

1. It is clear that countries of the Asia Pacific region are deeply committed to realizing the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We heard how the SDGs relate to many urgent challenges they face, including persisting poverty and inequality and disasters.
2. Countries have been incorporating the SDGs in their policies and plans. This requires establishing priorities and defining specific actionable targets. There needs to be mechanisms to track performance and correct the course based on such assessment. In planning implementation, it is important to find the measures that will trigger ripple effects across the SDGs. A challenge is to ensure coherence and integration of policies. Innovative bottom-up planning is also critical and can be supported by ICT.
3. A starting point in implementing the SDGs is to identify who is at risk of being left behind. It requires disaggregated data. IT can also support sound assessments so that support goes to those who need it the most.
4. While incorporating the SDGs in national policies, it is also important to take into account the 2030 Agenda as a whole, and notably its level of ambition; its principles- such as the principle to leave no one behind-; and its integrated nature.
5. Governance and public institutions are the engine for realizing all the SDGs. Countries have been adapting their institutions to promote and coordinate the implementation of the SDGs, often keeping the highest level of government engaged.
6. What is needed is actually a paradigm shift in governance. For our institutions to be fit for the SDGs, they need a much greater focus on people, innovation, partnerships and data. Leadership is needed at all levels of government and within public administrations. Governments, institutions and societies must also relentlessly innovate.

7. Implementation of the SDGs is taking place largely at local level. It is important to sensitize local leaders to the 2030 Agenda, to keep them engaged and to identify champions. Some local governments have been developing their SDG implementation strategies. We must learn from past experience in this area and maximize participation in devising the strategies and partnerships in delivering on them. Local governments would need to have a say in decisions on national budgets. Resource allocation should reflect local governments' responsibilities in public services, their needs as well as local and national circumstances. Overall, the central government has an important coordinating role regarding SDG implementation by local governments. Again, innovation is critical and can help to overcome obstacles to cooperation between national and local governments. Smart cities can bring many benefits, but also challenges that need to be addressed.
8. Public servants are essential to transform the vision of the 2030 Agenda into reality. They need to be sensitized to the SDGs and to learn new skills and competencies. A few countries have been pursuing such efforts and trying new approaches to mobilize the contribution of public servants to the SDGs. Performance management systems can help to link long-term goals to the individual objectives and activities of public servants. Specific tools can also help promote innovation in public administration, such as citizen charters. Ultimately, we need to promote a change of mindsets in the public service— which requires much more reflection and innovation.
9. Parliaments are critical actors in the implementation of the SDGs, by enacting legislation, supporting policy development, adopting budget, giving voice to people and holding governments accountable. They should be engaged in the implementation of the SDGs from the outset. It would also be beneficial if more countries were to involve parliaments in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in the UN High-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF).

10. Sustainable development cannot be realized by governments only. Many countries have been consulting civil society on the implementation of the SDGs. But we need much greater efforts to mobilize civil society behind the SDGs and give it the space to engage. It is important to understand who the key stakeholders are in the various areas and to try new approaches to engage them, bearing in mind that the local and municipality level is critical. There is also great urgency in involving youth and the poorest and most vulnerable people in decision making. Countries need to make full use of their existing institutions that give voice to civil society, notably parliaments. There are many examples of how IT is helping civil society organizations hold the government accountable.
11. The role of the private sector is critical for realizing the SDGs. It goes well beyond corporate social responsibility. It includes joining in the broader efforts to reach the SDGs. It also includes creating financial tools, facilities and solutions that can support the huge investments needed for the SDGs. Impact investment can be achieved by learning – including from the public sector-; strategizing on how to bring in the private sector and ensuring that implementation has an impact on the SDGs.
12. Information technology and E-government support the transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies. They allow governments to open and share their data and thus boost accountability. But we must keep them focused on improving people's lives and responding to their needs and the issues they face. Digital ID management systems are critical for improving access to public services and to government processes. At the same time, it is important to address challenges related to digital government and ID such as institutional coordination and data privacy and security. ICT awareness and capacity are important factors for e-government to succeed. The UN E-Government Survey can help countries in using ICT to improve access to public services and decision making.
13. Some countries have been integrating the SDGs in their budgets and financial documents. A few have been developing costing plans for

the SDGs – which requires support. The finance gap for the SDGs was repeatedly highlighted as well. It requires creating an environment conducive to investment and long-term inclusive and sustainable economic growth. As many countries are entering middle income status, donor funding is decreasing. Innovative tools and partnerships with the private sector are critical. There are tremendous needs for capacity building.

14. Tracking and reviewing progress at national level is key for reaching the SDGs. National oversight bodies such as parliaments and supreme audit institutions are already working together across countries to boost their capacity and elaborate methods to oversee government implementation of the SDGs. Informal oversight is also important. There is need for a true data revolution in order to support policy making and review and to compile the indicators on SDG progress.

15. Many countries have already volunteered to carry out Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in the High-level political forum on sustainable development. Those reviews have already started to allow to learn lessons from implementation. They entail challenges, notably those related to data or stakeholder engagement, and need to be supported notably by the UN. The regional level is important to support the exchange of lessons and to follow-up on VNRs.