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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document:**  **PRF-17/ OUT-01** |
| **17th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-17)** |
| 24-26 July 2017, Colombo, Sri Lanka | 2 November 2017 |

Secretary General

summary record of the 17th apt

policy and regulatory forum (prf-17)

1. INTRODUCTION

The 17th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-17) was held from 24 to 27 August 2017 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The meeting was hosted by the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL).

The agenda and the programme of the meeting are contained in Documents PRF-17/ADM-01 and PRF-17/ADM-02 (Rev.4) respectively.

The meeting was attended by 140 participants from APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, Regional/International Organization, other organization and the APT Secretariat. Document PRF-17/ADM-03 contains the list of participants of the meeting.

His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka was also presided over the opening session.

1. Opening Session *(Monday, 24 August 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 PRF17-4/INP-01.

* 1. Address by Chairman of PRF, Mr. Yasuhiko Taniwaki

Mr. Seiji Takagi, delivered the speech on behalf of outgoing Chairman of PRF, Mr. Yasuhiko Taniwaki. The full text of the address is provided in document PRF-17/INP-02.

* 1. Inaugural Address by Mr. Austin Fernando, Secretary to the President & Chairman of TRCSL

Mr. Austin Fernando, Secretary to the President and Chairman of TRCSL delivered the Inaugural Address. The full text of Mr. Austin Fernando is provided in document PRF-17/INP-03.

1. Session 1 - PLENARY *(Monday, 7 August 2017, 10:30-12:15 hrs.)*
   1. Adoption of Agenda *(Doc. PRF-17/ADM-01)*

Mr. Seiji Takagi, representative of Chairman of PRF introduced the provisional Agenda of the Meeting. He sought comments for the document. As there was no comment, it was approved.

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| **Decision No. 01 (PRF-17)** |
| The meeting adopted the Agenda of PRF-17 as proposed in document PRF-17/ADM-01. |

* 1. Election of Chairman of PRF

Secretary General of APT informed the meeting that Mr. Kingsly Fernando, Director General, Telecommunication Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka was nominated from the host as Chairman of PRF.

With the acclamation of the meeting, Mr. Kingsly Fernando, TRCSL, Sri Lanka, was elected as the new Chairman of PRF and will continue his chairmanship until the next PRF meeting in 2018 according to the Working Methods of PRF.

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| **Decision No. 02 (PRF-17)** |
| The meeting elected Mr. Kingsly Fernando as the new Chairman of PRF. |

Mr. Kingsly Fernando made a short remark about his chairmanship and presided over the meeting.

* 1. Outcomes of the 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT Relevant to PRF *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-04)*

Secretary General of APT presented the outcomes of the 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-40) that were relevant to PRF. MC-40 adopted the report of PRF-16, approved the revised working method of PRF, and approved holding of PRF in 2017.

* 1. Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015-2017 *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-05)*

Mr. Masanori Kondo, Deputy Secretary General of APT, presented the Implementation Status of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015-2017. PRF was requested to review Document MC-40/INP-27 and provide any further update and review the implementation status if relevant.

* 1. Status of the draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-06)*

Deputy Secretary General of APT presented the Status of the draft 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. The 2nd meeting of the Correspondence Group for Strategic Plan will be held back to back with PRF-17.

* 1. Updates on Sub-regional Issues on Policy and Regulation *(Document PRF-17/INP-07 to INP-10)*

Mr. Charles Chew, Vice-Chairman of PRF (Southeast Asia) presented policy and regulatory update for Southeast Asia as contained in document PRF-17/INP-07. He highlighted key regulatory updates which could be clustered into 3 broad categories i.e. timely release of spectrum, new regulatory frameworks and policies, and new acts and regulations. He then presented the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020) highlighting its 5 key outcomes and 8 strategic thrusts, and its focus area of thrusts and action points for 2017. Finally he highlighted some TELSOM-ATRC Projects in 2017.

Mrs. Tharalika Livera, Vice-Chairman of PRF (South Asia) presented policy and regulatory update for South Asia as contained in document PRF-17/INP-08 (Rev.1). She highlighted some statistics, described Action Plan of SATRC, and explained policy and regulatory aspects of Infrastructure Sharing, regional initiatives on M2M and IoT, regulatory approaches to enhance broadband experiences, regulatory framework for MVNO. Finally she summarized the outcomes of the previous Action Plan.

