

## **Technology Facilitation Consultative Meeting to address the Challenges of COVID-19 Pandemic**

**23 August 2021  
(Virtual)**

### **ORGANIZERS**

- Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India

### **BACKGROUND**

The Covid-19 pandemic is currently one of the biggest challenge faced across the world. Countries in the Asia-Pacific region are experiencing unprecedented surge of infected populations leading to severe stress on their healthcare systems. Due to the severity of the pandemic, health systems across the affected countries are reporting shortages of key medical facilities including medical oxygen plants, oxygen concentrators, ventilators, diagnostics, vaccines and drugs, therapeutic and protective medical devices, mobile ICU ambulances, among others. In addition to the sudden increase of demand, this situation is being faced due to low production capacities, limited to low cost and affordable technologies, limited availability of raw materials and supply chain constraints. Despite these challenges, there has been development of many low-cost and effective technologies by countries to cater to their emergency needs.

As part of its mandate and intent to facilitate technology transfer and diffusion, the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) is keen to contribute to support member States through facilitating regional technology cooperation to fight the pandemic. In this context, APCTT convenes this Technology Facilitation Consultative Meeting (on virtual platform) in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, for select COVID-19 affected member States to understand the needs and availability of reliable and cost-effective healthcare technologies for responding to the pandemic. The meeting would provide a platform for member States to identify opportunities of collaboration and explore modalities to share their technology, expertise and experiences.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To increase the understanding of the needs, and share information about existing technologies and innovations for addressing the COVID-19 challenges
- To deliberate and explore opportunities and strategies for transfer of COVID related technologies between member States to fight the pandemic
- To strengthen regional technology cooperation among participating member States to jointly combat the pandemic

## **PARTICIPANTS**

APCTT's national focal points, representatives from government and government agencies, experts from medical association and other relevant stakeholders as nominated by participating member States.