

Presidents' Statement

July 9, 2022, Singapore

APRU 26th Annual Presidents' Meeting 2022: Reconnecting in a Sustainable World -- Presidents' Statement

Following a substantive exchange of ideas at the Annual Presidents' Meeting of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), held at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU, Singapore) from 6th to 9th July 2022, we pledge to put our resources to bear by combining the formidable scholarship, research, and innovation on our campuses to help shape a cleaner, safer, more equitable, sustainable, and prosperous world.

We build on the momentum generated during the Covid-19 pandemic in which universities made crucial contributions alongside other major stakeholders in the successful development of the vaccine with unprecedented speed and efficacy and the formulation, analysis, and deployment of pivotal public health policies and practices. APRU members will endeavour to continue making transformative changes to education and learning by deploying cutting-edge and appropriate technologies and new approaches to learning suited to a post-COVID world. We are committed to enhancing global health and well-being with game-changing discoveries led by a diverse community of our scholars, innovators, and change-makers. We also pledge to identify more robust pathways and safeguards to prevent the next pandemic. Never has our role been more critical in improving the health of our planet and people. Never has the convergence of education, technology, and innovation better prepared us for this enormous task.

As the world faces surging geopolitical tensions, we will strive to keep our doors open for debate, dialogue, connection, and collaboration. We will continue to build on our work to embrace and endorse the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals that include such issues as climate change, health, disaster risk mitigation, mobility of students and researchers, and reducing inequality within and among our communities, in the geographic, societal, and cultural context of each of our institutions.

We will strive to build greater trust and resilience among countries and people in the Asia Pacific region and across the world. In new and innovative ways, we will endeavour to find impactful solutions to diminish the risks of climate change and the next global health crisis.

With our collective ingenuity and commitment, along with our individual strengths and unique approaches to address local, regional, and global challenges, we will help shape a more sustainable future through our efforts in education and lifelong learning, human talent development, scientific discoveries, technological innovation, and

service to society. We take this responsibility seriously and with utmost sincerity and will make every effort to secure the 21st century for future generations to come.