Ms. Mina Jun, Vice-Chairman of PRF (East Asia) presented policy and regulatory update for East Asia as contained in document PRF-17/INP-09. She introduced AI technology and industry, as well as AI development policies in China. She then talked about IoT Comprehensive Strategy in Japan, Republic of Korea’s AI policy framework, policy direction and implementation system. Finally she covered Mongolia’s 3 phases of sustainable development concept 2030.

Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui, Vice-Chairman of PRF (Pacific) presented policy and regulatory update for Pacific as contained in document PRF-17/INP-10. He highlighted the importance of PRFP and introduced various key stakeholders in terms of policy and regulation in Pacific region. He then presented the Pacific Islands Regional ICT Strategic Action Plan (PRISAP) 2015-2020 adopted by Islands to guide the development of ICT in the sub-region. He then introduced the Pacific Islands Regulatory Resource Centre (PiRRC), its functions and current program. Finally he highlighted issues and challenges for Pacific such as regulation of OTT services, emergency Telecommunications, etc.

Chairman thanked all Vice-Chairmen for the updates and opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Sulyna Abdullah, Malaysia, thanked all Vice-Chairmen for the updates and asked Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui on how the PiRRC works. Mr. Gulo-Vui replied that it basically facilitates information sharing and provides guidance to member countries.

* 1. Updates on ITU Global Symposium for Regulators 2017 *(Document PRF-17/INP-11)*

Mr. Sameer Sharma, Senior Advisor ITU, presented updates on the 17th edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-17). He provided a brief introduction about GSR and specifically the outcomes from GSR-17 which was held one week prior to PRF-17. He then explained three key themes which were strengthening the regulatory foundation for affordable access to digital services, further adapting and scoping incentives for delivering digital services, and next-generation incentives for affordable services. GSR-18 will be held in Geneva with the theme of Exploring new regulatory frontiers in the digital economy.

1. session 2 – Roundtable on ICT Policy and Regulatory Trends *(Monday, 24 July 2017, 14:00-15:30 hrs.)*

Session Chair: Mr. M. Kingsly Fernando

* 1. Keynote Address by ITU on ICT Trends and Developments in Asia and the Pacific *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-12)*

Mr. Sameer Sharma, Senior Advisor ITU, made a keynote address on ICT Trends and Developments in Asia and the Pacific. The presentation provided an overview of trends and developments in ICT infrastructure, access and use in the Asia-Pacific region, which includes 40 economies and is home to a population of 4.1 billion people. It highlighted how the ICT sector has continued its remarkable transformation and is impact on society and economic and social growth since the last WTDC-14. It also tracks the evolution of ICT regulation.

* 1. Roundtable on ICT Policy and Regulatory Trend

Chairman requested all panelists to share their thoughts on Global ICT trends and impacts to respective country, recent development and achievements through ICT policies and regulations, challenges that have been faced in implementing ICT policies and regulations, any issues for coordination among APT members, and any collaborative measures to develop Asia-Pacific region to be the same level as other region.

Mr. Seiji Takagi, Director-General for Internal Affairs, MIC, Japan introduced the basic concept of the policy for IoT/Big Data/AI era, the social changes that have emerged and issues to be addressed. Data-driven society by realization of the solution for problem solution by utilizing data. The total traffic was expected to continue to increase more over the IoT/AI/Big Data era. Three challenges for 5G deployment toward 2020 are Promoting R&Ds and Trials, International Collaboration, and 5G Spectrum/Technical specifications. Three ways for appropriate utilization of personal data under the control by individuals are personal data store, data trust bank, and data exchange market. He then introduced an action plan for advancement of ICT utilization for the whole society towards 2020, highlighted the Brunei Darussalam Statement, and made a brief introduction on JICT fund.

Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, CEO of CAM, Maldives highlighted the phenomenal growth of mobile and data usage. There were challenges for increasing of bandwidth requirement. Spectrum is the most crucial resource for broadband and has impact on cost of service to customer. Policy reform changing focus from providing voice service to national broadband policy. Five policy directives were to provide universal access to all part of the country, develop infrastructure, maintain quality of services, develop content, and provide world class ICT service. Regional cooperation on lowering the broadband connectivity price is required. Security is the issue that no one country can achieve alone, and regional as well as global collaboration is required to provide better security to people.

