 

**APT Symposium on Disaster Management 2019**

24-26 September 2019, Quezon City, The Philippines

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**CONCEPT NOTE**

1. **Background**

In recent years, the Asia-Pacific region has suffered from various kind of natural disaster more frequently and more severe and disasters tend to increase globally. Disaster management issue in overall is considered to be one of the most pressing issues worldwide and must be addressed urgently and all necessary preparation and actions must be taken without any delay to make progress creating a better-prepared disaster risk resilient Infrastructure and society for sustainable development.

The Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 under Strategic Pillar **“Trust**: **Promoting Security and Resilience through ICT”** specifies the action plan to address challenges related to disaster preparedness, risk reduction and mitigation. These include to assist members to develop national emergency telecommunication/ICT strategies; to provide support to members that are prone to natural disasters in establishing ICT-based solutions to assist with disaster preparedness, risk reduction and response, including wireless and satellite-based technologies; to support members to use communication technologies for broadband public protection and disaster relief (PPDR); to share information and experiences on data collection and analysis, early warning systems, business recovery and network reconstruction incorporating disaster-resilient features; and to strengthen collaboration and cooperation among key institutions, players and stakeholders to mitigate and manage risk in disaster management.

The 42nd Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-42) held in Mongolia in 2018 approved activities of the APT for 2019 including the Symposium on Disaster Management. The objectives of the Symposium were to facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan related to disaster preparedness, mitigation and management; provide information and techniques for disaster management activities; provide information and techniques for emergency communications and warning systems to cater for disasters; bring the benefits of ICTs in the disaster prevention and management to member countries and develop their ICT skills to this field; discuss advance disaster communication and network development; and network resiliency against disaster focusing alleviation on congestion in emergency situations, minimizing disruption to communications in the event of damage to base and/or relay stations, implications of the recent disaster in regards to future network infrastructure, and implications of the recent disaster for Internet usage.

In addition, the Singapore Statement of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers on Co-creating a Connected Digital Future in the Asia-Pacific adopted on 26 June 2019 in Singapore to be a new five-year vision for the Asia-Pacific region on the development of telecommunication/ ICT also highlighted the Resilience and Disaster Management and called to promote policies and strategies for sustainable, reliable and resilient telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services to secure their availability, including during disasters, and to support all phases of disaster management, including dissemination of information to assist public safety, health and disaster-relief efforts.

The APT Symposium on Disaster Management 2019 integrates the vision under the Singapore Statement and the relevant action plans of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2019.

1. **Objectives**

The objectives of this Symposium is to address and facilitate an information exchange on use of ICT for disaster management and communications with special focus on preparedness, risk reduction, response and recovery phases for major natural disasters.

The specific objectives include:

* To facilitate the implementation of Strategic Plan of APT for 2018-2020;
* To provide information and techniques for disaster management activities including early warning systems and emergency communications, in disaster management ;
* To bring the benefits of ICTs in the disaster prevention and management to member countries and develop their ICT skills to this field;
* To discuss advance disaster communication and network development;
* To promote the concept of Network Resiliency against Disaster focusing alleviation on congestion in emergency situations, minimizing disruption to communications in the event of damage to base and/or relay stations, implications of the recent disaster in regards to future network infrastructure, and implications of the recent disaster for Internet usage;
* To promote policies and strategies for sustainable, reliable and resilient telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services to secure their availability, including during disasters, and to support all phases of disaster management, including dissemination of information to assist public safety, health and disaster-relief efforts.

1. **Expected outcomes**

The Symposium comprised of a number of sessions with presenters from different disaster relevant stakeholders including government bodies, regional/international organizations, and relevant organizations. The Tentative Programme is in **Attachment 1.**

The primary expected outcomes from the Symposium are as follows:

* Sharing information on current legislative, policy and regulatory issues for the use of ICT and in Disaster Management in overall and challenges;
* Sharing of information on emerging trends of technology and services including use of IoTs and sensor in early warning systems and advanced emergency communications in disaster management;
* Sharing of best practices and experiences on the use of ICT in disaster prevention and management;
* Promoting the concept of Network Resiliency against Disaster;
* Promoting policies and strategies for sustainable, reliable and resilient telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services.

1. **Timing and location**

APT Symposium on Disaster Management 2019 will be held at Park Inn by Radisson - North EDSA, North Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines. The Symposium will be hosted by Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Republic of the Philippines.

1. **Participation**

All APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, International/Regional Organizations, and eligible Non-Members can participate in the Symposium. Non-APT members, with the discretion of Secretary General of APT, may participate the Symposium as “Observers” without fee in consultation with the relevant Member Administration, as appropriate.

