

SHAPING THE FUTURE, HONOURING THE PAST

As October dawns, I conclude my six-year tenure on the Board, including two years as President. I reflect with gratitude on our shared achievements and the dedication of everyone who has contributed to IIA Singapore's journey.

Together, we have achieved significant milestones that elevate our profession at a time of rapid change — shaped by technological advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity, growing focus on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues, geopolitical tensions, and evolving regulatory expectations that continue to redefine business and risk landscapes.

In 2022, we published the *Guide to Internal Review of Sustainability Report* to provide organisations with practical navigation points for conducting internal reviews of their sustainability reports. This guide supports preparers and reviewers in aligning with the guiding principles recommended by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

We also deepened engagement with the next generation of professionals through the inaugural IIA Singapore Inter-University Internal Audit Case Study Competition, which saw enthusiastic participation from all five local universities. This initiative not only showcased the relevance of internal audit but also inspired students by connecting them with real-world business challenges.

In line with the profession's evolving needs, we introduced two new certificate programmes: the ESG Certificate on Internal Auditing for Sustainable Organisations and the Auditing the Cybersecurity Program Certificate. These, along with several AI-focused courses and an AI symposium, have provided targeted, practical learning in areas of growing importance.

Most recently, the [Risk in Focus 2026](#) for Asia Pacific report, launched on 24 September 2025, reaffirmed many of the risks we have proactively addressed through our initiatives. The report highlighted cybersecurity as the top risk, followed by business resilience, digital disruption (including AI), human capital, and geopolitical uncertainty. Importantly, it also raised questions on whether internal audit has the right resources and skills to help organisations manage these risks while leveraging the opportunities they bring. I encourage you to use this report as a tool to benchmark your own organisational risks and audit priorities.

As I step down as President, I leave with confidence that IIA Singapore will continue to grow in strength, relevance, and impact under new leadership. Leadership, after all, is about continuity and progress. In the words of John C. Maxwell: *"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."*

Yours sincerely

Stephen Ching
President
The Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore