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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document:**  **PRFP-10/OUT-01** |
| **10th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-10)** |
| 25-27 April 2017, Nadi, Fiji | 23 October 2017 |

Secretary General

Summary record of the 10th APT Policy and

regulation forum for pacific (prfp-10)

1. INTRODUCTION

The 10th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-10) was held from 25 to 27 April 2017 in Nadi, Fiji. The meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Communications, Fiji.

The agenda and the programme of the meeting are contained in Documents PRFP-10/ADM-01 and PRFP-10/ADM-02 respectively.

The meeting was attended by 77 participants from APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, International Organizations, other organizations and the APT Secretariat. Document PRFP-10/ADM-03 contains the list of participants of the meeting.

1. Opening Session *(Tuesday, 25 April 2017, 9:30-10:00 hrs.)*
   1. Welcome Address by Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity

Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General of APT delivered the Welcome Address. The full text of Ms. Areewan’s Welcome Address is provided in document PRFP-10/INP-01.

* 1. Address by Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP delivered the Address. The full text of Mr. Charles Punaha’s Address is provided in document PRFP-10/INP-02.

* 1. Inaugural Address by Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, Ministry of Communications of Fiji

Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, Ministry of Communications of Fiji, delivered the Inaugural Address.

1. THE PLENARY *(Tuesday, 25 April 2017, 10:30-10:45 hrs.)*
   1. Adoption of Agenda *(Doc. PRFP-10/ADM-01(Rev.2))*

Chairman of PRFP introduced the provisional Agenda of the Meeting. There was no comment on the proposed Agenda. The meeting adopted the Agenda as proposed.

* 1. Outcomes of the 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT Relevant to PRFP *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-04)*

APT Secretariat presented the outcomes of the 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-40) that were relevant to PRFP. MC-40 adopted the report of PRFP-9, approved the revised working method of PRFP and approved holding of PRFP in 2017.

* 1. Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015-2017 *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-05)*

APT Secretariat presented the Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015-2017. PRFP was requested to review Document MC-40/INP-27 and provide any further update and review the implementation status if relevant.

* 1. Current Status for Developing the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-06)*

APT Secretariat presented the Current Status for Developing the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020. All APT members are encouraged to contribute to the work of developing the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018 – 2020.

1. session 2 – Trends on ict policy and regulation and updates of the pacific *(Tuesday, 25 April 2017, 10:45-12:15)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, PRFP Vice-Chairman

* 1. Trends in ICT Policy and Regulation, and Pacific Updates *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-07)*

Ms. Natasha Beschorner, Senior ICT Policy Specialist, World Bank presented the document. She introduced an example of emerging technologies and business models. Internet is enabling broad-based development and there were impacts on business, people, and governments of the Pacific. She then talked about Pacific ICT Development to date and the additional annual GDP Growth expected due to ICT enabled opportunities by 2040. The presentation then discussed some of the emerging challenges facing policymakers and regulators in the transition to the Digital Pacific.

* 1. The role of the CROP ICT Working Groups *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-08)*

Mr. Kisione Finau, Director IT Services and CROP Working Groups representative, presented the document introducing Council of Regional Organization in the Pacific (CROP), the CROP ICT Working Group, its objectives and main focus. The role of the ICT Working Group is to coordinate and work together with donors. He then talked about three things that the Working Group are working on which are Key areas in ICT, Players or Possible Players, and how to coordinate the issues. Finally he discussed some telecommunication and ICT issues, ICT regulation, and ways forward for the Pacific.

* 1. The Next Decade: The Ten ICT Factors Vital to the Pacific Islands *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-09)*

Dr. Bob Horton, Board Member, NICTA, Papua New Guinea presented the document introducing ten factors which have a critical bearing on whether the Pacific Islands will cope successfully with the challenges of ICT in the next decade. This includes power, ICT infrastructure and access, digital literacy, affordability, etc. The presentation then focused on each of those challenges, examined where the solutions are likely to come from, and the initiatives which will be called for.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

Mr. Paul Wilson from APNIC queried about what has been done regarding the pricing of electricity, telecom/internet pricing.

