



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-fourth session**

Bangkok, 11–16 May 2018

Item 3 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure
of the Commission, including the work of the regional
institutions: information and communications
technology, science, technology and innovation****Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific
Training Centre for Information and Communication
Technology for Development on its twelfth session***Summary*

The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development held its twelfth session in Manila on 7 December 2017.

The Council reviewed the work done by the Centre since its eleventh session and expressed appreciation for the Centre's contribution to strengthening the capacities of member States to utilize information and communications technology for sustainable development. It also reviewed the Centre's administrative and financial status.

The Council endorsed the Centre's programme of work for 2018 and expressed appreciation for the Centre's contribution to efforts regarding the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and to the greater alignment of the Centre's work with the mandates and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It welcomed the Centre's efforts to strengthen collaboration and integrate its work with the Commission's subprogrammes and activities. It appreciated the migration of the Centre's online platforms to the United Nations platform for greater visibility, enhanced security and cost-efficiency.

The Council expressed appreciation to the host country, the Republic of Korea, for its continued funding support to the Centre and to other member States for their voluntary and in-kind contributions. It called on all member States to support the Centre's programmes and operations towards strengthening information and communications technology human capacity development in the region.

* ESCAP/74/L.1.

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

1. The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development expresses its appreciation for the work done by the Centre on building the capacities of member States to utilize information and communications technology (ICT) for sustainable development.
2. The Council welcomes the Centre's continued efforts to enhance the ICT knowledge and skills of policymakers, civil servants, students/youth and women entrepreneurs through its three flagship programmes: the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders, the Primer Series on ICT for Development for Youth and the Women ICT Frontier Initiative.
3. The Council endorses the Centre's programme of work for 2018, which strengthens the Centre's contribution to the efforts regarding the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and which better aligns the Centre's work with the mandates and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
4. The Council expresses its appreciation to the host country, the Republic of Korea, for its continued funding support to the Centre and to other member States for their voluntary and in-kind contributions.
5. The Council calls upon all member States to support the Centre's programmes and operations to strengthen ICT human capacity development in the region.

II. Proceedings

A. Report on the administrative and financial status of the Centre (Agenda item 2)

6. The Council had before it the report on the administrative and financial status of the Centre (E/ESCAP/APCICT/GC(12)/1).
7. The Council was briefed on the Centre's financial status, including the institutional funding provided by the host country through Incheon Metropolitan City and the Ministry of Science and ICT. Additional funding was provided by the Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund for a project co implemented by the Centre with ESCAP divisions.
8. Voluntary contributions were received from the governments of Cambodia and Macao, China, in fulfilment of pledges made at the seventy-third session of the Commission, in May 2017. Pledges had also been made by the Governments of Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka at that session.
9. Total expenditures in 2017 had already exceeded the institutional funding received by the Centre for the year. As a result, the Centre had tapped into its savings from prior years to make up for the shortfall.
10. The Council encouraged all member States to provide voluntary contributions to the Centre to sustain its operations and programme implementation.

B. Work of the Centre since the eleventh session of the Governing Council
(Agenda item 3)

11. The Council had before it the report on the work of the Centre since the eleventh session of the Council, in October 2016 in Bangkok (E/ESCAP/APCICT/GC(12)/2).

12. The Council was briefed on the capacity-building activities conducted by the Centre in Asia and the Pacific in the context of its three flagship programmes.

13. The Women ICT Frontier Initiative had been launched in Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka and in the subregions of Central Asia and of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with strong results.

14. The Centre was further enhancing its training programmes to align them with the 2030 Agenda. Training content continued to be developed that would help member States to integrate ICT into their programmes as well as to leverage data for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

15. The Council expressed its appreciation for the effective implementation and utilization of the three flagship programmes, in cooperation with national partners from ICT ministries and agencies, civil service training institutes, civil society, academia and other stakeholders. It welcomed the Centre's continued efforts to enhance its flagship programmes through the development of new training content as well as support for national partners in their efforts to adopt and localize the Centre's programmes for national implementation.

16. The Council welcomed the Centre's efforts to strengthen collaboration and integrate its work with the Commission's subprogrammes and activities. It also expressed its appreciation for the ongoing efforts to migrate the Centre's distance learning and online platforms to the consolidated United Nations platform as well as the efforts to consolidate the Centre's administrative functions with those of the Commission's Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia.

C. Programme of work for 2018
(Agenda item 4)

17. The Council reviewed the Centre's programme of work for 2018.

18. The alignment of the programme of work for 2018 with the mandates and subprogrammes of ESCAP would better support the work on capacity-building of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation. It would also contribute to the Commission's work on subprogramme 5 (ICT and disaster risk reduction and management) of the strategic framework for the period 2018–2019, particularly under expected accomplishment (c) (Strengthened capacity of member States to use ICT, space technology applications and disaster risk reduction and management for resilient and sustainable development). In recognition of ICT as a cross-cutting enabler of development, the Centre would strengthen its collaboration with other ESCAP divisions.

19. Under the programme of work for 2018, the Centre would continue its work to strengthen human capacities in the region to leverage ICT for achieving the 2030 Agenda. It would support the institutionalization and utilization of the Academy programme for human resource development in

national civil services through the development of training content and subregional and/or national workshops and training-of-trainers courses. It would also continue to promote the Primer Series on ICT for Development for Youth among institutions of higher learning in Asia and the Pacific.

20. The Centre would promote the Women ICT Frontier Initiative in the region and support member States in their efforts to adopt the programme through localization and training-of-trainers courses. National partners would also be given support for their monitoring and evaluation mechanisms as well as with access to relevant training resources.

