Statement of India

Agenda 4 (h): Trade, investment, enterprise and business innovation 80th Session of UNESCAP

Thank you, Madam Chair,

India appreciates the efforts and contributions of UNESCAP and the APCTT for strengthening regional cooperation in new and emerging technologies to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the Asia-Pacific region.

India is among the top 40 countries in the field of innovation. The vision of Digital India Programme through adoption of BHIM-UPI, Aadhaar and Cowin, transformed India into a digitally empowered society, which is an essential prelude of Forth Industrial Revolution.

India is now prepping for cutting-edge technologies including Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Augmented Reality & Virtual Reality, machine learning & deep learning, robotics, natural language processing, etc. which will be critical in the government and industry, for planning &

decision-making, expediting development, detecting new trends as well as drawing out linkages.

With the objective of creating awareness and promoting use of AI, a National AI Portal of India (INDIAai) has been developed by the Government of India to prepare the nation for an AI future.

Government of India acknowledges the importance of regional cooperation for ethical use of emerging technologies for realizing the objectives of SDGs. In this direction, Government of India has associated with Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), which is an international and multi-stakeholder initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI.

Government of India expresses its strong support to UNESCAP and APCTT and encourages ESCAP member States to contribute more to the work of the APCTT to strengthen regional technology cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.

Thank you, Chair.