Ms. Natasha Beschorner gave an example that in many Pacific countries, basic mobile broadband pricing is quite high due to high cost. World Bank and ADB have involved in funding for cable which made the cost of capital low but owner of the cable is the cable company which is setup to make a profit and conflicts with the objective to bring the price down. In Vanuatu the cable is primarily funded through private investment which makes the cost high for end user. In another country World Bank has funded but the cable company still wanted to make money. There were tough discussions to bring the price down, which has recently come down through regulatory decision.

Mr. Hazem Moakkit from Intelsat queried on the investment in satellite, where it can be gradually increased to bring bandwidth to the area where it’s needed to stimulate the demand and then bring in the cable.

Ms. Beschorner answered that World Bank is not picking a particular technology but sitting with stakeholders including local telecommunication operator, government to look at projected demand and see what is the most cost effective solution, which may be satellite in some cases.

Mr. Keith Moala, Tonga commented on the Internet usage in Tonga noting that there was huge bandwidth available but the people still are not able to enjoy. The operator underestimated the appetite for Internet. Government tried to control the price and tried to bring the price down. There were no unlimited bandwidth usage provided since the operator is afraid of abuse of the bandwidth.

The meeting also discussed and shared experiences regarding the pricing issue including GSMA, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

1. session 3 – policy and regulation of over-the-top (ott) *(Tuesday, 25 April 2017, 14:00-15:30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, PRFP Vice-Chairman

* 1. No Longer Over the Top: Communications Regulation in the Brave New World of the App Economy *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-10)*

Mr. Scott Minehane, ITU Expert/Managing Director, Windsor Place Consulting, presented the document. He highlighted that the title of “No Longer Over the Top” is to give the sense that it’s not something that is unusual or temporary but will be part of what Telecommunication and Broadcasting sectors will be doing forever. He then talked about the meaning of OTT, communications and digital content services, partnering between operators and OTT providers, costs and benefits of the increasing use of OTT services, key regulatory issues to be addressed, recommendations, conclusion, and outline of preliminary methodology to assess the impacts of OTT services.

* 1. Emergence of OTT (Over-The-Top) Service and Regulatory Issues in Korea *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-11)*

Mr. Joonho Hwang, Director of Broadcasting Policy Research Group, KISDI, Korea presented the document focusing on OTT video services. He explained the meaning of OTT services and discussed about OTT video services in Korea, the controversial issues with such services and current regulatory framework in Korea. The presentation then compared the OTT Video and Broadcasting service in term of regulation in Korea, the approach taken by USA and Europe, and explained the solutions under discussion in Korea.

* 1. Recent Regulatory Developments Relating to Over the Top Services *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-12)*

Mr. Marc Lipton, Research Director, PiRRC, presented the document. He introduced the background of the issue, and raised questions where does the regulator fit in particular issues, and what are the real issues. He pointed out the issues the regulator should not take into account. He then explored how regulators in Asia and Pacific, Europe, Africa, and Americas are reacting, and talked about trends, ramifications of the trends, issues still to be addressed. The presentation then tried to answer the questions raised.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

Mr. Charles Punaha, NICTA, PNG, asked if the ITU report addressed the legal jurisdiction issue, especially where the Pacific Island States has cybercrime legislation. He also asked if the panelists aware of any partnership in the Pacific.

Mr. Minehane answered that cybersecurity is one of issues but this type of report addresses the direction that needs to be taken. Regarding the partnership question, he said there are some of them in Africa and some in the Middle East.

1. session 4 – perspective of spectrum management in the pacific and challenges to tackle *(Tuesday, 25 April 2017, 15:45-17:15 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Attila Matas, Space Publications and Registration division, BR, ITU

* 1. Spectrum Policies for Mobile Broadband and Spectrum Sharing in Korea *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-13)*

Dr. Chang-Joo Kim, ETRI, Korea (Rep. of) presented the document. He first introduced the fourth industrial revolution and key technologies and applications. He then talked about spectrum policy and the service of mobile broadband including 4G and 5G in Korea, spectrum policy and the service of TV White Spaces spectrum sharing in Korea. Finally he talked about DSA technology for spectrum sharing which has been developing at ETRI.

