ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY

Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific
27-29 April 2010, Honiara, Solomon Islands

Proceedings of the Meeting

1.0   Introduction

1.1   The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), in collaboration with the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA), organized the Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRF-P) from 27 - 29 April 2010 in Honiara, Solomon Islands. The event was hosted by PITA in an ongoing partnership with APT with support from the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), Government of Australia, and ITU. The local host were Solomon Telekom Ltd.

1.2   The main objectives of the forum are:

- To develop a Plan of Action for the Pacific from the Bali Ministerial Plan of Action
- To facilitate the progress of the decisions taken at the APT's Telecommunication ICT Policy and Regulation Meeting for Pacific 2009 in Nadi, Fiji;
- To adopt measures to accelerate telecom and ICT infrastructure development (particularly broadband) and promote e-applications;
- To exchange information and share ideas in a common platform among the Pacific Island Countries;
- To address key Policy and Regulatory concerns for Pacific;
- To further the implementation of a Pacific ICT Resource centre;
- To further the establishment of the Pacific CERT;
- To consider best practices and further develop regulatory frameworks for Pacific Island Countries.

1.2   The forum was attended by 46 participants, 13 of which are from APT member countries. Other participants were from eligible non members, international organizations and PITA members from different sectors of the telecommunication and information technology industry that included high-level officials from ICT Experts, Telecom Operators, Academics and other stakeholders.

2.0   Opening Session of the Forum

2.1   Opening Address by Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General, APT

The opening address was delivered by Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General, APT.

He welcomed all distinguished participants to the Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific in Honiara, Solomon Islands. He extended his thanks to PITA for working with

APT to facilitate the forum, Solomon Telekom for making the arrangements, ITU for partnering with APT.

The full text of the address can be found in **Attachment 1.**

2.2   **Address** by Mr. Ivan Fong, President, PITA

As co-organizer and host of the meeting, Mr. Ivan Fong, President, PITA delivered an address. He welcomed all the meeting participants.

In his address, he mentioned that PITA recognized benefit of having sessions from regulatory and ministry in parallel with the industry sector which would provide the opportunity to networking among the sectors. He stressed on the value of the discussions and experience sharing.

2.3   **Address** by Ms. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, ITU-EC Project Coordinator, ITU

Ms. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, ITU-EC Project Coordinator, ITU delivered an address. She briefed the forum on the background of the ICB4PAC project which is a sub-project under the ITU-EC project. The ICB4PAC project is aimed for 15 Pacific Island countries including Timor Leste. She urged the participants to effectively use the forum.

The full text of her address is attached in **Attachment 2**.

2.4   **Address** by Mr. Trevor Jenner, DBCDE, Australia

Mr. Trevor Jenner, DBCDE, Australia delivered an address.

In his address, Mr. Jenner emphasized that the support from Australia to the workshop is part of the commitment of Australian government to the region since last year. This is a tangible example and an ongoing effort from Australia. Australia will continue to support many of APT events. He mentioned the preparatory meeting for PP-10 which will be held in Cairns, Australia, workshop on international mobile roaming, workshop on disaster management, and the Cybersecurity forum as examples. He hoped that this forum would be a successful event. Lastly, he thanked all participants on behalf of Australian government.

2.5   **Address** by Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, Director-General, SPC

An address was delivered by Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, Director-General, SPC.

In his address, he explained the role of SPC in the development of ICT in the region. He emphasized on the five major objectives of business strategy in SPC specially the enhancement of the policy and regulatory environment. He invited all participants and APT in particular, to the ministerial meeting which is scheduled to be held 16-18 June 2010 in Tonga.

2.6   **Address** by Hon. Minister. Varian Longamei, Minister of Communications and Civil Aviation, Solomon Islands

He warmly welcomed the participants to Solomon Islands. He wished participants a successful forum. He recognized the value of the forum in providing the chance for sharing experiences and discussions on the policy and regulatory issues. He is aware that the effective use of ICT is important part of economy of the Pacific Island countries. The

benefits of ICT are now accessible at the village level. He went on to introduce various policy and regulatory activities in Solomon Islands including the introduction of a regulator and competition. Lastly, he thanked APT, PITA and every delegate for attending the forum.

