17 February 2026

Prof. Sun Teck Tan
President, International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI)
Founder, International Cybersecurity Olympiad (ICO)
National University of Singapore

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Letter of Support — Australian STEM and Robotics Advancement Association (ASRA) and ICO 2026 Australia

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in my capacity as President of the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) and Founder of the International Cybersecurity Olympiad (ICO) to express my strong support for the Australian STEM and Robotics Advancement Association (ASRA) and its role as Australia's host organising body for ICO 2026.

I founded the ICO in 2025 in Singapore to address the growing global need for cultivating cybersecurity talent among young people at the secondary school level. Since its inception, the ICO has grown rapidly to include over 45 registered countries, reflecting the worldwide recognition that cybersecurity education must begin early and be nurtured through international collaboration and competition.

ASRA, under the leadership of Mr. Charlie Zhu, has demonstrated exceptional commitment to advancing STEM education in Australia. Through its nationwide competition network and over 10 interstate workshops conducted across the country, ASRA has successfully identified and nurtured young Australian talent in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. Australia's impressive results at international competitions — including gold and bronze medals at the International Olympiad in AI (IOAI) and a gold medal at the Singapore National Junior Cyber Olympiad 2025 — are a testament to ASRA's dedication and effectiveness.

I am pleased to confirm that ICO 2026 will be held in Sydney, Australia, from 27 June to 2 July 2026, with Macquarie University serving as the Global Gold Venue Partner. This event will bring together the brightest young cybersecurity minds from over 45 nations, and I have full confidence in ASRA's ability to deliver a world-class event.

I wholeheartedly endorse ASRA's participation in international STEM exchange and cooperation, and I extend my best wishes for the success of ICO 2026 in Sydney.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Sun Teck Tan
President, International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) Founder, International Cybersecurity Olympiad (ICO)
National University of Singapore