* 1. Satellite Spectrum Requirements in the Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-14)*

Mr. Daniel Mah, Senior Legal & Regulatory Counsel, SES presented the document. He first talked about the current situation and upcoming plan for the satellite connectivity in the Pacific, and the benefits of expanded satellite connectivity. His presentation then focused on satellite spectrum requirements in the Pacific covering issues from WRC-15 and WRC-19 including Registration of typical C-band Earth Stations, additional bands for IMT2020, etc. Finally he summarized the importance of satellite connectivity and satellite spectrum to the Pacific.

* 1. Policies to support future technologies *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-15)*

Mr. Joe Guan, Director, Spectrum Policy, GSMA, Hong Kong presented the document. He first introduced GSMA and how the mobile industry are supporting UN’s SDGs. He discussed network evolution from 2G to 5G, and an opportunity coming from the digital dividend. The presentation then covered 5G including mobile industry goals, mobile technologies that will impact 5G, etc. Finally he discussed spectrum issues and GSMA’s positions on 5G spectrum and gave a brief introduction of GSMA Ecosystem Accelerator programme.

* 1. APT Frequency Information System *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-16)*

Mr. Stuart Davies, Consultant, APT, presented the document introducing APT Frequency Information System (AFIS). He explained the background and contents of AFIS. The complete National Table of Frequency Allocation (NTFA) could be recorded in the system and training and expert mission funding is available to assist developing countries install AFIS. He then explained how AFIS works, how to upload the data, and Work Plan of AFIS.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

Mr. Donnie De Freitas, PiRRC noted that APT finally provided AFIS. It is a database which is a perfect solution to fill in to the SMS Policy System. PiRRC plan to organize workshop on SMS Policy System in late June. There is some synergy between AFIS and SMS Policy System.

The meeting also had extensive discussion on 5G among delegates and panelists from Intelsat, GSMA, ETRI, and SES.

Ms. Ruth Pritchard-Kelly, O3b, also added some comments regarding the spectrum issues between 5G and Ka band.

1. session 5 – Satellite and submarine connectivity *(Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 9:00-10:30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Keith Moala

* 1. International Submarine Cable developments in SAMOA *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-17)*

Mr. Talatalaga Mata’u, Assistant Chief Executive Officer-Policy, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology Samoa presented the document providing overview of Tui-Samoa Cable project. He highlighted Samoans vision to become the Telecommunications Hub in the Pacific Region, and provided update of the project including the objective, the wholesale model, the company structure, and a snapshot of future international submarine cable commitments and developments for greater internet access at an affordable cost with resilience and redundancy.

* 1. Submarine Connectivity and its implication for the Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-18)*

Mr. Toru Kawauchi, General Manager, Submarine Network Division, NEC Corporation, Japan NEC, Japan, presented the document introducing NEC’s Submarine Network solutions. He provided a simple explanation of what Submarine Cables are and the difference from Satellite Communications. He discussed worldwide international traffic growth, forecast of transpacific demand, and evolution of capacity and technologies. Finally he covered new trends with the OTT’s and solutions for the Pacific.

* 1. O3b: Transforming connectivity options in the Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-19)*

Ms. Ruth Pritchard-Kelly, Director for Regulatory Affairs, 03b Networks, presented the document. She highlighted that the Pacific Island penetration is still not high, but it can be improved by using multiple technologies including satellite and fiber. She explained how O3b’s MEO satellite constellation can bring transformative high-throughput broadband connectivity to the Pacific nations, whether as a complement or alternative to submarine cable, and how O3b can serve large customers and governments.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

The meeting had fruitful discussion on submarine cable project in Samoa regarding the involvement of World Bank and Industry, capital injection from World Bank and ADB, involvement in project management and future operational aspect of cable system, and changes in regulation to accommodate the new cable system. The meeting also discussed on the size of the Samoa Cable Company where it has only 3 people and also the pricing aspect. The meeting also discussed other topics relevant to submarine cable such as the maintenance of submarine cables.