2.7 The memento of appreciation was presented to Hon. Minister. Varian Longamei, Minister of Communications and Civil Aviation, Solomon Islands, by the Secretary General of APT.

3.0 **Session 1: "Review of Current Position of ICT Policy and Strategy in the Pacific**"
Chairperson: Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General of APT

3.1 **The meeting adopted the Agenda.**

3.2 **Outcome of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy**
by Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General, APT

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/08 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation reported on the Outcome of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy that was held from 12-13 November 2003, in Bali. The outcome of this meeting included key strategies that were developed for policy objectives, which are *A. Widen broadband connectivity, B. Provide a secure, safe and sustainable environment through ICT initiatives, C. Facilitate effective convergence of services, D. Encourage development of content and applications,* and *E. Develop human resources capacity.* The presentation also listed out the relevant action items for the APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific from the APT Ministerial Plan of Action.

In summary, the APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific was requested to:
1. Consider how the Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific should implement the relevant Bali Ministerial Plan of Action Key Strategies and Actions,
2. Develop an Implementation Schedule and Timeline,
3. Report back to the Management Committee

3.2 **Pacific Regional Digital Strategy II**
by Dr. Suella Hansen & Noelle Jones, Network Strategies

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/24 for a copy of the presentation.

This presentation provided an independent review, which was commissioned by PIFS, of the impact of the Digital Strategy. It highlighted the priorities of the digital strategy and reported on the status of progress towards the Digital Strategy objectives. Gaps in progress were also identified.

4.0 **Session 2: "Capacity Building for the Pacific Islands"**
Chairperson: Mr. Ivan Fong, President, PITA

4.1 **Pacific Regional Regulatory Resource Centre: From Analysis to Implementation**
by Ms. Natasha Beschorner, Senior ICT Policy Specialist, Global Information & Communications Technology Department, World Bank

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/26 for a copy of the presentation.

In 2009, representatives of telecommunications policy and regulatory institutions in the Pacific agreed to support the establishment of a Regional Regulatory Resource Centre for telecommunications. Its mandate would be to provide a range of functions to support sharing of telecommunications related information and industry data, to improve awareness of sector performance across the region and to provide direct assistance to policymakers and regulators. It would be set up to assist countries to build their policy and regulatory capacity and to adopt best practice principles and supporting legislation consistent with international experience.

This presentation took stock of the progress towards the establishment of the above-mentioned Resource Centre.

4.2   **Presentation on the Pacific Island Countries ICT Regulatory Resource Centre**
by Mr. Trevor Jenner, Assistant Director, DBCDE, Australia

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/17 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation provided an update on the proposed Pacific Island Countries ICT Regulatory Resource Centre, starting with the communiqué of the 2009 Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum.

He also provided an overview of the work undertaken to-date by the Resource Centre Working Group that was formed at the APT's Telecommunication ICT Policy and Regulation Meeting for Pacific in Nadi, Fiji 2009.

Mr. Siaosi suggested setting up a new working group to resolve the outstanding issues.

Samoa expressed his disappointment on the lack of progress on a key issue and supported the idea of setting up the working group to work on the issue.

Vanuatu clarified that the resource center is meant to be independent and work autonomously.

4.3   **PacCERT Presentation for the Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific**
by Mr. Mac Mokoroa, Chief of Staff, Office of the Prime Minister, Cook Islands

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/25 for a copy of the presentation.

This presentation reported to the forum on the updated status of PacCERT. He gave the background of PacCERT, the mission statement, organizational model, its stakeholders, services, revenue stream, the funding and support. Strategies for sustainability including the next steps were then presented.

Samoa suggested that the presentation, governance, and the PacCERT business plan shall be sent out to Member countries with the deadline for feedback.

Decision No. 1 (PRF-P/2010/4)
Samoa suggested that the presentation (Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/25), the governance, and the business plan of PacCERT shall be sent out to Member countries with the deadline for feedback.

