Asia PKI Consortium Holds Annual General Assembly and Steering Committee Meeting 2026 in Colombo

Revised Charter and Bylaws Adopted and New Governing Council Elected as the Consortium Marks 25 Years



The **Asia PKI Consortium (APKIC)** convened its **Annual General Assembly (GA) and Steering Committee (SC) Meeting** on **13th November 2026** at the **Courtyard by Marriott, Colombo, Sri Lanka**, with **Sri Lanka CERT** as local host. The hybrid meeting brought together **44 participants from 17 economies**, 29 in person and 15 online, representing trust service providers, national root CAs, regulators and observer organizations. Quorum was met under the Charter for both the Steering Committee and the General Assembly.

The meeting adopted a **revised Charter and Bylaws**, confirmed the **Governing Council for the next term**, reviewed the Working Group roadmaps, celebrated the Consortium's **25th anniversary**, and heard PKI progress reports from member economies.

Opening Remarks and Vice Chair Presentations



The Secretary General welcomed members joining in person and online and thanked Sri Lanka CERT for hosting. Chairperson **Ms. Eva Chan** then presented **"Building Digital Trust Together"**. Since her election as Chair in Vietnam in October 2024, APKIC has moved from a PKI focus towards a broader **digital trust community** covering digital identity, signatures, wallets, paperless trade and AI, with PKI remaining the foundation. She stressed that **interoperability and cross-border recognition** give digital identities and signatures their value, and called on APKIC to act as a bridge between technology and policy, government and industry, and between economies, turning discussion into action.

Vice Chair **Mr. William Gee**, joining remotely, spoke on the importance of **post-quantum cryptography (PQC)** and the role the Consortium should play in it.



Vice Chair **Mr. Biju Varghese** presented **"Navigating the Next Frontier of Digital Trust and Identity Architecture"**, setting out three pillars: non-human identities and agentic AI; mobility (C-V2X) and quantum resilience; and global trade and interoperability through mutual recognition. He proposed five action tracks for APKIC:

- Whitepapers and reference architectures for non-human identity and agentic AI
- Regional C-V2X testbeds
- A regional PQC knowledge repository with a migration path and maturity matrix
- MLETR-compliant transferable records for paperless trade
- Policy advocacy for mutual recognition of digital signatures

The Secretariat also welcomed observers from **Brazil** (UFSC), **Kazakhstan** (Ministry of AI and Digital), **India** (Digital Trust Infrastructure India Limited) and **Singapore** (Ascertia).

Revised Charter and Bylaws Adopted

The Secretary General presented the revised Charter and Bylaws, which had been circulated to all members with sufficient notice. They were **adopted by consensus, without objection and with unanimous support**, and take effect from **13th November 2026**. Key features include:

- **Mandate:** a global digital trust mandate with a strong Asia focus, covering digital identity, trust services, standards, cross-border recognition, research and capacity building.
- **Membership:** seven tiers, namely Executive, Principal, Enterprise, Advocacy, Regulatory, and the special Associate and Affiliate tiers. Working Groups are open to all tiers.
- **Governance:** a Governing Council of the Chair, up to three Vice Chairs and the Secretary General, with two-year terms and term limits retained; Executive and Principal Members vote in the General Assembly and sit on the Steering Committee.
- **Meetings and safeguards:** physical, online and hybrid meetings and voting, along with conflict-of-interest, confidentiality, IP and branding rules.

Members will be mapped to the new tiers through a transition plan, with each member's agreement and with prepaid periods protected. The new governance arrangements will be implemented within **90 days**.

New Governing Council and 25th Anniversary

The General Assembly and Steering Committee adopted the following **Governing Council for the next term**, again by consensus and with unanimous support:

- **Chair:** Ms. Eva Chan (Hong Kong)
- **Vice Chair:** Mr. Biju Varghese (India)
- **Vice Chair:** Mr. Amir Suhaimi Hassan (Malaysia)
- **Vice Chair:** Ms. Karen Chang (Chinese Taipei)



Representation on the Council broadens from two economies to four. Mr. Vijayakumar Manjunatha continues as **Secretary General** and Mr. Pius Li as **Company Secretary**. Members recorded their appreciation of Mr. William Gee's contribution as Vice Chair over the years.

