policy organizations and specialized agencies and would like to ask ESCAP member countries for continued interest and active participation in the programmes and works.

- APCICT, since its establishment, has significantly contributed to ICT capacity-building for the Asia-Pacific regions by providing ICT training programs, capacity building programs for ICT trainers or training institutions, and human resource consulting service.
- Korea, as a hosting country of APCICT, has so far spared no
effort in supporting APCICT projects and activities, and expresses appreciation to Governing Council and ESCAP member countries for the support and cooperation which, in turn, results in meaningful achievements.

- In order to meet the increasing demand from outside the region, the Korean government, jointly with IDB (Inter-American Development Bank), plans to launch ICT training centers in 6 Central American countries, given the success of APCICT.

- Korea reaffirms its commitment to providing supports for APCICT projects and activities in the years ahead.

2. ICT Resolution - (WGDR)

- For a new leap forward in the coming Asia-Pacific era, the Korean government would like to promote ICT-driven socio-economic innovation and convergence and to create a new smart society.

- Korea affirms its commitment to supporting the ESCAP programmes of bridging the digital divide and promoting sustainable growth in the region by utilizing its ICT capacity and experiences.

- The proposed ICT resolution contains aforementioned activities and Korea would like to ask the ESCAP Secretariat and member countries for continued interest and active participation in order for the proposed resolution to result in meaningful outcomes.