

Explanatory Notes

Improving Participation in The Digital Economy and Enhancing Connectivity Throughout the Region

The Asia-Pacific economies play a central role in the evolving digital economy to the producers as well as the consumers. Increased use of technologies underpinning the digital economy such as advanced robotics, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), and cloud computing. All these will have transformative effects on production and trade activities.

However, there are also risks and challenges of digitalization into participation and connectivity to the digital economy. This is especially true for countries that are inadequately prepared for the digital economy.

Digitalization may lead to increased polarization and widening income inequalities. Productivity gains may accrue mainly to a few, to the already wealthy and skilled individuals. In terms of connectivity, digitalization shall serve the purpose of making and connecting economy to a greater height.

The draft resolution stresses the effort of improving participation in the digital economy and the needs for enhancing connectivity throughout the region.