5.0 Session 3: "Universal Service"
Chairman: Mr. Tutuli J. Heka, Director, Post and Telecommunications, Government of Niue

5.1 Universal Service Obligation
by Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui, Director Regulatory & External Affairs, PANGTEL, PNG

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/22 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation introduced universal service and the rationale of universal access. It also listed out some factors limiting network expansion. He explained how universal access can be achieved. Policy & Regulatory implications were also discussed.

5.2 Universal Service Fund
by Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui, Director Regulatory & External Affairs, PANGTEL, PNG

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/23 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation described the different types of Universal Service Funding, how Universal Service Fund payments are made and the parties who pay the contribution. He also went through other solutions of USF. He provided a guide as to how to manage universal access funds.

5.3 Update on Universal Access Assessment (ICB4PAC)
by Ms. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, Project Coordinator, ITU

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/28 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation gave the background of the universal access and the methodology which consists of the TOR, the expert involved, and the data collection process.

6.0 Session 4: "Interconnection"
Chairperson: Mr. TUAIMALO ASAMU AH SAM, Chief Executive Officer,
Ministry of Communications and IT, Samoa

6.1 Cellular Mobile Dilemma - Interconnection
by Mr. Michael Johnstone, Consultant

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/04 for a copy of the presentation.

A competitive environment is crucial if a harmonious but sustainable mobile growth is to be achieved in the Pacific region. This is best managed by Regulatory intervention and Interconnection cost modelling based on World's best practice.

6.2 Interconnection Pricing
by Mr. Ivan Fong, Group Manager for Planning and Regulatory, Telecom Fiji, Fiji

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/11 for a copy of the presentation.

Telecommunications markets in the Pacific are opening up to competition. Effective competition requires that carriers interconnect with each other. However, commercial agreement is usually a difficult proposition due to the nature of interconnection – there is seldom a basis for mutual agreement and regulators or the courts are required to arbitrate

or determine a solution.

Alternative modelling approaches as well as benchmarking were discussed along with other pricing methodologies.

6.3   Interconnection : Prospective in Interconnection
by Mr. Zakiul Islam, Director, GR, Regulatory & Legal Affairs, Orascom Telecom Bangladesh Limited (Banglalink), Bangladesh

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/05 for a copy of the presentation

The presentation gives an outline of mobile operators and its market share in Bangladesh.

Day 2: 28 April 2010

7.0   Session 5: "International Connectivity for the Pacific Islands"
Chairperson: Mr. MAC MOKOROA, Chief of Staff, Office of the Prime Minister, Cook Islands

7.1   Overview of Satellite and Fibre Optics Submarine Cables for connectivity in the Pacific
by Mr. Maui Sanford, International Manager, OPT, French Polynesia

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/29 for a copy of the presentation.

The main issues for the satellite and submarine cable were discussed. The satellite capacity has the high cost and the volumes for small countries are small. On the other hand, submarine cables are suitable for larger populated areas. The challenges for the submarine cables include the high costs of marine maintenance, satellite redundancy and the capex required to build and manage regional cables

The trend for international and domestic connectivity shows that the requirement for satellite bandwidth is growing and there are major opportunities for submarine cable systems deployments.

In conclusion, cooperative action between countries is the key. Combined submarine cable/satellite projects for addressing the connectivity requirements need to be promoted.

Mr. John Hibbard, consultant from Australia, added that building and maintenance of submarine cable, especially keeping the ship in the region, is very expensive even with the benign environment for the cable in the Pacific.

7.2   Cable vs. Satellite: A Fiji Experience
by Mr. Gyanendra Singh, Commercial & Business Development - FINTEL, Fiji.

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/12 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation provided the detail on the international experience for Fiji in the area of cable and satellite connectivity. The presentation summarized the benefits and shortfalls of both cable and satellite.