Mr. Leong Keng Thai, Deputy Chief Executive of IMDA, Singapore highlighted important trend on the 5th generation of regulator as presented by ITU. Digital Economy is about using digital technology to effectively transform traditional economy across different sectors. The bottom layer to achieve digital economy was connectivity /infrastructure. The middle layer was soft infrastructure of policy overlay such as policy governing data protection, harmonization of standards, policy innovation sandbox, etc. The top layer is internal transformation, how can regulators work with other sectors to bring about transformation across jurisdiction boundaries or even within their own countries. He then highlighted some key technologies and challenges which many regulators now face. When speaking about IoT, Mr. Leong opined that a common blueprint on IoT is needed. He then went on to share the uptrend for AI technology was often met with challenges from the policies and ethics angles. Along with IoT and AI, massive data was often created and stored. In this regard, Data protection is the key pillar for trust. In closing, Mr. Leong shared that the role of a regulator was to use regulatory tool to transform and develop, so there is a need to move from regulatory tool as a management tool, to regulatory tool to achieve development and transformation.

Chairman thanked all panelists for their thoughtful presentation. He then posted questions for discussion. Some key highlights were

* In order to maximize the use of ICT, more local language and localized contents will be required.
* Smart device to utilize network would be enough without the need for computer
* ICT center in rural community might be outdated since people would like to have service directly to their home or to themselves.
* In Digital Economy era, connectivity is insufficient and it is needed to look beyond other aspects such as data protection, etc.

1. Session 3 – Business Dialogue: Role of Industry in Building Digital Society *(Monday, 24 July 2017, 15:45 – 17:15 hrs.)*

Session Chair: Mr. Masanori Kondo, Deputy Secretary General, APT

Chairman asked the panelists to make a short presentation before the panel discussion.

* 1. Mobile: At the Centre of Digital Societies in Asia Pacific (Doc. PRF-17/INP-13)

Mr. Austin Menyasz, Senior Manager, Public Policy, GSMA, presented the document.

Asia Pacific has truly become a mobile-first region, and this places the mobile industry at the centre of building digital society. From rolling out the networks that will bring millions of unconnected citizens online to providing innovative digital financial solutions, digital societies will rely on the power of mobile to drive regional growth. In order to benefit from this, governments must put in place an enabling policy and regulatory regime that promotes innovation and competition in the digital space.

* 1. Critical Internet Infrastructure that keeps digital societies humming

Mr. Paul Wilson, Director General, APNIC made a short introduction about APNIC. Internet is the critical part of digital society and Internet Governance is multi stakeholder process. Internet become pervasive and has continued to succeed by following multi stakeholder model of cooperative governance. Transition from IPv4 to IPv6 is necessary to allow future demand. APNIC also has priority to build capacity of member countries.

* 1. The Role of the Satellite Industry in Building Digital Societies *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-15)*

Mr. Daniel Mah, Senior Legal & Regulatory Counsel, SES presented the document.

Ubiquitous connectivity lies at the heart of every vision of a digital society, with everyone connected to a “global network of networks.” Satellites will help build digital societies by enabling ubiquitous connectivity, from the densest urban cores to the hardest-to-reach places. Governments can and should take advantage of the massive private investments that have been (and are being) made in new satellite capacity around the world in order to meet their digital inclusion goals more quickly and more cost-effectively

* 1. Mobile Broadband for Digital Transformation *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-16)*

Mr. Hu Wang, Head of Spectrum Policy, Asia-Pacific Region, Huawei presented the document. ICT infrastructure is a fundamental part to implement digital transformation of society and economy, including business and our daily life. Broadband communications in particular the mobile broadband communications play a critical and important role to enable the digital transformation. The presentation introduced the 5G development with suggestions for policy makers and regulators from the industry perspective.

* 1. Discussion

The panelists discussed widely on the subjects. Key points noted from the discussion:

* It is recognized important aspects of ICT for Digital Society such as role of mobile and satellite as well as Internet as information infrastructure.
* Sharing information on the experience of collaboration effort between government and industry is crucial
* It is important to have an appropriate public and private communication channel, such as PRF, in order to collaborate each other and reflect private sector’s view in the process of formulating policy and regulation.

1. Session 4 – Innovation: “Data” as Basic Component of Digital Society *(Tuesday, 25 July 2017, 9:00-10:30 hrs.)*

Session Chair: Mr. Leong Keng Thai, Deputy Chief Executive of IMDA, Singapore

Chairman asked the panelists to make a short presentation before the panel discussion.

