|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| logogreen | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY |  |
| **The 10th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-10)** |
| 25 – 27 April 2017, Nadi, Fiji |  |

**CONCEPT NOTE**

1. **Background**

Most Pacific Countries share similar challenges and opportunities as located remotely in the Pacific with limited natural resources, large distances to major markets, and vulnerability to exogenous uncertainty, all of which can affect socio-economic growth and have often led to a high degree of economic volatility. A long-term cooperation between international development partners, regional organizations and governments are required for sustained development progress, and will be vital for the long term future of the Pacific Islands.

Furthermore, countries in the Pacific face challenges in Telecommunication and ICT sector, which include issues such as international connectivity for the Pacific, cybersecurity, internet policy, emergency communications and ICT for disaster risks reduction etc. As such, the policy and regulatory issues for telecommunication and ICT development faced by the Pacific are unique. This region requires its own platform to deal with issues.

To this end, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) has organized the APT Policy and Regulatory Forum for Pacific (PRFP) since 2009 to address a common challenges in Telecommunication and ICT Development issues of the Pacific Countries.

This year, the 10th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum for Pacific (PRFP-10) is being organized to address the most burning issues of Telecommunication and ICT Development in the region with a comprehensive suggestions on recognizing the current state of policy and regulatory in the Pacific, introducing new trends in Telecommunication and ICT development, and enhancing telecommunication and ICT development through an international collaboration with regional organization/institution/initiative. As a side event, the “Satellite Connectivity Workshop” will be held in back to back with the forum at the same venue as well.

1. **Objectives**

The overall aim of the forum is to provide a common platform for Pacific Countries to discuss issues together for solutions, which are viable, and feasible for particular conditions of the region.

The detail discussion topics of the PRFP-10 are:

* Policy and regulation trends and update of the Pacific;
* Highlights on Over-The-Top (OTT) and Licensing mechanism;
* Satellite and submarine connectivity
* Universal Access for the Pacific countries
* Perspective of Spectrum Management in the Pacific and challenges to tackle
* International Mobile Roaming
* Resource protection: Cyber threat and security
* Issue of climate change and importance of Telecommunication and ICT for disaster risk reduction
* Panel discussion and Way forward

1. **Expected Outcomes**

The proposed agenda of the PRFP-10 is made up of number of sessions to address the issues of concern for a policy and regulatory in Telecommunication and ICT sector development of the Pacific region. Presentations are from stakeholders such as Government bodies, Academic institutions, an international organizations, private sectors and NGO’s as well. The tentative agenda and programme are enclosed herewith and annexed to the concept note (See an Annex A and B for more information).

The main expected outcomes are as follows:

* Exchanging information and sharing common issues to each other’s;
* Identifying key policy and regulatory concerns for Member countries in the Pacific;
* Sharing the best practices and assisting to further develop regulatory frame;

1. **Timing and Location**

The 10th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific will be held from 25 to 27 April 2017 in Nadi, Fiji in collaboration with Ministry of Communication, Fiji Government.

In addition, “Satellite Connectivity Workshop” will be held on 24 April 2017 at the same venue. The workshop will be co-organized by APT and Affiliate Member of the APT, and aimed at providing an essential information on available opportunities of connectivity via Satellite in the Pacific, and bringing attention of participants into the satellite spectrum issues, as well as new innovations in the new satellite technologies and services in the Pacific. The tentative agenda of the workshop is attached herewith. (See Annex C for more information).