7.3   Capacity Building and ICT Policy Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks Support of Pacific Countries (ICB4PAC)
by Ms. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, ITU-EC Project Coordinator for the Pacific, ITU

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/15 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation gave the background and overview of ICB4PAC. The common list of Priorities were highlighted. The methodology was described and she reported on the activities to-date and advised the activities for the next steps. The success factors of the project were also pointed out.

8.0   Session 6: "Public Private Partnership"
Chairperson: Mr. Trevor Jenner, Assistant Director, DBCDE, Australia

8.1   New Zealand Ultra-Fast Broadband & Rural Broadband Initiatives
by Mr. Sean Mosby, MED, New Zealand

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/07 for a copy of the presentation

The New Zealand Government is implementing two programs in partnership with the private sector to improve the coverage and quality of broadband services in New Zealand. The programs aim to leverage private sector investment by resolving the issues that, in the past, have made the private sector reluctant to invest widely in an ultra-fast broadband service in New Zealand.

The Ultra-Fast Broadband Initiative is a NZ$1.5 billion dollar Government investment in urban fibre networks, focusing initially on businesses, schools and hospitals, to make ultra-fast broadband available to 75% of the New Zealand population by 2019. The Government's investment will be made through a Crown investment company in an open-access infrastructure that supports a minimum unconstrained bit-rate of 100 Mbps downlink and 50 Mbps uplink.

The complementary Rural Broadband Initiative is a program of grants over 6 years to improve the coverage of fast broadband in rural areas and connect 97% of schools to fibre at speeds of at least 100 Mbps.

8.2   Pros and Cons of Public Private Partnership (PPP)
by Mr. Stuart Davies, Telecom Expert, APT

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/17 for a copy of the presentation

The presentation briefly introduces the concept and rationales for Public Private Partnership (PPP). It provides some reasons for failure of PPP. Some examples of PPP in telecommunication and other sectors were given. Lastly, some possible scenarios of PPP in telecommunications were suggested.

8.3   Public Private Partnership : Creating New Horizon in Bangladesh
by Mr. Mr. Zakiul Islam, Director, GR, Regulatory and Legal Affairs, Orascom Telecom Bangladesh Limited (Banglalink)

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/10 for a copy of the presentation

The presentation discusses how telecom, especially mobile services, can serve as a role model for PPP. It introduces Digital Bangladesh which consists of distinct areas including E-Governance, IT Industry, IT Education, and IT Outsourcing.

9.0   Session 7: "E-Applications/E-Government"
Chairperson: Mr. Jolden Johnnyboy, Assistant Secretary, Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure, FSM

9.1   Mobile Banking (Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/06)
by Mr. David Borrill, Digicel Pacific

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/06 for a copy of the presentation.

Mobile Banking is in its infancy but will reach a tipping point very quickly. This presentation looked at the technologies being developed to deliver Mobile Banking services and the developments that are occurring in different parts of the world. It considers some of the business models, the challenges that need to be addressed and some of the economic benefits available.

9.2   e-Government: HRD, Awareness Raising, and Challenges
by Mr. Siaosi, , ICT Coordinator-Outreach, SPC

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/21 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation touched on the regional support for e-government. It introduced the EU ACP "ICT Access for the Poor" project, the final beneficiaries of which are the Poor in Pacific ACP Countries that includes the rural and remote island communities.

9.3   e-Government in Fiji : The Progress of the e-Government Initiatives
by Mr. Sitiveni N. Nabuka, Director, e-Government Program, ITC Services,
Ministry of Finance, Fiji

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/18 for a copy of the presentation.

The e-Government initiatives in Fiji are based on the National ICT Development Policy developed in 2003.

This presentation looked at the current state of readiness of e-Government in Fiji. It provided a brief look at selected case studies of the recent implemented projects related to e-Government and a summary of the pending work to be completed by 2011.

10.0   Session 8: "Closed Regulator Discussion"
Facilitator: Mr. Ronald Box, Manager, International Engagement, ACMA, Australia.

