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| APTlogogreen3 | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No.:** |
| **The 2nd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Groupfor WTDC-21 (APT WTDC21-2)** | **APT WTDC21-2/****OUT-04** |
| 24-26 February 2021, Virtual/Online Meeting | 26 February 2021 |

Chairman, WG3

**APT VIEW[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Draft regional initiatives - asp

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The 2nd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-21 was held as a Virtual/Online Meeting from 24 to 26 February 2021.

In relation to the Regional Initiatives, the meeting considered the inputs put forward by the APT Member Administration; the strategic pillars (priority areas) for the APT for 2021-2023. The meeting concluded that the Regional Initiatives for Asia-Pacific 2018-21 needed to be updated to reflect recent developments in ICT and the needs of APT Member Administrations.

In this context, the meeting identified five (5) draft Regional Initiatives for the Asia-Pacific for the period 2022-25 and related draft Objectives.

1. **PROPOSAL**

The Member Administrations who attended the 2nd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-21 propose the following five (5) draft Regional Initiative and their respective draft Objectives for consideration at the Regional Preparatory Meeting for Asia and the Pacific.

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| **(Draft) ASIA-PACIFIC Regional Initiatives (priorities)** |
| **ASP1**: Addressing special needs of least developed countries, small island developing states, including Pacific island countries, and landlocked developing countries**Objective**: To provide special assistance to least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), including Pacific island countries, and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) in order to meet their priority telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) requirements. |
| **ASP2:** Harnessing information and communication technologies to support the digital economy and inclusive digital societies**Objective**: To assist Member States in utilizing information and communication technologies (ICTs) and emerging ICTs to reap the benefits of the digital economy in addressing the human and technical capacity challenges, including improving and expanding digital skills and reducing the gender gap, as well as assisting people of vulnerable groups[[2]](#footnote-2), for bridging the digital divide. |
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| **ASP3**: Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity and connecting the unconnected**Objective**: To assist Member States in the development of telecommunication/information and communication technologies (ICTs) infrastructure in order to facilitate provision of services and applications taking into consideration the availability, affordability, and accessibility of the infrastructure for connecting the unconnected. |
| **ASP4**: Enabling policy and regulatory environments to accelerate digital transformation**Objective**: To assist Member States in developing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks, digital services across various sectors of the economy, fostering innovation, enhancing skills, increasing information sharing and strengthening regulatory cooperation, thereby contributing to a supportive regulatory environment for all stakeholders. |
| **ASP5**: Contributing to a secure and resilient ICT environment**Objectives**: To assist Member States to develop and maintain secure, trusted and resilient networks and services, and to address challenges related to climate change, management of global pandemics and disasters. |

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1. This document was considered and accepted by consensus at the APT WTD21-2 meeting held as a Virtual/Online Meeting from 24 to 26 February 2021. The meeting was attended by the Administrations of Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, People’s Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Thailand, and Viet Nam. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Refer to people with specific needs, including children, women, the elderly and person with disabilities. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)