1. **Participation**

All APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, International/Regional Organizations, and Eligible Non-Members can participate in the Forum and Workshop. For those who are under fellowship invitation will be contacted separately via focal contacts by the APT. For non-members, with the discretion of Secretary General of APT, can attend the Forum as an “Observer” by paying a Registration Fee in consultation with the relevant Member Administration as appropriate

**Contact Points**

APT Secretariat:

Asia-Pacific Telecommunity

12/49 Soi 5, Chaeng Watthana Road

Bangkok 10210, Thailand

Tel: + 66 2 573 0044

Fax: +66 2 573 7479

E-mail: [aptpolicy@apt.int](mailto:aptpolicy@apt.int)

**Annex A**

**Provisional Agenda**

1. Opening
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Outcomes of the 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT
4. Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015 – 2017
5. Trends on ICT Policy and Regulation and Updates of the Pacific
6. Policy and regulation of Over-The-Top (OTT)
7. Update on Licensing Mechanism
8. Satellite and Submarine Connectivity
9. Universal Access for the Pacific Countries: Challenges and Opportunities
10. Perspective of Spectrum Management in the Pacific and Challenges to Tackle
11. International Mobile Roaming
12. Resource Protection: Cyber Threat and Security
13. Issue of Climate Change and Importance of Telecommunication and ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction
14. Closed Session for Regulators of the Pacific
15. Panel Discussion on Way Forward
16. Date and Venue for PRFP-11
17. Any Other Matters
18. Closing

**Annex B**

**Tentative Programme of the 10th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific**

**(PRFP-10)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Day 1 – 25 April 2017** |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | **Opening**   * Welcome Address – Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General of APT * Address – Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP * Inaugural Address – Ministry of Communication   Group Photograph |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:30 - 12:15 | **Session 1 :** ***Outcomes of MC-40 and Strategic Plan Implementation***   * Outcomes of the 40th Session of APT Management Committee * Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of APT for 2015 – 2017 |
|  | **Session 2** **:** ***Trends on ICT Policy and Regulation and Updates of the Pacific***  *This session discusses a global trend in ICT policy and regulation as well as to provide updates on some policy and regulatory issues in the Pacific.*  *Session Chairman : PRFP Chairman (or PRFP Vice-Chairman)*  Topics :   * International trend on ICT policy and regulation; * Telecommunication policy and strategy of Pacific countries; * ICT Business Development in the Pacific;   Speakers :   * Views and updates from APT Members in the Pacific |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 3 :** ***Policy and Regulation of*** ***Over-The-Top (OTT)***  *This session discusses policy and regulatory issues of the OTT etc.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics :   * Evolution of OTT technologies and services; * A closer look between traditional telecommunications and OTT businesses; * Smart regulation on OTT; * Recent development in Policy and Regulation in the Pacific on Over-The-Top (OTT)   Speakers :   * Member’s experience in terms of OTT regulation; * Views from OTT players or Telecom Operator; * Member Administrations from Pacific countries; |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 15:45 – 17:15 | **Session 4** : ***Update on Licensing Mechanism***  *This session provides a platform to address an update on licensing mechanism and exchange best practices in this regard.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Update on licensing regime and emerging new trends; * Licensing process and international best practices; * Best practices in the pacific region;   Speakers:   * Expert view on licensing issues; * Experiences by regulators in the Pacific; |
| 18:00 - | Welcome Dinner (To Be Confirmed) |
| **Time** | **Day 2 – 26 April 2017** |
| 9:00 - 10:30 | **Session 5 :** ***Satellite and Submarine Connectivity***  *This session will discuss satellite and submarine connectivity issues in overall and plus an opportunities available to the Pacific countries particularly.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Connectivity model in overall for the Pacific: Challenges & opportunities; * Cost analysis for connectivity between satellite and submarine; * Satellite connectivity for the Pacific;   Speakers:   * Expert view on international trends; * Member Administration views; * Satellite Industry views; |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:45 - 12:15 | **Session 6 :** ***Universal Access for the Pacific Countries: Challenges and Opportunities***  *This session discusses universal access issues and highlights challenges and opportunities faced by the Pacific countries.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Universal Access for the Pacific (in overall); * Opportunities through satellite connectivity; * Best examples in the region;   Speakers:   * Member Administration views; * Telecom Operators views; * Exchange of information by the Pacific |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 7 :** ***Perspective of*** ***Spectrum Management in the Pacific and Challenges to Tackle***  *This session reviews the current policy and regulatory implementations on Spectrum Management issues and share the experiences.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Spectrum management policies, practices and processes; * Sharing the broadcasting spectrum : digital dividend and white space; * The possible assistance of APT in terms of spectrum management ;   Speakers:   * International and regional experiences on Spectrum Management; * best practice in the region; * APT Frequency Management System (AFIS); |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 15:45 – 17:15 | **Session 8 :** ***Closed Session for Regulators of the Pacific***  *This session is dedicated for exchanging views and information among the Regulators from Pacific countries. The discussion topics will be decided by the participating countries.* |
| **Time** | **Day 3 – 27 April 2017** |
| 9:00 - 10:30 | **Session 9 :** ***International Mobile Roaming***  *This session discusses issues on International Mobile Roaming.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Update on International Mobile Roaming; * Update on Mobile Roaming in the Pacific; * Policy and Regulatory issues for Mobile Roaming;   Speakers:   * ITU views on International Mobile Roaming; * International best practices by ITU; * Pacific regulatory views; |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:45 - 12:15 | **Session 10 :** ***Resource Protection: Cyber Threat and Security***  *This session discusses cybersecurity issues in overall and provides specific examples of emerging threats in order to update participants.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * Current trends for key cybersecurity policy and regulations; * What does the future hold for less security mature region? * Update on emerging cyber threats;   Speakers:   * International trends by expert; * Views from Pacific; * Emerging cyber threats by expert; |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 11:** ***Issue of Climate Change and Importance of Telecommunication and ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction***  *This session will focus on Telecommunication and ICT for disaster risk reduction in connection with the evolving climate changes.*  *Session Chairman : TBC*  Topics:   * ICT in disaster risk reduction; * Policy and regulation issues for disaster management through ICT; * Drone technology for disaster recovery;   Speakers:   * International expert on Disaster management through ICT; * Leading country experience and case study by expert; * Pacific experience; |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 15:45 – 16:45 | **Session 12 – *Panel Discussion : Future Outlook***  *Panel session by Heads of Delegations to discuss collaboration issues in overall including cooperation with other organizations/ institutions/ initiatives.*  *Session Chairman : PRFP Chairman*  Topics:   * Open dialogue for panel discussion on future outlook for the Pacific and potential cooperative issues; * Discussion and Q&A |
| 16:45-17:15 | **Session 13: *Way Forward and Closing***  *Session Chairman : PRFP Chairman*   * Date and Venue for the PRFP-11 * Any other matters   + issues for Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 * Closing |

