



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ACTIVITY NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 917

Date of Issue	14 October 2026
Activity Code	26-SPP-JP-F2-06
Title	APO–ADBI–UNU AI Summit 2026
Timing	12 December 2026
SPP Member(s)	Japan
Venue City(ies)/Country(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Hybrid
Implementing Organization(s)	Not Applicable
Participating Country(ies)	All Members Economies
Overseas Participants	40
Local Participants	200
Closing Date	~~26 October 2026~~ NPO Pakistan Closing date: 21 October 2026
Remarks	The summit will be held at the U Thant International Conference Hall, United Nations University Headquarters, Tokyo. Approximately 350 in-person participants are envisaged, including senior government officials, representatives of international organizations, industry leaders, academia, diplomatic missions, and media. 19 Participants from APO Member Economies will be funded by Japan's SPP Points.

Focus Area	F2 – Artificial Intelligence Japan's position as a regional leader in utilizing digital transformation (DX) and artificial intelligence (AI) as enablers of productivity has been reinforced through international cooperation on the joint development of the APO Genuine Artificial Intelligence Action (GAIA) platform.
Primary Key Results	Pillar 1: The APO GAIA platform has been launched with the following basic component: (1) An inaugural flagship GAIA international conference focused on aligning ground action with the Global Digital Compact.
Indicator	The GAIA platform launched with the inaugural international conference and podcast series operational; roadmap for the GAIA platform identifying key areas of disconnect between action and the AI frontier developed in collaboration with Japanese experts; number of APO member economy participants reached through the webcast-style lecture series offering practical AI productivity guidance; and number of fireside-chat episodes conducted under the GAIA podcast series bridging AI experts and novices.

Description	As a flagship activity under the GAIA platform, the APO–ADB–UNU GAIA Summit 2026 will bring together senior policymakers, international organizations, private-sector leaders, researchers, and academics to translate emerging international AI governance principles into practical approaches for productivity enhancement and responsible AI adoption across Asia and the Pacific. The summit will be jointly organized by the APO, ADB, and UNU, combining their complementary expertise in productivity enhancement, economic and policy research, development capacity building, AI governance, and sustainable development. The Concept Note positions the summit specifically as a response to the widening gap between international AI principle-setting and the practical implementation capacity of economies and enterprises. The summit will strengthen international cooperation on the GAIA platform by connecting AI governance with practical implementation, enterprise productivity, manufacturing transformation, skill development, AI safety, institutional capacity, and regional cooperation. It will provide APO member economies with opportunities to exchange national experiences, examine emerging international governance and transparency frameworks, and identify practical mechanisms through which AI can contribute to measurable productivity gains. This is consistent with the objectives of translating international AI frameworks into practical guidance, connecting AI governance with measurable productivity outcomes, consolidating the 2026 GAIA cycle, and strengthening alignment with the broader multilateral AI architecture. Particular emphasis will be placed on connecting policy discussions with practical implementation. The program will include a high-level cross-sector dialogue involving governments, international organizations, leading AI companies, and academic institutions, with discussions focused on translating AI governance principles into deployment, productivity gains, responsible innovation, and capacity building. It will also address AI-enabled manufacturing and productivity, frontier AI and systemic risks, international AI transparency and reporting frameworks, enterprise-level AI deployment, AI safety, talent development, and research collaboration. Through this activity, Japan will support the development of the GAIA platform as a regional mechanism linking international AI discussions with concrete, productivity-oriented action in APO member economies. The summit is expected to strengthen institutional networks among governments, NPOs, international organizations, academia, and the private sector and provide a foundation for continued GAIA activities and cooperation beyond 2026.
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Topics	• From AI principles to implementation and productivity: Translating international AI governance principles and frameworks into practical implementation approaches for APO member economies. • AI, productivity, and manufacturing transformation: Examining how AI can improve enterprise productivity, industrial competitiveness, and manufacturing transformation, including the needs of MSMEs. • Frontier AI and governance: Exploring systemic risks, fragmented governance, responsible AI, and the implications of rapidly evolving frontier AI capabilities. • AI transparency and enterprise governance: Reviewing international AI reporting and transparency frameworks and practical approaches for enterprises without dedicated AI governance functions. • AI adoption and measurable productivity gains: Sharing evidence and practical experience on AI deployment across enterprises in Asia and the Pacific. • AI research, safety, and talent: Strengthening collaboration on AI safety and evaluation, talent development, internships and secondments, and regional circulation of AI expertise. • International and regional cooperation: Strengthening collaboration among governments, the APO/NPOs, international organizations, development institutions, academia, and industry to support AI capacity building and implementation. These themes closely follow the latest revised program, including the policy dialogue on productivity, manufacturing, and governance, the private-sector session on advanced AI and enterprise productivity, and the academic session on research, talent, and safety.
Qualifications	Senior government officials, policymakers, APO Directors and NPO officials, and specialists directly involved in the development or implementation of national policies and programs related to AI, digital transformation, productivity, industrial development, science and technology, innovation, and economic development. Representatives of international organizations, development institutions, private-sector organizations, universities, research institutions, and other relevant organizations with expertise in AI governance, AI adoption, enterprise productivity, manufacturing transformation, AI safety, digital infrastructure, workforce and skill development, or AI-related research and innovation may also participate. Priority should be given to participants who are in a position to apply, disseminate, or institutionalize knowledge and partnerships generated through the summit within their respective organizations and economies. Participants from 19 APO members will be sponsored by the hosting SPP member (Japan).

Please refer to the implementation procedures circulated with this document for further details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Indra Pradana Singawinata', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Indra Pradana Singawinata
Secretary-General