* 1. The Value of Data Driven Innovation in Asia Pacific *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-17)*

Mr. Daniel Gelfer, Head of Strategic Relations, Public Policy APAC, Google presented the document. Data driven innovation is driving APAC economic growth and it could add over USD 300 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA) in APAC by 2020. Data is useful to all companies in all sector. It’s the building block of most products and services we use every day. The important thing is not about the quantity of data but the insights derived from those data.

* 1. Cloud & Cross Border Data *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-18)*

Ms. Chris Perera, Senior Director, International External Affairs, AT&T presented the document. Cross-border data flows now generate more economic value than traditional flows of traded goods. The ability for information to flow across borders will be increasingly important to economic growth. The cost of data localization outweighs any perceived benefits. The inability to utilize less expensive computing solutions, such as cloud-based technology to run their business, will undoubtedly have an effect on both businesses’ and consumers’ access to digital and e-commerce networks.

* 1. Free Flow of Data – Balancing Between Protection and Growth *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-19)*

Mr. Steven Soon, Vice President, Public and Regulatory Affairs, Telenor presented the document. Free flow of data is an essential catalyst for growth and innovation and cross border data is subject to increasing complex and stringent regulation. Globally, data privacy, data security and data protection have been top of the discussion and deliberation among policy makers and regulators. The challenge is to balance the provision of adequate data privacy, security and protection with the need for greater freedom of data flows that drive economic growth and innovation.

* 1. Data Privacy from Sri Lankan Telco Operator Perspective *(Doc. PRF-17/INP-20)*

Mr. Namal Ratnayake, Senior General Manager, Legal & Regulatory Mobitel (Private) Limited Sri Lanka presented the document. The presentation explored why telco operators in Sri Lanka should take into account the privacy of customers in their commercial ventures in the absence of a specific privacy and data protection regime in Sri Lanka, and explored the questions of what benefits a telco can accrue by being privacy-sensitive and what means can a telco employ to be privacy-sensitive.

* 1. Discussion

The panelists discussed widely on the subjects. Key points noted from the discussion:

* Data is a critical enabler in the Digital Economy, be it for public or private sector.
* The value of Cross Border data flow will be grow to be greater than that of traditional trade flow in near future. It is pertinent for governments to be ready for such an evolution.
* Data Localization policies need to be calibrated carefully to protect consumers yet provides an enabling environment for innovative solutions to be produced. Purpose of data localization needs to be clear and clearly communicated to stakeholders.
* Regional collaboration is important. Asia-Pacific region is lagging behind in terms of data protection policies. Platform such as APEC CBPR might be a good avenue to promote such collaboration.

1. Session 5 – Innovation: ict as Enabler for Socio-economic Development *(Tuesday, 25 July 2017, 10:45-12:15 hrs.)*

Session Chair: Ms. Noelle Francesca de Guzman, Regional Programmes Coordinator, ISOC

* 1. Mobile: Driving Growth across APAC (Doc. PRF-17/INP-21)

Mr. Austin Menyaz, Senior Manager, Public Policy GSMA, presented the document. Mobile technologies and services make an enormous contribution to Asia Pacific’s GDP through operator investment, jobs, and improvements in productivity and efficiency. Mobile operators are also increasingly collaborating with other sectors of the economy to help scale innovative and sustainable mobile services. Mobile technology provides access to tools and applications that help address these issues, and enables new technologies and innovations to build more efficient and sustainable societies.

* 1. Sustainable ICTs for Agriculture (Doc. PRF-17/INP-22)

Mr. Gerard Sylvester, Knowledge Management Officer, FAO, presented the document. The FAO-ITU E-agriculture Strategy provides a framework for countries to identify, develop and implement sustainable information and communication technologies for agriculture. E-agriculture strategies will help to rationalize resources (financial and human) and address holistically, the ICT opportunities and challenges for the agricultural sector in a more efficient manner while generating new revenue streams and improve the livelihoods of the rural community as well as ensure the goals of the national agriculture master plan are achieved.

* 1. Digital Opportunities including Start-ups and MSMEs (Doc. PRF-17/INP-23)

Mr. Younghwa Ko, Korea Innovation Center in China presented the document. Korea Innovation Center in China (KIC-China) is a non-profit governmental organization to help Korean startups successfully enter Chinese market, and providing news, education, incubation/acceleration and fund raising service.