Mr. Kisione asked O3b regarding the survey on customer experience since he didn’t have good experience in using O3b. Ms. Ruth Pritchard-Kelly thanked for the comment and will bring suggestion back to the company. She also stated that the focus of the company is to make sure that customer will have good experience, and it is their job to bring good experience to end customer.

1. Session 6 – Universal Access for the Pacific Countries: Challenge and Opportunities *(Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 10:45-12:15 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Ron Box, Principal Consultant, Box Consultancy, Australia

* 1. Universal Access for the Pacific Countries: Challenges and Opportunities *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-22)*

Mr. Peter Stiffe, Principal, Peter J Stiffe Limited, New Zealand, presented the document talking about the definition of Universal Access and Universal Service. He explained challenges including aligning government policy with commercial capability, the dynamic nature of universal access and telecommunications, administration of universal access, and funding universal access initiatives. Finally he discussed opportunities for the Pacific including reducing costs, ensuring the whole of industry contributes, and forming cooperative working relationships.

* 1. Universal Access for the Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-20)*

Ms. Dalsie Baniala, Regulator, Office of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator, Vanuatu, presented the document introducing the uptake of telecommunication services in Vanuatu. She then provided an overview of Universal Access Policy and its implementation approach. Her presentation then explored Universal Access opportunities and challenges including technical opportunities, educational opportunities, communication opportunities as well as their respective challenges.

* 1. Unlocking local opportunities with satellite broadband *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-21)*

Mr. Jacques-Samuel Prolon, General Manager, Kacific Broadband Satellites, presented the document introducing key criteria for service inclusion in a USO and what digital exclusion looks like in the Pacific. He then talked about the benefit of broadband centric USO and technologies to support a broadband USO in the Pacific. His presentation then gave overview on the Kacific-1 Satellite and services, and how it serves the USO framework in Pacific such as Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

Ms. Noelle de Guzman asked about the role of international partnership in building capacity for people. Ms. Dalsie Baniala replied that Vanuatu was working with stakeholders such as APT and ITU to identify the areas that need training. Meeting had further discussion on the training issue for different groups of people such as people in the village, etc.

The meeting also discussed other various issues on the Universal Access for the Pacific countries. Mr. Punaha then provided some updates regarding the implementation of UAS in PNG.

1. Session 7 – Update on Licensing Mechanism *(Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 14:00-15:30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Giles Tanner, General Manager, Communications Infrastructure, ACMA

* 1. Licensing Trends and Practices *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-23)*

Mr. Ron Box, Principal Consultant, Box Consultancy, Australia presented the document. He first provided basic concepts of what a telecommunication license is, and what licensing fundamentals are. He then explained licensing principles including key regulatory questions, potential/defined scope of regulation, and best practice. The presentation then explored licensing frameworks, what licensing trends have emerged and why some of the trends are welcome. Finally he discussed drivers for licensing reform.

* 1. Update on Licensing Regime and Emerging New Trends *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-24)*

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Regulator, Samoa presented the document. She provided an outline of the Pacific Region in term of licensing and explained objectives to be achieved through licensing. She then talked about divergence in licensing with examples from PNG, Vanuatu, and Samoa. Her presentation then covered current licensing regime in Samoa which consists of many regimes, and a proposed licensing regime which could be one license with a Global Authorisation per Service Provider, or licenses to distinguish between operation and services. Finally she talked about recommended regional approach and trends in license simplification.

* 1. Fiji Digital TV Rollout and Licensing

Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, Director Communications, Ministry of Communications, Fiji, presented Fiji Digital Television Rollout and Licensing. He introduced the background of the project and talked about the pricing principle. He then talked about Set Top Box management and PTV option, emerging technology, and licensing model. He then discussed about the launch of the service which was divided into phases; energy efficiency, and some learnings.