10.1   This session was a round-table discussion with the candid exchange of views and experience sharing among the regulators in the Pacific on the following topics which are of interest in the Pacific region:
- Technology Neutral Licensing
- Numbering
- Convergence
- Others

10.2   The discussion started with the technology neutral license and moved onto spectrum licensing. The focus was on the issue of license and fees rather than the technical issues.

10.3   It was noted that Convergence means much more than just pure regulation in the telecom sense because it embraces content which requires a new set of rules and skills.

10.4   The lively general discussion including questions and answers was conducted. The following recommendations were made by the participants of this session:

Decision No. 2 (PRF-P/2010/1)
1. Closed regulator dialogue on current issues should continue in the next year.   2. Cost-based interconnection rate from Samoa can be shared.   3. Capacity Building: APT to consider organizing training on regulatory issues.   4. APT to set up a reflector for closed regulator discussion.   5. The forum requested that the items to be discussed in the Closed Regulator session need to be advised to participants as early as possible.

<u>Day 3:</u>   **29 April 2010**

11.0   **Session 9: "Telecommunication Policy and Strategy for the Pacific Islands"**
Chairman: Mr. Wisit Atipayakoon, Telecom/ICT Specialist, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Thailand

11.1   **Assessment and Review of the National ICT Policies of the Pacific Island Countries (ICB4PAC)**
by Mr. Eric Lie, Senior Associate, Macmillan Keck

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/20 Part 1 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation summarized a report prepared as part of the ITU-EC joint project on "Capacity Building and ICT Policy, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks support for Pacific Island Countries (ICB4PAC)".

11.2   **Policy Development in the Regional Level**
by Mr. Siaosi Sovaleni, ICT Coordinator-Outreach, SPC

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/30 for a copy of the presentation

The presentation talked about policy development, the approach taken, gaps and emerging issues in policy in the region, priorities in the region, strategies to address the gap, and the review process.

11.3   **Presentation of Gaps and SWOT analysis (ICB4PAC)**
by Mr. Eric Lie, Senior Associate, Macmillan Keck

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/20 Part 2 for a copy of the presentation.

This presentation is a continuation of the report in Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10-20 Part I. This is prepared as part of the ITU-EC joint project on "Capacity Building and ICT Policy, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks support for Pacific Island Countries (ICB4PAC)".

12.0   **Session 10: "APT/ITU Matters"**
Chairman: Mr. KILA GULO-VUI, Director, Regulatory & External Affairs, PANGTEL, Papua New Guinea

12.1   APT Preparations for PP-10 and WTDC-10
by Mr. Stuart Davies, Telecom Expert, APT

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/09 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation reported on the APT Preparations for WTDC-10 and PP-10. So far, the APT Secretariat had arranged three Preparatory Meetings for the WTDC-10 and two Preparatory Meetings for the PP-10.

For the WTDC-10, the third preparatory meeting agreed on 17 Preliminary Common Proposals (PACPs). With the endorsement of the Members, 17 APT Common Proposals (ACPs) were submitted to ITU. Among them were 3 ACPs that were proposed from the Pacific region.

For the PP-10, the second preparatory meeting agreed on 9 Preliminary Common Proposals and 7 APT Common Positions. With the endorsement of the Members of APT, the 9 ACPs were submitted to ITU on 18 January 2010. The 3rd preparatory meeting will be held in Cairns, Australia from 22-25 June 2010.

12.3   ITU in the Pacific – Strengthening Cooperation
by Mr. Wisit Atipayakoon, Telecom/ICT Specialist, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Thailand

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/13 for a copy of the presentation

The presentation contained information on ITU activities in the Pacific. The ITU-D Development Program and Asia-Pacific regional initiatives were provided. It also touched on various areas of activities such as Cybersecurity and PacCERT, Emergency/Disaster Communications, ITU Human Capacity Building, Connecting the Unconnected, and Spectrum Issues.

12.4   Development of APT Plan of Action for the Pacific from APT Ministerial Meeting

Taking into consideration the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy and the important points on various issues discussed during the forum, the draft Matrix for Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific to implement relevant part of Plan of Action of the Ministerial Statement adopted by Ministerial Meeting has been developed by the APT Secretariat. It has been discussed in this session and various comments have been received and added to the draft Matrix.