* 1. Discussion

Key points noted from the discussion:

* Governments should lead in adopting ICTs, for instance by digitizing services, to help accelerate the use of ICTs and mobile technology by SMEs
* Innovation happens with or without government support, so it is important for governments to get on board by developing policies to enable new and emerging technologies to be harvested for entrepreneurial use
* Practice regulatory forbearance to allow new technologies to take off. It is more important to focus on frameworks that will enable this trend, such as laws that ensure data protection. As the use of new technologies flourish and new services are created from these, competition will emerge and the good services will win through consumer choice.
* Competitiveness and productivity of SMEs will be further enhanced by new technologies like automation. It is important for governments to have a plan (e.g. digital strategy), and to keep an eye on the future.

1. Session 6 – Innovation: Digital Financial Inclusion – Part I

Session Chair: Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, CEO of C, Maldives

* 1. Opportunities and Challenges of MFS – bKash Experience (Doc. PRF-17/INP-26)

Mr. Sheikh Md Monirul Islam, Chief External & Corporate Affairs Officer, bKash Bangladesh presented the document. bKash provides Mobile Financial Service (MFS) under the license of Bangladesh Central Bank as a subsidiary of BRAC Bank. It achieved phenomenal popularity and growth due to its affordable, fast, convenient and secured nature of service delivery. Along with the opportunities, bKash also faced with certain challenges. However, with the regulatory support and focused commitment, bKash aims to surmount the challenges and enhance its servicers with defined target of outreaching larger segment of consumers in conformity with the ‘Financial Inclusion’ objective of the government of Bangladesh.

* 1. Regulating Mobile Financial Services for Financial Inclusion: The Experiences of Bangladesh (Doc. PRF-17/INP-24)

Mr. MD Emdad Ul Bari, Director General (Systems & Services), BTRC presented the document. Bangladesh is one of the few countries where Mobile Financial Service (MFS) kicked-off successfully and is still manifesting immense potential. Regulation is one of the most important aspects that can both facilitate or impede its proliferation. MFS operates on a two-sided platform, and may be regulated by financial, telecommunication, and even competition authorities. As such, challenges associated with the level and complementarity of regulations can be enormous. Bangladesh has mitigated in its own way many such challenges, related mostly to the level of regulations, and has started focusing on the complementarity issues.

* 1. Progressive regulation helps deepening financial inclusion and encourages innovation (Doc. PRF-17/INP-25)

Mr. Fariq Cader, Vice President – Digital Services, Dialog Axiata presented the document. The presentation discussed how regulatory environments impact the development and success of mobile financial services and financial inclusion, considering the cases of Kenya, Peru, Tanzania and then reflecting on Dialog Axiata’s own experience in Sri Lanka.

1. Session 7 – Innovation: Digital Financial Inclusion – Part II

Session Chair: Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah, Chief Officer, Corporate Strategy, MCMC, Malaysia

Chairman asked the panelists to make a short presentation before the panel discussion.

* 1. Regulations on Mobile Financial Services in Myanmar (Doc. PRF-17/INP-34)

Mr. Aung Kyaw Than, Assistant Director, Central Bank of Myanmar presented the document. The presentation covered background information of financial sector in terms of Financial Inclusion with promising new technologies, Financial regulators role in the MFS regulations such as safeguards of MFS operations and funds within such risks, and collaboration among regulators and Mobile Money Services Providers to achieve the goal.

* 1. Innovation – Digital Financial Inclusion (Doc. PRF-17/INP-35)

Mr. Kalhara Gamage, Head of Mobile Financial Services, Mobitel Pvt. Ltd. presented the document. The presentation discussed the Digital Financial Inclusion (DFI) landscape in Sri Lanka and how telecos can innovate the subject matter, explained the challenges when promoting DFI and explored the benefit that society would obtain. He then explained the innovation made by Mobitel Pvt Limited as the National Mobile Service provider with regard to digital Financial Inclusion.

* 1. Mobile Financial Services – Telenor’s Journey (Doc. PRF-17/INP-36)

Mr. Steven Soon, Vice President, Public and Regulatory Affairs, Telenor presented the document. Telenor has more than 15 years of financial services experience and more than 20m active customers in 7 markets. With these experience, it shared what are the challenges in terms of policies and regulatory framework needed to reach universal financial access and what are the issues that need to be resolved among various stakeholders such as regulators, government official, and service providers

* 1. Discussion

The panel invited Chairman and speakers from the previous session to participate in the discussion. Key points noted from the discussion:

* There needs to be collaboration between the telecoms and financial services regulators- not just domestically, but at a regional level – in order to facilitate provision of Mobile Financial Services, especially to the unbanked populations
* Interoperability is key to the success of MFS; while telecom infrastructure and ecosystems are key to Digital Financial Inclusion – they are all interlinked
* Regulation is important; to make sure that we regulate effectively, we need to know why/ the purpose for regulation
* Collaboration with the private sector is imperative – we need to strengthen this; without the private sector, where innovation happens, there would be no digital economy
* Moving forward, collaborative regulation should be the approach; within and between different industries.

