

THE JAPANESE COMMITTEE FOR APCTP

December 3rd, 2025

Re: Support for the Establishment of the Asia-Pacific AI Center in Pohang

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure and sincere respect that we, the Japanese Committee for the Asia Pacific Center for Theoretical Physics (APCTP), express our wholehearted support for the City of Pohang's initiative to host the newly proposed Asia-Pacific AI Center, to be established under the *APEC AI Initiative (2026–2030)* adopted at the 32nd APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in 2025.

For nearly three decades, the City of Pohang and the Government of the Republic of Korea have generously supported APCTP, providing an exceptional environment for international collaboration, theoretical physics research, and the training of young scientists across the Asia-Pacific region. The profound impact of this support is well reflected in the development of numerous research programs, capacity-building initiatives, and the growth of a vibrant scientific community centered in Pohang.

The Japanese Committee for APCTP (<https://apctpjapan.info>) consists of representatives from major research institutes in Japan and members of the theoretical particle physics, nuclear physics, astrophysics, and condensed matter physics communities. Serving as the national coordinating body for APCTP in Japan, it facilitates the collective membership contributions from Japanese institutes and recommends Japanese representatives to APCTP's Board of Trustees, General Council, and other key positions. The current members are:

- Yokoyama, Jun'ichi (University of Tokyo) Chair
- Hayakawa, Hisao (YITP)
- Harada, Masayasu (Nagoya University)
- Yamamoto, Kazuhiro (Kyushu University)
- Nakamura, Shin (Chuo University)
- Hosaka, Atsushi (Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University)
- Omukai, Kazuyuki (Tohoku University)
- Hashimoto, Shoji (KEK)
- Iso, Satoshi (KEK) General Council
- Udagawa, Masafumi (Gakushuin) General Council
- Kimura, Masaaki (RIKEN/ Hokkaido University) General Council
- Yanase, Youichi (Kyoto University)
- Murakami, Shuichi (Science Tokyo)
- Hagino, Kouichi (Kyoto University)

- Oshikawa, Masaki (ISSP, University of Tokyo)
- Kawamoto, Noboru (Hokkaido U.) Trustee
- Sugawara, Hiroataka (KEK) Advisor
- Kugo, Taichiro (Kyoto Sangyo U.) Advisor
- Fujikawa, Kazuo (RIKEN) Advisor
- Tada, Tsukasa (RIKEN) Corresponding Secretary

Former members of our committee include two Nobel laureates, Makoto Kobayashi and the late Toshihide Maskawa, as well as other eminent Japanese theoretical physicists. Our committee's long-standing structure and mode of operation reflect Japan's holistic commitment to the mission of APCTP.

From this perspective, we view the establishment of the Asia-Pacific AI Center in Pohang as a natural and highly promising extension of the region's scientific ecosystem. The proposed Center—encompassing AI research, datacenter infrastructure, quantum technology, and education programs—is expected to generate strong synergy with APCTP's well-established basic science foundation. The integration of theoretical research capabilities with cutting-edge AI and computational infrastructure will undoubtedly create new opportunities for scientific innovation, regional cooperation, and human resource development throughout the Asia-Pacific.

We firmly believe that Pohang, with its proven track record in hosting international research hubs such as APCTP, its world-class academic institutions, and its supportive industrial and technological environment, is uniquely positioned to serve as the home of the Asia-Pacific AI Center. The Center's establishment in Pohang would significantly enhance the collective scientific capacity of APEC member economies and contribute to shared prosperity across the region.

For these reasons, the Japanese Committee for APCTP fully endorses the City of Pohang's aspiration to host the Asia-Pacific AI Center. We look forward to witnessing the advancement of this initiative and remain committed to supporting efforts that promote scientific excellence and international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific community.

Yours respectfully,



Yokoyama, Jun'ichi
Chair
The Japanese Committee for APCTP