* 1. Spectrum Management and Licensing Reform *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-26)*

Mr. Giles Tanner, General Manager, Communications Infrastructure, ACMA presented the document. He introduced the Spectrum Review and reform opportunities. He then talked about current Australian framework which has three licensing systems and a new legislation toward a single license system. His presentation then discussed about a number of current spectrum licensing issues of likely mutual interest within the region.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

A delegate from Vanuatu asked about transmission network used for Digital TV.

Mr. Shivnesh Prasad answered that currently it used microwave network from Telecom Fiji.

Ms. Tepua Hunter asked Samoa about necessity of submarine cable landing license

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti answered that it was in the list and has been issued but personally thinks that it is not necessary.

Ms. Roberti commented on convergence and integration between mobile and fixed.

The meeting also discussed other issues including the licensing for disaster, which is a priority area for regulation harmonization, and different types of license such as network license and application license.

1. Session 8 - Closed Session on Policy and Regulation *(Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 15:45-17:15)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, Director Communications, Ministry of Communications, Fiji

* 1. Discussion

Session Chairman requested Members to submit topics for discussion prior to the session. The topics submitted included:

* OTT Services
* Spectrum Management
* Emergency Telecommunications
* ICT Policies and Regulations
* Deregulation
* Universal Services
* Quality of Service
* PACCERT

The meeting discussed issues relevant for those topics and actions to be taken.

1. Session 9 – Resource Protection: Cyber Threat and Security *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 9:00-10:30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Joseph McCarroll, Assistant Director, Department of Communications and the Arts, Australia

* 1. Resource Protection: Cyber Threat and Security *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-27)*

Mr. Paul Wilson, Director General, APNIC, Australia, presented the document. He started by talking about safety in the real world with different types of threats, with an example of fire department and safety ecosystem with incident response capabilities. He then related it to Internet safety with many types of threats, and function of CERT as compared to the fire department. He then discussed about circles of Trust, their growth and evolution. His presentation covered CERT establishment and implementation plan. Finally he summarized that CERT is a critical component of Internet Society.

* 1. APT-KISA Research on Status of Law and Policy on Cybersecurity and Data Transfer in APT member Countries *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-28)*

Mr. Yul Uhm, Programme Officer, APT presented the document. He first introduced Big Data creation and utilization, the advent of IoT and wearable devices. He then covered the trend of IoT, Cloud, Big Data, and Mobile, and the risk of data violation in the new ICT environment. The presentation then explored global trends of overseas transfer of personal data with example of EU and APEC. Finally he explained about the purpose of APT-KISA research on personal data protection and research results in 2016 and the plan for research in 2017.

* 1. Cyber Security: Australia’s Strategy Initiatives and Threat Environment *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-29)*

Ms. Megan Ford, Advisor, International Partnerships, CERT Australia, presented the document. She started with the introduction of Australia’s cyber security strategy with five themes of action, its key achievements and its future plan. Her presentation then talked about CERT Australia and cyber threat environment including actors, motivations, and key trends in 2016. Finally she made a short introduction about APCERT.

* 1. Domain Names Systems (DNS) Abuse and KSK rollover *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-30)*

Mr. Save Vocea, Regional Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement - Oceania, ICANN, presented the document. He started with an explanation of DNS Abuse with various examples and how bad actors can attack the DNS. He then discussed Abuse in ICANN context with an introduction of Public Safety Working Group. Later he explained examples of abuse such as Malware, BotNet, DDoS, and Phishing and where to learn more about those abuses. Finally he discussed DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Key Signing Key (KSK) rollover.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

Mr. Wisit asked Ms. Ford if CERT Australia shares information with the Australian Department of Defence and if the Department of Defence has its own CERT. Ms. Ford replied that the Australian Government has an agency to take care its “.gov” domain including Defence.

Mr. Punaha thanked APNIC and ICANN for their support for capacity building.

The meeting also discussed about filtering systems and the jurisdiction issue.