1. session 8 – connectivity: developing the digital infrastructure *(Wednesday, 26 July 2017, 9:00-10:30 hrs.)*

Session Chair: Mr. Myers Techitong, Human Resources Department Manager, Palau

* 1. Building Digital Infrastructure for a Smart Nation (Doc. PRF-17/INP-27)

Mr. Janaka R. Abeysinghe, General Manager – Enterprise & Government Business, Sri Lanka Telecom PLC presented the document. A smart nation must ensure that every citizen will have access to high-quality uninterrupted communications and access to Internet at anytime from anywhere. Utilities such as Water, Power and Transportation will require seamless, end-to-end connectivity to communicate with the sensors and other devices and to transmit the collected data for analysis in order to take timely action. Therefore, it is essential to build a digital infrastructure that will allow multiple networks to transmit information smoothly by integrating various wired and wireless technologies. Moving towards the future, improving broadband connectivity will be the key.

* 1. Digital Infrastructure Development in Thailand (Doc. PRF-17/INP-28)

Dr. Phornphan Tannukit, Plan and Policy Analyst (Professional Level), MDES Thailand presented the document. Thai government has set Thailand on a path of digital transformation so that Thailand can become a Digitally-Enabled Economy. According to 20-year Digital Landscape in Thailand Digital Economy and Society Development Plan, Thailand is now in the first phase, digital foundation which is investing and building digital foundation. There are the initiatives of digital infrastructure development in Thailand such as Village Broadband Internet Project, Public Free Wi-Fi Project and ASEAN Digital Hub Project.

* 1. The Programmable World – IoT and Enabling Factors (Doc. PRF-17/INP-29)

Mr. Guillaume Mascot, Head of Government Relations APJ & India, Nokia, presented the document. We are at the eve of a so-called 4th industrial revolution and networks will play a crucial to enabling new forms of growth and competitiveness. 5G and IoT will be major components to fully benefit of the power of cloud and data. Nevertheless governments and regulators have a critical role to play to unlock the new possibilities. We will give an overview on the future evolution of networks and highlight a recent study from the Broadband commission that look after policies and regulations help advance digitalization.

* 1. Bringing the Whole World Online: Identifying and closing the gaps (Doc. PRF-17/INP-30)

Mr. Ashwani Rana, Heads Connectivity Policy for South and Central Asia, Facebook presented the document. Connectivity gives people an unprecedented voice, and helps them connect and share with the people and things that matter most to them. Facebook has been working to help solve the social, economic and technical barriers to connecting everyone. This work includes a number of connectivity solutions which deliver sustainable economic solutions for all

* 1. Discussion

Key points noted from the discussion:

* Connectivity is a foundational requirement for the planning and development of effective policy
* Strategic plans and objectives result in tangible outcomes for the development of national infrastructure projects
* In the absence of opportunities for the equal distribution of scarce resources, thinking outside the box may offer innovative opportunities for growth

1. session 9 – Trust: Promoting security and resilience throug ICT (Wednesday, 26 July 2017, 10:45-12:15 hrs.)

Session Chair: Ms. Chris Perera, Senior Director, International External Affairs, AT&T

* 1. Actions for Cybersecurity (Doc. PRF-17/INP-31)

Ms. Miho Naganuma, Manager, NEC Japan, presented the document. The presentation illustrated the latest trend of cybersecurity and challenges that all nations and organisations face to. During the presentations, actions for cybersecurity with policy and regulatory aspects had been discussed.

* 1. Supporting a Secure, Stable and Resilient Domain Name System (Doc. PRF-17/INP-32)

Mr. Champika Wijayatunga, Regional Security Engagement Manager, ICANN presented the document. The Domain Name System (DNS) is a globally distributed database and a critical part of Internet infrastructure. However, the DNS is not secure enough unless the proper mitigation techniques are deployed. This presentation highlights the importance of disaster preparedness in DNS and to support a secure, stable and resilient DNS ecosystem.

