



Without further expansion of labour force, we must now fully draw upon the resources that we already have, including women, seniors with the interest in remaining in the work force and persons with disabilities.

With the anticipated drawing down of savings and pensions by retirees and increased demand for social safety nets, an equitable social security system must be established while we are still benefiting from the demographic dividend.

Addressing financing gaps as well as debt servicing and mobilization of private sector investment now will be critical.

Given the declines in labour force as well as domestic savings, improvement in the quality of life will increasingly depend on the harnessing of technology.

Equitable access to new technology, including artificial intelligence, will shape our collective future. Robust governance and universal connectivity are prerequisites to this inclusive technological transformation.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Our future depends on the potential that we invest in our youth. They must see possibilities, participate in decision-making and seize opportunities before them.

As the regional commission for Asia and the Pacific, B

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