**Annex C**

**SATELLITE CONNECTIVITY WORKSHOP**

***“New Developments in Satellite Technologies and Services for the Pacific”***

**Tentative Agenda**

**1. *Opening***

* Welcome address
* Objectives of the Satellite Workshop
* Opening remarks

**2. *Satellites – Providing Essential Connectivity in the Pacific***

* Connectivity needs of the Pacific Islands
* Satellites for backhaul and universal access
* Satellites for public safety/disaster recovery
* Satellites for e-Inclusion, including health, education, government, agriculture & finance
* Recommendations for PRF-P-10

**3. *Innovation – New Satellite Technologies and Services in the Pacific***

* Innovations in satellite technology – more cost-effective, better quality and better performance
  + More efficient satellites and ground stations
  + New satellite orbits
  + Connected planes, ships, trains and cars
  + Benefits for the Pacific Islands: tourism, fishing fleets & public safety
* Satellite in a “5G” future
  + Role of satellite in 5G
  + Internet of things, machine to machine, connected car
  + Hybrid satellite-terrestrial networks for backhaul and distribution
* Facilitating better diffusion and broader use of satellite technologies and services
  + Free circulation of mobile and portable satellite terminals
  + Flexibility and harmonization in earth station licensing
  + Blanket licensing and general authorizations approaches for earth stations in motion in selected bands
* Recommendations for PRF-P-10

**4. *Satellite Spectrum Issues at the World Radio Conference***

* WRC-15
  + Results and implications for satellite services and the Pacific Islands
* WRC-19
  + Spectrum requirements for current- and next-generation satellite systems and services
  + APT preparatory activities
* Recommendations for PRFP-10