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MESSAGE FROM PACLIC 17 & O-COCOSDA 2003 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Singapore for PACLIC 17 and Oriental COCOSDA 2003. It provides an excellent forum for scientists and engineers from various research areas, including linguistics, natural language processing, and speech processing, etc. to meet and to exchange ideas, to share information and to discuss regional matters on any related research issues.

The call-for-papers this year was met with such enthusiasm that we are able to prepare a technical programme that comprises a large number of high quality papers. For PACLIC 17, we received more than 80 submissions from 13 countries or regions: China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia, United states, United Kingdom, France and Australia. For O-COCOSDA, we received over 50 submissions from 9 countries or regions: China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan. In addition to the 47 papers for PACLIC (36 for oral presentation and 11 for poster) and 39 papers for COCOSDA accepted for presentation, we are honoured to have 4 keynotes speeches given by academic and industrial leaders in the field.

The excellent program offered by PACLIC 17 and Oriental COCOSDA 2003 is a result of the excellent review efforts undertaken by the two program committees and the local organizing committee here in Singapore. We would like to thank the steering committees for their guidance, the program committees for their great reviews, the organizing committees for their hard working and many people who contributed to PACLIC 17 and Oriental COCOSDA 2003 in one way or another. Especially, we would like to thank all the authors who submitted their papers.

On behalf of the program committees, we thank you very much for your tremendous supports in making today's event a success. October is the best to visit Singapore. With the intensive technical program, the open atmosphere and the multi-cultural surroundings, we hope that you can take this excellent opportunity to meet old friends and to make new ones. After SARS, the Lion City is roaring again, we are sure that you will enjoy the city as well as the conference.

Ji Donghong
PACLIC 17 program Committee Chair

LI Haizhou
Oriental COCOSDA Program Committee Chair