Decision No. 3 (PRF-P/2010/4)
The forum approved Matrix for Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific as a part of implementation of Plan of Action adopted at the Asia Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy.

A copy of the Matrix of APT Plan of Action for Pacific can be referred to in **Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/Plan.**

13.0   Session 11: "Wrap-up Discussion"

13.1　**Panel Discussion:**

Facilitator: Mr. Ronald Box, Manager, International Engagement, ACMA, Australia
Panellist: Mr. Trevor Jenner, DBCDE, Australia; Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui, Director, Regulatory & External Affairs, PANGTEL, PNG; Mr. Nick Williams, Telecommunication Commissioners, Solomon Islands; Mr. Donnie Defreitas, Office of the Regulator, Samoa

13.2　This session is an open discussion on the relevant issues for the Pacific region with the panellists being key stakeholders of the topics which included:
- Disaster Management Communications
- Numbering
- Convergence (Telecom & Broadcasting)
- Technology Neutral Licensing
- Others
- The Way Forward

13.3　The session consists of presentations from the panellist, general discussion as well as questions and answers.

13.4　Mr. Donnie Defreitas made a presentation on "**Regulating for a Converged Environment - The Case of Samoa**"

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/19 for a copy of the presentation.

His presentation outlined the process of convergence in Samoa. It then raised key regulatory issues in Samoa, which are the regulation of Broadcasting and ICT, review of the existing regulatory regime, extra-territorial provision of Service, option of unified Licensing approach, number portability, Top Level Country Domain Name (ccTlds) Management, Access to Emergency Services, Security and Consumer Protection Issues, Universal Service Obligations, and Quality of Service Obligations.

13.5　Mr. Jenner informed the forum of the upcoming Workshop on Disaster Management – Emergency Communications and Warning System which will be held in Australia in June 2010. He also encouraged the participation from the region.

13.6　Mr. Kila mentioned regulatory reform and activities such as licensing, spectrum, interconnection in PNG.

13.7　Mr. Nick William outlined the philosophy of the regulation in Solomon Islands. He mentioned the liberalization in the country, the correlation of market penetration and competition, and the licensing framework, etc. He also mentioned the high OPEX in the country which is the current problem. He emphasized the priority of liberalization before the process of regulation.

13.8　Mr. Ron Box made a presentation on **"Future of Convergence: How are regulators responding?"**

Please refer to Doc. No. APT/PRF-P/10/30 for a copy of the presentation.

The presentation talked about convergence and the related issues. The concept of 'citizen interest' in the convergence context is introduced. Case studies in the areas of numbering and spectrum review were also given.

14.0   Summary of the Forum
Mr. Stuart Davies, Telecom Expert, APT

Mr. Davies summarized the forum and reported the forum of the key outputs which are:

- Update on PacCERT
- Update on PIIRRC
- Information on Interconnection
- Information on International Connectivity
- Information on Public Private Partnership
- Closed Regulator Session proved to be very valuable
- Update on WTDC proposals
- Development of Plan of Action for Pacific
- Discussion on the Regional Strategy

14.1   The recommendations made during the closed regulator sessions are:
- Request for training on Regulatory Issues
- Request that topics to be discussed be identified as early as possible
- Request that the closed regulatory session continue as a session in the Forum

15.0   Closing Remarks

The closing address was delivered by Mr. Ivan Fong, President of PITA. PITA looked forward to further collaborating with APT in the future.

Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General, APT delivered his closing address. He thanked PITA for co-organizing the meeting and Telecom Solomon for their hospitality. He also extended the appreciation to ITU for their support in the Forum. He also thanked all participants for the active participation and the speakers and panellists for their contribution. Finally, he wished all participants a pleasant journey back home.

On behalf of the participants, Mr. Asamu extended his sincere thank to Mr. Yamada, PITA, and APT Secretariat for organizing the event.

Mr. Stuart then declared the forum closed.

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