

Asia PKI Consortium Strengthens Global Digital Trust Collaboration at GDC26 in Geneva

Global platform for the experts of Digital Trust



The **Asia PKI Consortium (APKIC)** was pleased to be represented at **Global Digital Collaboration 2026 (GDC26)**, held from **1 to 3 September 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland**, bringing together the international community working across digital identity, trust services, electronic signatures, PKI and the broader Digital Trust ecosystem.

APKIC Secretary General **Vijay Kumar** was joined by Consortium members from across the region, including **Subramanian from Zoho Sign, India**, **Nazril from Pos Digicert, Malaysia**, and **Yasser from EMDHA, Saudi Arabia**. The APKIC community was also represented by **Nyan from MSC Trustgate, Malaysia**.

The presence of members from different economies reflected APKIC's growing regional network and provided an opportunity to bring diverse Asia-Pacific experiences and perspectives into the global Digital Trust dialogue.



Connecting the Global Digital Trust Community



GDC26 brought together thousands of participants, hundreds of organisations and experts working across the global Digital Trust ecosystem.

Over the three days in Geneva, the event provided an excellent platform for conversations, exchange of ideas and collaboration around digital identity, electronic signatures, trust services, digital credentials, interoperability and the rapidly evolving Digital Trust landscape.

APKIC representatives actively contributed to panel discussions and conversations during the event, sharing

experiences and perspectives from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Beyond the formal sessions, the event created valuable opportunities for direct engagement with stakeholders from across the global Digital Trust community. APKIC representatives had productive conversations with **members of United Nations teams, the Cloud Signature Consortium (CSC), Google Wallet, European organizations working in trust services, the Smart Africa team, FIDES**, and many other organizations, experts and industry participants.

These interactions, both through panel discussions and informal conversations throughout GDC26, enabled a valuable two-way exchange of knowledge. They provided opportunities to understand developments taking place in other regions, while also sharing the experiences, challenges and progress of Digital Trust ecosystems across Asia.

A recurring theme across many of these conversations was the growing importance of **cross-border interoperability, mutual recognition and closer coordination between regional and international Digital Trust ecosystems**.

The exchanges also reinforced the relevance of APKIC's role as a regional platform that can connect governments, regulators, trust service providers, technology companies, standards communities and other stakeholders across Asia, while building bridges with similar initiatives globally.

As Digital Trust becomes increasingly important to cross-border digital services and transactions, such collaboration can help bring international developments and experiences into the region, while ensuring that the perspectives and requirements of Asian economies are represented in the wider global dialogue.



GDC26 therefore provided an important opportunity not only to participate in the international Digital Trust conversation, but also to strengthen APKIC's relationships with organizations working toward similar objectives around the world.

APKIC and the Global Digital Trust Awards 2026

A major highlight of GDC26 was the **Global Digital Trust Awards 2026**, an international initiative recognizing innovative and impactful implementations of Digital Trust around the world.

Asia PKI Consortium was proud to be a co-initiator of the Global Digital Trust Awards, together with other leading international Digital Trust organizations.

APKIC was also represented on the international jury by its Secretary General, **Vijay Kumar**. The jury brought together experts associated with digital trust organizations from different regions, including **DIDAS, DIACC, TeleTrust, APDI, FIDES and Asia PKI Consortium**.



The 2026 Awards attracted **more than 95 submissions from nearly 30 countries**, highlighting the growing scale and diversity of innovation taking place across digital identity, electronic signatures, trusted credentials, digital public infrastructure and related Digital Trust technologies.

Following the evaluation process, **25 initiatives were shortlisted as finalists across five categories**. The finalists presented their solutions during GDC26, providing the international jury and participants an opportunity to understand the technologies, implementation experiences and real-world impact behind the initiatives.

The Global Digital Trust Awards ceremony was held on **3 September 2026 in Geneva**, recognizing the winning initiatives across the five categories.

From Digital Trust Infrastructure to Real-World Applications

The Awards demonstrated how Digital Trust is increasingly moving beyond foundational infrastructure and becoming an integral part of everyday digital services and transactions.

The five winning initiatives were:

- **SSItizens**
 - **Mobile Driving Licence**
 - **Real Estate Purchasing**
 - **Urban Company**
 - **Aadhaar App (Wallet)**
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The range of initiatives recognized by the Awards illustrates the expanding role of Digital Trust across citizen services, mobility, property transactions, digital platforms, identity wallets and other areas.

It was also encouraging for APKIC to see the strong participation and recognition of initiatives emerging from Asia, demonstrating the region's growing contribution to global Digital Trust innovation.

Bringing Asian Perspectives to Global Collaboration

With members representing **more than 20 countries and economies**, Asia PKI Consortium continues to provide a regional platform connecting governments, regulators, PKI and trust service providers, technology companies, standards communities and other stakeholders.

APKIC's participation at GDC26, together with its role as a co-initiator of the Global Digital Trust Awards, forms part of the Consortium's broader effort to connect developments across Asia with the international Digital Trust community.

The discussions in Geneva further emphasized the importance of having a strong regional platform for Digital Trust in Asia. Different economies are progressing at different stages and with different legal, regulatory and technical frameworks. APKIC can play an important role in bringing these communities together, facilitating exchange of knowledge and experiences, and creating opportunities for greater technical and policy-level collaboration.

As technologies and regulatory frameworks continue to evolve, interoperability and mutual recognition between Digital Trust ecosystems will become increasingly important. APKIC will continue working with its members and international partners to facilitate knowledge exchange, technical collaboration and greater interoperability across borders.

The few days in Geneva provided an important opportunity to **reconnect with long-standing partners, establish new relationships, exchange experiences and strengthen collaboration across the global Digital Trust community**.

Asia PKI Consortium looks forward to building on these engagements and continuing to bring perspectives and experiences from across Asia to the global Digital Trust dialogue.