* 1. Disaster Communications in APT Region (APT initiatives and Nepalese Experience) and way Forward (Doc. PRF-17/INP-33)

Mr. Min Prasad Aryal, Deputy-Director, NTA Nepal, presented the document. Asia-Pacific region is the most naturally disaster prone region in the world. APT has significant initiatives to assist for Bridging Gaps & Strengthening the Capacities of Member to respond, prepare, and mitigate for disaster and emergencies. Nepal is also highly prone to natural hazards It is deemed necessary to develop APT common Disaster Work Plan & Response mechanism to be included in the draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020.

* 1. Discussion

Key points and suggestion from the discussion:

* What existing frameworks and standards can be leverage when developing policies on cybersecurity
* Leveraging ICTs for Disaster Response
* Creating a repository of existing global resources on emergency ICT services and technologies, so that governments and organization in the APT region can consider them when preparing their Emergency Strategies

1. Session 10 – Plenary – Way Forward

Session Chair: Mrs. Tharalika Livera, Vice-Chairman of PRF, Sri Lanka

Secretary General informed the meeting that Mr. Kingsly Fernando, Chairman of PRF was unable to join due to unavoidable circumstances. He has sent his apology and requested Mrs. Tharalika Livera, who was also the Vice-Chairman of PRF to chair this session on his behalf.

* 1. Way Forward

Chairman provided brief outcomes of Session 2 - Roundtable on ICT Policy and Regulatory Trends which was chaired by Mr. Kingsly Fernando, chairman of PRF. She then asked all Session Chair to delivered key outcomes of each session. All session chairs or their representative provided brief outcomes of their session accordingly.

* 1. Issues to be included in the Draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020

Chairman asked for comments from the meeting regarding the draft Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020. Malaysia suggested to submit the summary provided by each session chairman to the CGSP-2. Malaysia would like to see Digital Economy as an ultimate aim.

* 1. Election of Vice-Chairmen of PRF

Secretary General informed the meeting the result of coordination with the current incumbent vice-chairmen of PRF, they wish to continue to serve as vice-chairmen for another term, and she requested the meeting to consider the continuation of the current incumbent vice-chairmen. The meeting agreed with the proposal.

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| **Decision No. 03 (PRF-17)** |
| The meeting elected the following vice-chairman for the next 2 years term.   * Mr. Charles Chew, Vice-Chairman of PRF (Southeast Asia) * Ms. Mina Jun, Vice-Chairman of PRF (East Asia) * Mrs. Tharalika Livera, Vice-Chairman of PRF (South Asia) * Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui, Vice-Chairman of PRF (Pacific) |

* 1. Date and Venue of PRF-18

Chairman asked the meeting for the Member who wished to host the next PRF-18.

Mr. Bari from BTRC, Bangladesh informed that Bangladesh propose to host the PRF-18 in Bangladesh and invited all delegates to visit Bangladesh.

Secretary General informed the meeting that Secretariat is considering to have one day with special discussion in some issues. Secretariat would discuss and coordinate with office bearer before the Management Committee in November.

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| **Decision No. 04 (PRF-17)** |
| The meeting agreed for Bangladesh to host the next PRF-18 and the meeting venue will be finally determined by the Management Committee. |

* 1. Any other matters

Samoa highlighted that regulators and policy makers with the presence of the industry and private sector that’s implementing the plan and strategy to put client and customer in the center of policy and regulation to fulfill digital economy. Malaysia highlighted that private sector is the big part of APT and it might be a good time to recognize their contribution and asked to explore the possibility to have an additional vice-chairman representing private sector. Japan thanked the host for warm hospitality and APT for successful arrangement. Bhutan suggested to include agenda about ICT for disable people. Mr. Ilyas on behalf of all delegates thanked TRCSL and Government of Sri Lanka for wonderful arrangement and hospitality.

1. Closing
   1. Remarks by Secretary General of the APT

Secretary General delivered closing remark. She highlighted the importance of discussion in PRF which would bring to the discussion in the CGSP-2 meeting. She thanked all delegates as well as chairman and speakers of all sessions for the contribution. She also thanked TRCSL, chairman of PRF and all staff for their support.

* 1. Remarks by Chairman of PRF

On behalf of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman of PRF (South Asia), delivered closing remark. She thanked APT for excellent support. She thanked all delegates for their presence and contribution, and thanked all Vice-Chairmen of PRF.

She then declared the PRF-17 closed.