1. Session 10 – Issues of Climate Change and Importance of Telecommunication and ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 10:45-12:15 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Ms. Tepua Hunter, Director of ICT, Office of the Prime Minister, Cook Islands

* 1. E-resilience in the Pacific islands within the context of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-31)*

Mr. Iosefa Maiava, Head, UNESCAP Pacific Office in Suva presented the document. He first discussed natural disasters impact on ICT infrastructures, including fiber-optic cable, in the Pacific, and then explained lessons learnt from the Post Disaster Needs Assessment. His presentation then covered the Asia-Pacific Information Super Highway initiatives, its objectives and potential areas of contribution to Pacific island countries. Finally he introduced the Asia-Pacific ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Gateway.

* 1. Climate Change and the Importance of Telecommunications and ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-32)*

Ms. Salma Farouque, Pacific Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), World Food Programme (WFP) presented the document introducing the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) and the meaning of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). She then discussed climate challenges in the Pacific and various global and local framework for Pacific Island region. Her presentation covered various uses of ICTs and telecommunications for DRR, and emphasized the importance of system integrity.

* 1. Full Time Active Volcano Surveillance, Geo-hazards monitoring, and Creating Disaster Emergency Information Dissemination Station in Vanuatu *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-33)*

Dr. Kader Pramanik, Advisor to the President, JTEC Japan presented the document introducing this APT EBC-J3 project for Vanuatu, and explained some adjustment to the project design due to situation change after cyclone PAM. He also explained complexity and limitations of the project. His presentation then explored achievements with this project, lessons learned from the project, recommendations for the way forward, and provided some suggestion when formulating similar projects in the future.

* 1. Issue of Climate Change and Importance of Telecommunication and ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction on "Development of National Emergency Telecoms Plans for Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-34)*

Mr. Donnie Defreitas, PiRRC presented the document summarizing that there is a lack of coordination and communication policies, plans, tools to provide solution for preparedness, response and recovery in the Pacific and the development of National

Emergency Telecommunications Plans will help in establishing baseline for an effective approach to disaster management. He then explained more details on the development and status of NETPs in the Pacific as well as its content which should address four phases of any disaster or emergency.

1. Session 11 – Special Session on “Girls in ICT Day” *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 13:45-14:30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, APT

Mr. Wisit Atipayakoon, Programme Officer, ITU provided a brief introduction of International Girls in ICT day, how it was celebrated in other regions, and presented an example of celebration in Africa.

The APT Secretary General then provided a brief summary on the number of celebrations that have been organized in Asia-Pacific in the past, including Samoa, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea.

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Regulator, Samoa, presented pictures of events that have been organized to celebrate the day in 2015 and 2016.

Ms. Dalsie Baniala, Regulator, Office of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator, Vanuatu, then shared information on the activities that have been organized in Vanuatu for previous year as well as activities that were going on for this year to celebrate the event.

Mr. Charles Punaha, CEO of NICTA, Papua New Guinea, gave an overview on NICTA’s current situation for the percentage of women staff at NICTA, and provided information about Girls in ICT Tertiary Scholarship as well as other activities such as training and development of female officers as part of the celebration.

Ms. Kalaya Chinatiworn from Thailand also shared activities that we organized in Thailand to celebrate the event for this year, and Mr. Joseph McCarroll also shared activities that have been done in Australia.

1. Session 12 – Telecommunications Regulatory Proposal for the Pacific *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 14:30-15-30 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Stuart Davies, Consultant, APT

* 1. International Mobile Roaming Regulation and the Pacific: 2017 and Beyond *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-35)*

Mr. Scott Minehane, ITU Expert presented the document introducing the background to International Mobile Roaming and primary problem associated with IMR which is the persistence of high IMR prices. He discussed the global and regional exemplar IMR practices in terms of roaming charges. His presentation then talked about issues of IMR in the Pacific in 2013 and current state of development of IMR frameworks and legislation. The presentation also covered implications of OTT and its impact on roaming, the economics of regulatory intervention, and finally provided list of recommendations.