The Secretary General announced that the Consortium has completed **25 years** and thanked everyone who has contributed along the way. A commemorative video was played, and the newly elected Governing Council released the **25th anniversary commemorative coin**. Each in-person participant received a coin as a memento.

Working Group Reports

All three Working Groups presented their progress and plans. Members were asked to nominate their Working Group representatives to the respective Chairs.

- **Business Application Working Group (BAWG):** Ms. Karen Chang presented the 2027 work plan, an **"APAC Trustworthy AI Economy White Paper: Infrastructure and International Connectivity"**. It looks at how verifiable identity, signatures, credentials and provenance can make AI trust checkable, with kick-off in Q1 2027 and publication at the APKIC 2027 annual meeting.
- **Legal and Policy Framework Working Group (LPWG):** Ms. Keren Leung presented the **APKIC White Paper** on multi-jurisdictional legal and regulatory frameworks, targeted for December 2026 to January 2027, and the **APKIC Trust Portal** prototype for cross-border certificate and identity authentication, targeted for February 2027.
- **Technology and Standards Working Group (TSWG):** Mr. Vijayakumar Manjunatha reported on the **Digital Trust Landscape Survey 2026** covering 36 jurisdictions (final report targeted for Q1 2027), the APKIC delegation at Global Digital Collaboration 2026 in Geneva, and support to Vietnam, with the EU and ETSI, on adopting ETSI trust service standards. Proposed work includes an **APKIC Trust List** model based on ETSI TS 119 612 and a Digital Trust Directory of stakeholders across Asia.



Country Updates and Regional Progress

Nine economies presented current PKI and digital trust progress:

- **Bangladesh** – Masudur Rahaman (Dohatec New Media) outlined the national PKI and Dohatec CA updates, including eKYC-based e-Sign onboarding and a visible digital seal (eSeal).
- **Bhutan** – Tshewang Chojay (GovTech Agency) described PKI usage and the National Digital Identity (NDI) wallet built on self-sovereign identity.
- **Chinese Taipei** – Dr. Wei-Chung Hwang (CTPKIC) covered PKI, FIDO, verifiable credentials, trustworthy AI, and the public-private PQC migration programme.
- **Japan** – Atsushi Inaba (GlobalSign) reported developments from July to October 2026, including the proposal for an International Trusted List.
- **Malaysia** – Nyan Lo (MSC Trustgate) reported the launch of Malaysia's **first PQC-based Root CA** on 26 August 2026 using ML-DSA.
- **Maldives** – Dr. Mohamed Kinaanath, Minister of State, presented the Maldives 2.0 digital transformation roadmap, including the eFaas digital identity.
- **Myanmar** – Aye Aye Thinn (National Root CA) traced PKI development since 2004 and the current national e-ID programme.
- **Singapore** – Teo Poh Soon (Utimaco) compared PQC regulatory timelines across APAC.

- **Vietnam** – Pham Quoc Hoan (NEAC) reported **26 licensed public CAs** and **36 million certificates** issued as of October 2026, and an eSign Gateway connected to all 34 provincial public service portals.

SSC 2027 and Outlook



Members were informed that the **2027 Special Steering Committee (SSC)** meeting will be co-hosted with the **Cloud Signature Consortium's Trust Without Borders** event in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in April 2027**, hosted by APKIC member **Pos Digicert**. It will be a three-day programme, with details to be circulated as plans take shape.

The 2026 General Assembly reaffirmed APKIC's direction as a **global digital trust community with a strong Asia focus**, combining a modernized governance framework, a broader Governing Council, and a practical Working Group agenda on **AI trust, PQC readiness, legal interoperability and trust lists**. The meeting closed at about 17:00 with thanks to all participants.