1. **Contact Information**

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**Attachment 1**

**APT Symposium on Disaster Management 2019**

**TENTATIVE PROGRAMME**

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| **Time** | **Tuesday, 24 September 2019** |
| 08:30 – 09:30 | Registration |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | **Opening**   * Welcome Address by Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, APT * Inaugural Address by DICT, the Philippines * Presentation of Token of Appreciation   (Group Photograph) |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:30 - 11:00 | **Session 1 – *Introduction***  *The session sets the scene for the Symposium by providing information relevant to the Symposium.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***   * Outcomes of the 42nd Session of the Management Committee of the APT * Outcomes of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 * Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018 – 2020 |
| 11:00 - 12:15 | **Session 2 – *Policy and regulatory issues for the Use of ICT in Disaster Management***  *The session discusses the current legislative, policy and regulatory issues for the use of ICT and in Disaster Management in overall and challenges.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  **Topics:**   * Legislative, policy and regulatory issues for the use of ICT in Disaster Management * International/ Regional/ Internal agreements/ guidelines for improving the use of ICT in Disaster Management * Using ICT in Disaster Risk Management : Damage Assessment and Resource Allocation in Disaster Management   ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations * UN ESCAP-Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction (TBC) * ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (TBC)   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 3 *- Case Study of the APT Member Countries in Disaster Management (Case Study of the Philippines)***  *This session intends to invite various stakeholders of the Philippines who are involved in the Disaster Management and discusses the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and coordination.*  ***Session Chairman: A representative from World Food Programme (TBC)***  **Topics:**   * Use Case for the Implementation of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster in the Philippines * The way to coordinate among various stakeholders   ***Panelists:***   * Representatives from various stakeholders from the Philippines including a Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) representatives   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 15:45 – 17:15 | **Session 4 – *Technical solutions for use ICT in Disaster Management***  *The session will discuss new and emerging trends of technology and services in disaster management.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  **Topics:**   * Digital Mobile Radio Technology Solution for PPDR (Public Protection & Disaster Relief) : Proprietary system, Standard-based system, and Cellular-based system * APT Recommendation on Standard Specification Information and Communication System using Vehicle during Disaster (by ASTAP) * APT Recommendations and Reports on PPDR (by AWG) * Remote Sensing and GIS in Disaster Management   ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations * Office Bearers of APT Work Programmes (e.g. AWG and ASTAP) * Affiliate Members   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 18:30 – 20:00 | **Welcome Dinner Reception hosted by DICT, Philippines** |

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|  | **Wednesday, 25 September 2019** |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Session 5 – *Network Resilience against Disaster***  *The session discusses on how to improve existing telecom and ICT network and build up resilience against natural disasters as well as issues to building up dedicated communication network or adapting existing network for disaster management in order to provide reliable emergency communication.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  **Topics:**   * Emerging New Trends on Network Resiliency Against Disaster * Building up dedicated communication network for disaster management * Network Resiliency from the Design Phase (choice of transmission technology, provisioning of capacity, battery and back-up power supply) * Contingency Plan for Communication Infrastructure   ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations; * Affiliate Members; * International / Regional Organizations;   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:45 – 12:15 | **Session 6 *– Use Cases of IoTs and Sensors in Disaster Management***  *The session showcases and discusses the uses cases of IoTs and sensors in disaster management, in particular uses cases for monitoring of water level, active volcano eruption, etc.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  **Topics:**   * IoTs and sensors in data gathering and early warning * Other Technologies and Applications for Disaster Management   ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations * Affiliate Members   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 12:15 – 14:00 | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 7 – *Satellite, mobile and other technologies in Disaster Management***  *The session intends to discuss the benefits of satellite, mobile, sensor and other technologies in disaster management, in particular early warning before natural disaster occurs as well as emergency communications and ad hoc network during the recovery phase.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  **Topics:**   * Updates on Satellite Communications for Disaster Management / Communication * Mobile Technologies for Disaster Management / Communications * Ad hoc Network and Communication Devices during and after disaster * Other emerging technology such as Drones or AI for Disaster Management   ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations * Affiliate Members   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 15:45- 17:15 | **Session 8 *- Lesson Learned and Experiences in Disaster Management***  *The session discusses best practices and experiences on the use of ICT in disaster management from APT Member administrations as well as pilot projects conducted by APT*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  ***Panelists:***   * Member Administrations * Affiliate Members   Open Discussion and Q&A |
|  | **Thursday, 26 September 2019** |
|  | **Session 9 – *Panel discussion on International Collaboration for Disaster Management***  *This panel session will discuss the current situation of international collaboration frameworks on the Disaster Management such as Emergency Telecommunication Cluster (ETC) and identify issues to ensure coordination across International organizations and various stakeholders.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***  ***Panelists:***   * International / Regional Organizations * APT Secretariat * Member Administrations   Open Discussion and Q&A |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |

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| 10:45 - 11:30 | **Session 10** – ***Way Forward and Closing***  *This session will conclude the Symposium and discuss issues on way forward for the next Symposium.*  ***Session Chairman: (TBD)***   * Topics and issues for next Symposium on Disaster Management   **Closing**   * Closing Remarks by Host Administration * Closing Remarks by Secretary General, APT |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Lunch Break |
| 13:00 – 16:00 | **[Site Visit *(TBD)*]** |