* 1. Countering and Combatting Telephone Numbering Misuse *(Doc. PRFP-10/INP-36)*

Mr. Phil Rushton, Senior Consultant Numbering, InterConnect Communications presented the document introducing the ITU-D project for the study started in 2011. He talked about ITU-T E.156 related to the report on the misuse of E.164 number resources. He then explained the aim of the project and the process which include initial questionnaire, review the response, and develop guidelines for number management best practice guidelines.

* 1. Open Discussion and Q&A

The meeting further discussed about the Australia – New Zealand agreement for voice and data roaming, and that the trend will be for more data roaming and less voice roaming.

1. Session 13 – Panel Discussion on the Way Forward *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 15:45-16:45 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Charles Punaha, PRFP Chairman

* 1. Discussion

The chairman, Mr. Charles Punaha introduced the panelists and gave a brief introduction on the intention of this session which was how PRFP can progress.

The first panelist, Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, commented that PRFP was very important and the benefits included knowledge sharing and networking with experts and our peers. He also suggested that PRFP should have a focus or a theme at each Forum. OTT could be a Theme as it is very topical at present. He further commented that future topics could include licensing, convergence and cost models for interconnection. He thought that PRFP was very useful for the region and emphasized the need for future collaboration with other regional/international organizations.

The second panelist Ms. Unutoa Fonoti advised that PRFP was very important for the region and facilitated the meeting with and hearing from many experts. Unutoa supported the region working together as a team so that all ICT administrations progressed at the same level. She emphasized the need for further work on child protection as this was very important in the region. She also commented that the Pacific needed to become a smart region and lastly that the Pacific needed fast, reliable and affordable ICT services.

Ms. Tepua Hunter, the third panelist, advised that PRFP was very important for the region and gave the delegates the opportunity for other organizations to hear the Pacific problems and challenges. Tepua also commented that a stock take on the region’s development needed to be undertaken so that we could see where we are. She also emphasized the need of moving forward together as a region with no gaps.

The next panelist, Mr. Keith Moala, highlighted the difference between regulating physical properties and information dealing with content. However he stressed that regulation was very important.

The final panelist Mr. Charles Punaha thanked the Governments of Australia and Japan for supporting PRFP and he hoped that this support would continue. He noted the high level of interaction at the Forum which showed the delegated interest in the meeting. He also praised the holding of the workshop in conjunction with PRFP as this greatly added value to the PRFP. Charles further commented on the need for the introduction of self-regulation where the industry regulates themselves by drawing up standards etc. This method has been very successful in Australia and reduced the need for the regulator to be continuously involved.

The Chairman then invited comments from the floor.

Mr. Bob Horton suggested the formation of Working Groups to work on various issues between PRFP’s. He then listed a number of possible Working Groups which could be set up to further progress on licensing framework for disaster relief, service developments, economic regulation, isolated Pacific issues and self-regulation.

Mr. Christopher Hose, ACMA commented that this meeting had been very valuable for ACMA to learn about the concerns of the Pacific. He also advised that the sections in ACMA very specialized and it was difficult for ACMA to have a full representation at PRFP covering all sections.

Mr. Joseph McCarroll, Department of Communications, Australia, advised that Australia fully supported PRFP.

1. Session 14 – Plenary and Closing *(Thursday, 27 April 2017, 16:45-17:15 hrs.)*

Session Chairman: Mr. Charles Punaha, PRFP Chairman

* 1. Consideration of Issues to be included in the draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018 – 2020

Secretary General explained the status of the draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 which has been drafted and circulated to members for comments. She also encouraged members to participate in the 2nd meeting of CGSP which will be held in Sri Lanka in July. She explained that the new Strategic Plan need to be finalized by September because some countries may need internal clearance. Chairman asked for comment from the meeting and there was no comment.

* 1. Date and venue for the PRFP-11

Fiji agreed to host the next PRFP if there are no other offers.

* 1. Any other matters

Delegates from Australia, Tonga, Cook Islands, Kiribati, and others thanked Fiji as the host and APT for wonderful arrangements and support for the forum.

* 1. Closing Remarks – Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, APT

Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, APT delivered closing remarks

* 1. Closing Remarks – Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP delivered closing remarks and declared the meeting closed.

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