

Speech by Viet Nam’s Head of Delegation at the 80th session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Agenda Item 4 “Review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”

Agenda Item 4 (i):

Information and communications technology, science, technology, and innovation, on 25 April 2024, 14:00 – 17:00 hours Bangkok time.

Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen,

Viet Nam is committed to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while acknowledging that digital transformation and increased access to information and communications technology (ICT) is essential for the achievement of our SDGs.

Human resources hold a key role to successfully implement digital transformation. In recent years, capacity development of the workforce for digital transformation has received special attention from Vietnamese government. Ministries and agencies have gradually built, supplemented and perfected policies on digital human resource development.

However, the process of national digital transformation and digital capacity enhancement for the workforce in Vietnam faces challenges such as the complexity of emerging technologies and the shortage risk of hundreds of thousands of ICT workers. The workforce quality also does not meet the requirements digital transformation.

To address such obstacles, Vietnam has taken steps to strengthen ICT human resources and institutional capacity. In this connection, the United Nations Asian and Pacific Training Center for Information and Communication Technology for Development (UN-APCICT), has collaborated with Vietnam's government to strengthen ICT human resources and institutional capacity in the country. In 2023, more than a thousand of women entrepreneurs and hundreds of participants from

relevant ministries, business associations, Vietnam Women Union, business support organizations, media agencies, and journalists participated in online and offline training courses in enhancing digital skills and AI application.

Distinguished delegates,

The United Nations and ESCAP has a leading role to make in strengthening collaboration among countries, international organizations, and stakeholders in different aspects of sustainable development, especially knowledge and practical experience sharing and capacity building for member states.

Vietnam stays committed to its people-centered development policy by making greater efforts to create an inclusive digital community. We highlight the need for the empowerment of women in technology and digital transformation.

We are also committed to actively engage and contribute to various activities of UNESCAP, in an endeavor to achieve and realize the SDGs for the benefit of the current generation and the generations to come.

Thank you, Chair.