-Message from SLAAI President -

It is with great pleasure that I convey this message as the president of Sri Lanka Association for Artificial Intelligence (SLAAI) to the SLAAI- International Conference on Artificial Intelligence 2020 (SLAAI-ICAI2020). SLAAI which was formally formed in the year 2000 has reached to 20 years of unprecedented work in popularization of AI, research in AI and developing Industry- Academia partnerships along with capacity building of the members and those who are interested in AI. During these 20 years journey SLAAI has gradually progressed to what it is today by having annual sessions, local conferences and international conferences that provide an excellent platform for academia, industry and researches to discuss and present their research work and innovations. Tech talks, discussions and meetups are common events in the annual calendar of the SLAAI.

This year marking a new milestone the 4th SLAAI-ICAI conference will be held as a fully online conference due to the prevailing pandemic situation. Even with the numerous difficulties encountered by the mass population due to Covid-19 situation SLAAI has been able to attract quiet a number of papers and the acceptance rate was maintained around 40% after a rigorous double-blind peer review process. I take this opportunity to thank all the authors for their contributions to SLAAI and I would like to extend my heartiest wishes for the authors whose papers have been accepted to be presented at the SLAAI-ICAI 2020.

The conference theme of this year "AI for Global sustainable Development" is a much valid topic in the troubled world today where people are looking for all possibilities of survival in their day-to-day activities as well as conduct in the long term. The richness of AI can be harnessed to address many of the problems faced by the world today and this is being addressed in the seventeen (17) UN Sustainable Development Goals as well.

The conference marks the final event of the year and I would like to thank the keynote speakers, session chairs, panel of reviewers, the program committee, authors and presenters who supported the conference wholeheartedly. I take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge all the hard work and dedication of the members of the SLAAI council 2020 who supported me persistently to raise our standards from physical platform to the online platform enabling the global access more easily.

I wish SLAAI-ICAI-2020 all the very best and to be one of the most productive conference of the year 2020.

Dr. (Mrs.) D.D.M. Ranasinghe
President/ Sri Lanka Association for Artificial Intelligence (SLAAI)
01.12.2020