

**SATRC Workshop on Recent Trends and Technologies**

27 – 28 September 2021, Virtual/Online Meting

**CONCEPT NOTE**

1. **Background**

The 19th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators’ Council (SATRC-19) held in Islamabad, Pakistan from 13 to 15 December 2018 approved the SATRC Action Plan Phase VII for the implementation period of 2019-2020. The SATRC-21 held on 27-28 October 2020 virtually had extended the implementation period to 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. 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.

1. **Objectives**

The SATRC Workshop on Recent Trends and Technologies will be held as part of implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase VII. The emphasis of the Workshop will be on recent trends and technologies for providing connectivity and encouraging innovation towards smart digital society. The objective of the workshop will be to give an in-depth analysis on various trends in innovation and technologies for proving connectivity including technical details, policy and regulatory aspects and other aspects. A number of eminent experts and speakers will be invited to conduct the workshop.

1. **Expected Participation**

The SATRC Workshop on Recent Trends and Technologies will be targeted for senior and mid-level officers of the SATRC Members who are involved in the work of related areas. It is expected that the experts of the SATRC Working Groups will also attend the workshop. Further, relevant experts from industry are also welcomed to participate at the workshop.

1. **Expected outcomes**

* Enhanced understanding of the SATRC Members on recent trends in innovation and technologies for providing connectivity and their future implications in the policy and regulation
* Enhanced cooperation among SATRC Members to address the challenging issues related to those in a collective manner.
* Discussion will provide guideline to SATRC Working Groups to develop tangible outcomes on the work items during the implementation of SATRC Plan Phase VII.

1. **Timing and location**

The SATRC Workshop on Recent Trends and Technology will be held from 27 to 28 September 2021 virtually. It was initially scheduled to be held 11 – 13 March 2020 in Nepal. However due to COVID-19 pandemic it was postponed indefinitely. Details are provided in Information for Participants.

1. **Contact**

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1. **Tentative Draft Programme**

The tentative programme of SATRC Workshop on Recent Trend and Technologies is provided in Annex A.

**Annex A**

**Tentative Draft Programme**

**SATRC Workshop on Recent Trends and Technologies**

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| **Time (UTC+7:00)** | **Monday, 27 September 2021** |
| 10:30 – 11:15 | **Virtual Social Networking (*Spatial Chat*)** |
| 11:15 – 11:45 | Zoom Registration |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | **Opening**   * Welcome Remarks – Mr. Masanori Kondo, Secretary General * Keynote Speech – Recent Trends and Technologies   (Group Photograph) |
| 12:00 – 13:30 | **Session 1 –** ***Requirements and challenges for implementation of enhanced mobile broadband***  This session will focus on the requirements and implementation challenges for enhanced mobile broadband specially the wider technological, infrastructural and investment challenges. The issues associated the implementation of 5G will be addressed in the session with a way forward.  **Speakers:**   * SATRC members, experts from industry and academia |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 2 –** ***New Technologies for delivering connectivity until the last mile.***  This session will focus on the new technologies and trends for delivering required connectivity options until the last mile. It will include high throughput satellites, LEO satellites, HAPS etc. Some regulatory aspects and challenges of these technologies will be addressed.  **Speakers:**   * SATRC members, experts from industry and academia |
| **Time (UTC+7:00)** | **Tuesday, 28 September 2021** |
| 12:00 – 13:30 | **Session 3 – *Policy and Regulatory Aspects of IoT and creating a roadmap for future.***  This session will focus on the key policy and regulatory aspects of IoT such as spectrum management for IoT, security, privacy, numbering, and certification. Case studies on the implementation of IoT will also be discussed. Further this session will also include interactive discussion for the way forward and creating an IoT Roadmap for Future.  **Speakers:**   * SATRC members |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Session 4 – *Data Privacy, Blockchain and its applications***  Data privacy is a concerned topics for private individuals as well as associations and government organizations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many sectors are using the digital platform for the day-to-day work. This has increased the number of user and it also increases concerned about how their personal data is being used by public and private sector organizations. Many organizations has considered Blockchain is a viable technology to make the network secure, private and efficient. Blockchain solutions are increasingly being explored, given their inherent characteristics of engendering trust and transparency and user control This session will focus how policy makers and regulators proactively address the concerns of data privacy and how blockchain technology has been trusted and its applications**.**  **Speakers:**   * SATRC members, experts from industry and academia |
| 15:30 – 15:40 | **Break** |
| 15:40 – 16:10 | **Session 10** – ***Summary of Conclusions and Closing***   * Summary of the sessions * Closing |