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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY  **The South Asian Telecommunication Regulators’ Council (SATRC) Workshop on Policy, Regulation and Services**  3 – 5 July 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal |  |

**Concept Note**

**Background**

The 17th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators’ Council (SATRC-17) held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 4 to 6 October 2016 approved the SATRC Action Plan Phase VI for the implementation period of 2017-2018. SATRC Action Plan consists of three basic activities: working groups, capacity building and web portal. SATRC Workshops are held as part of activities under capacity building with the objective of developing the capacity of human resources of the regulators of SATRC Members.

Five work items were identified for the activities of SATRC in relation to policy, regulation and services during the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase VI:

1. Regulatory approaches to enhance broadband experiences
2. Policy and regulatory aspects of infrastructure sharing
3. Enhanced consumer protection in digital economy (taking into account the issues of Cybersecurity, Big Data and Data sovereignty)
4. ICT regulatory framework for M2M communications and IoT for the SATRC countries
5. Regulatory framework for Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNO)

**Objectives**

The SATRC Workshop on Policy, Regulation and Services will be held as part of implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase VI. The objective of the workshop will be to give an in-depth analysis on the above work items to increase the understanding of the officers who are involved in policy, regulation and services related issues. It will give an opportunity for the SATRC Members to share their experiences and future plan on those work items among themselves and with industry and engage in discussion. A number of eminent experts and speakers will be invited at the workshop.

**Expected Participation**

The SATRC Workshop on Policy, Regulation and Services will be targeted for high and mid-level officers of the SATRC Members who are involved in the issues related to the above mentioned work items. It is expected that the experts of the SATRC Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services will also attend the workshop. Further, relevant experts from industry are also welcome to participate at the workshop.

**Expected outcomes**

* Enhanced understanding of the SATRC Members on above mentioned work items on policy, regulation and services
* Discussion will provide guideline to SATRC Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services to develop tangible outcomes on the work items during the implementation of SATRC Plan Phase VI.

**Timing and location**

3 – 5 July 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal

**Contact persons**

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**Tentative Draft Programme**

Annex A

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**Tentative Draft Programme**

**SATRC Workshop on Policy, Regulation and Services**

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| **Time** | **Day 1: 3 July 2018** |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | **Opening**   * Welcome Address by Asia-Pacific Telecommunity * Inaugural Address by Nepal Telecommunication Authority (NTA)   (Group Photograph) |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | **Coffee/Tea Break** |
| 10:30 - 11:15 | **Session 1 – *Reviewing the activities of SATRC WG on Policy, Regulation and Services***   * Strategic Plan of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity for 2018-2020 * SATRC Action Plan Phase VI and activities of the SATRC WG on Policy, Regulation and Services |
| 11:15 – 12:30 | **Session 2 –** ***Regulatory Approaches to Enhance Broadband Experiences***  This session will focus on the regulatory issues to enhance the broadband experiences towards smart digital economy and discuss about the necessary steps. The focused issues will cover the followings:   * Examine the regulatory challenges for development of broadband connectivity and identify the issues * Regulatory framework for the development of broadband network in SATRC countries |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 2 –** ***Regulatory Approaches to Enhance Broadband Experiences (contd...)***   * Domestic and international interconnection scenario on the broadband network * Examine the status of broadband services in local/regional languages |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:45 – 17:15 | **Session 2– *Regulatory Approaches to Enhance Broadband Experiences (contd...)***   * Initiatives that can be taken to promote broadband services, especially in rural areas to enhance the broadband experience |
| **Time** | **Day 2: 4 July 2018** |
| 9:30 – 11:00 | **Session 3 – *Policy and Regulatory Aspects of Infrastructure Sharing***  This session will focus on various policy and regulatory aspects of passive and active infrastructure sharing. The focused issues will cover the followings:     * Various forms and models of infrastructure sharing * Current regulatory framework for infrastructure sharing in SATRC countries |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | **Coffee** **Break** |
| 11:15 - 12:45 | **Session 3 – *Policy and Regulatory Aspects of Infrastructure Sharing (contd...)***   * Best practices and case studies on policy and regulatory solutions to encourage efficient infrastructure sharing |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 4** ***– Enhanced Consumer Protection in Digital Economy (including Cybersecurity, Big Data and Data Sovereignty)***  This session will cover the pro-active regulatory measures and initiatives geared towards educating and empowering consumers in terms of the rights of the users in an open, transparent and inclusive digital world. The focused issues will cover the followings:     * Sharing best practices for educating consumer and putting in place the regulatory measures on privacy, security, fighting illegal/harmful contents, copyright and online delivery * Addressing consumer right, trust and redressal |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | **Coffee/Tea Break** |
| 15:45 – 17:15 | **Session 4** – ***Enhanced Consumer Protection in Digital Economy (including Cybersecurity, Big Data and Data Sovereignty) (contd...)***   * Regulatory practices for maximizing the use of Big Data for socio-economic benefit * The issue of data sovereignty in the context and appropriate regulatory measures to ensure data sovereignty |
| **Time** | **Day 3: 5 July 2018** |
| 9:30 - 11:00 | **Session 5** – ***ICT Regulatory Framework for M2M Communications and IoT for SATRC Countries***  The policy and regulatory challenges for M2M and IoT are enormous and involve reshaping regulations and opening avenues for imaginative new policies. This sessions will focus on various policy and regulatory aspects of M2M communications and IoT such as:     * Quality of Services in M2M/IoT * M2M roaming requirements |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | **Coffee/Tea Break** |
| 11:15 - 12:45 | **Session 5** – ***ICT Regulatory Framework for M2M Communications and IoT for SATRC Countries (contd...)***   * Licensing, numbering and other regulatory aspects * M2M/IoT ecosystem |
| 12:45 – 14:00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 6** – ***Regulatory Framework for Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNO)***  Most of the countries on SATRC have yet to adopt a formal position with respect to MVNO. This session will focus on the possible regulatory framework for the operation of MVNO. The issues to be discussed will include:   * Prospective of MVNO market in SATRC countries * Best practices and existing framework for MVNO * Regulatory challenges towards VNO |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | **Coffee/Tea Break** |
| 15:45 – 16:30 | **Session 7 – Summary of Discussion and Closing**   * Summary/key points on the work items discussed at the workshop * Closing remarks |