21. To enhance the reach and accessibility of the flagship programmes, the Centre would leverage the latest Internet tools and technologies for its Virtual Academy and other platforms. It would migrate its online platforms to the consolidated United Nations platform for greater visibility and enhanced security and cost efficiency.

22. The representative of the Government of Thailand suggested the following topics for future training activities: security in using the Internet of things; data privacy in big data; cybersecurity; cross-border data; ICT competency standards; and smart cities. The Officer-in-Charge of the Centre welcomed the suggestions and noted that, given the Centre's limited resources, it might be necessary to prioritize the topics for future training programmes. The area of cybersecurity, in particular, was an emerging priority among member States, particularly ASEAN countries, which had requested capacity development support from the Commission. The Centre would also conduct a review of its Academy curriculum modules and identify which training modules needed to be updated to reflect the current ICT landscape.

23. The representative from the Government of the Republic of Korea expressed appreciation for the work of the Centre and stated that the Republic of Korea would continue to support the Centre's programmes and operations. The representative also encouraged other Council members and ESCAP member States to provide voluntary contributions to the Centre.

D. Date of and venue for the thirteenth session of the Governing Council
(Agenda item 5)

24. The Council welcomed the offer by the representative of the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Council's thirteenth session. Holding the meeting in conjunction with the second session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, in Bangkok in 2018, was also under consideration.

25. The secretariat, in consultation with the Council, would make the necessary arrangements for the date of and venue for the thirteenth session, once the dates for the second session of the Committee were confirmed.

E. Other matters
(Agenda item 6)

26. No other matters were discussed by the Council.

F. Adoption of the report
(Agenda item 7)

27. The Council adopted the present report on 7 December 2017.

III. Organization

A. Opening, duration and organization of the session

28. The twelfth session of the Council was held in Manila on 7 December 2017 and hosted by the Government of the Philippines.

29. A statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP was read by the Officer-in-Charge of the Centre. In her remarks, the Executive Secretary underscored the relevance of the Centre's work in the context of the 2030 Agenda and reminded members that the Council's deliberations would be instrumental in strengthening the Centre's delivery of ICT training programmes in the region. The Centre must continue to draw from and contribute to the Commission's strategic priorities and subprogrammes to be effective and deliver greater impact.

B. Attendance

30. The session was attended by representatives of the nine members of the Council: Bangladesh; Cambodia; India; Indonesia; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Sri Lanka; and Thailand.

31. The representative of Timor-Leste attended as an observer.

C. Election of officers

32. The Council elected the following officers:

Chair: Mr. Meas Po (Cambodia)

Vice-Chair: Mr. Sanjay Goel (India)

D. Adoption of the agenda

33. The Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Report on the administrative and financial status of the Centre.
3. Work of the Centre since the eleventh session of the Governing Council.
4. Programme of work for 2018.
5. Date of and venue for the thirteenth session of the Governing Council.
6. Other matters.
7. Adoption of the report.

Annex I

List of documents

<i>Document Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/APCICT/GC(12)/L.1	Annotated provisional agenda	1 (c)
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Annex II

Financial statement of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development for the year ended 30 December 2017

(United States dollars)

Income

Contributions	1 582 458
Interest income	28 986
Other income	1 776
Exchange difference	1 138
Total income	1 614 358
<i>Less: Expenditure</i>	(1 807 190)
Net income over expenditure	(192 832)
Fund balance as at 1 January 2017	3 128 013
Refund to donors	—
Fund balance as at 31 December 2017	2 798 918^a

^a The balance amount is earmarked for future programmatic and operational activities of the Centre.

Annex III

**Financial statement of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for
Information and Communication Technology for Development for
the year ended 31 December 2017, by project component**
(United States dollars)

	<i>Ministry of Science and ICT and Incheon Metropolitan City</i>	<i>Joint contributions and other projects</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Income</i>			
Contributions	1 529 670	52 788	1 582 458
Interest income	26 803	2 183	28 986
Other income	1 776	—	1 776
Exchange difference	1 174	(36)	1 138
Total income	1 559 423	54 935	1 614 358
<i>Less: Expenditure</i>			
	(1 798 482)	(8 708)	(1 807 190)
Net income over expenditure	(239 059)	46 227	(192 832)
Fund balance as at 1 January 2017	2 771 965	356 048	3 128 013
Refund to donors	—	(136 263)	(136 263)
Fund balance as at 31 December 2017	2 532 906	266 012	2 798 918^a

^a The balance amount is earmarked for future programmatic and operational activities of the Centre.

Annex IV

**Contributions to the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for
Information and Communication Technology for Development for
the year ended 31 December 2017**
(United States dollars)

<i>Country/area</i>	<i>Year ended 31 December 2017</i>	<i>Year ended 31 December 2016</i>
1. Incheon Metropolitan City and Ministry of Science and ICT project		
Republic of Korea (Incheon Metropolitan City)	800 000	800 000
Republic of Korea (Ministry of Science and ICT)	729 670 ^a	672 157
Subtotal	1 529 670	1 472 157
2. Korea International Cooperation Agency project		
Republic of Korea (Korea International Cooperation Agency)	—	—
Subtotal	—	—
3. Other technical cooperation projects		
Bangladesh	—	12 000
Cambodia	2 000	2 000
India	—	40 000
Macao, China	5 000	5 000
Sri Lanka	—	—
Thailand	—	—
Korea Internet and Security Agency	—	—
Korea Telecom Economics Management Research Institute	—	—
Republic of Korea (Ministry of Science and ICT)	45 788	42 100
Subtotal	52 788	101 100
Total	1 582 458	1 573 257

^a Of this contribution, received in the year 2017, \$9,670 is payment of pledge contributions for the year 2016.