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| APTlogogreen3 | **ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY** | |
| **The 15th South Asian Telecommunication Regulator’s Council Meeting (SATRC-15)** | **Document**  **SATRC-15/OUT-13** |
| 05 – 07 August 2014, Paro, Bhutan | **07 August 2014** |

**Secretary General**

**Summary records OF THE 15th south asian telecommunication regulator’s council**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The 15th South Asian Telecommunication Regulator’s Council (SATRC-15) was held at Hotel Zhiwa Ling Hotel, Paro, Bhutan from 05 to 07 August 2014. The meeting was organized by the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and hosted by the Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority (BICMA).

The objectives of the meeting were to consider and adopt the outcomes of the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV, adopt new phase of SATRC Action Plan (Phase V) and to share experiences among the regulators. The meeting was attended by 60 delegates representing SATRC member administrations, affiliate members, and the private sectors of the host country.

1. **OPENING SESSION (09:30 – 10:15, Tuesday, 05 August 2014)**
   1. The opening ceremony began with the Bhutanese Tradition.
   2. **Welcome Address by Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Director, Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority**

Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Director, Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority delivered welcome address.

Full texts of Mr. Phuntsho’s speech can be found in document INP-01.

* 1. **Opening Remarks by Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity**

Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General of APT made an opening remark.

Full texts of Mr. Yamada’s speech can be found in document INP-02.

* 1. **Address by Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, Chairman of SATRC**

Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, Chairman of SATRC made an address.

Full texts of Mr. Ilyas’s speech can be found in document INP-03.

* 1. **Inaugural Address by H. E. Mr. D N Dhungyel, Minister of Information and Communication, Kingdom of Bhutan**

H. E. Mr. D N Dhungyel, Minister of Information and Communication, Kingdom of Bhutan delivered the inaugural address.

Full texts of Minister’s speech can be found in document INP-30.

* 1. **Presentation of the Appreciation Plaque**

At the end of opening ceremony an appreciation plaque was handed over to H. E. Mr D N Dhungyel, Minister of Information and Communication, Kingdom of Bhutan by Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada, Secretary General of APT.

1. **SESSION 1 (PLENARY / INDUSTRY-REGULATOR DIALOGUE) (10:30 – 12:00, Tuesday, 05 August 2014)**

The session was chaired by Mr. Ilyas Ahmed of Maldives, Chairman of SATRC followed by Mr. Sonam Phuntsho of Bhutan, new Chairman of SATRC.

* 1. **Approval of agenda and program**

SATRC Chairman, Mr. Ilyas Ahmed of Maldives seeked comments on the draft agenda and program of the 15th SATRC Meeting. As there was no comment, agenda and program were agreed.

* 1. **Handover the chairmanship of the SATRC**

Secretary General of APT mentioned that according to the Terms of Reference of SATRC, Bhutan who is the host of that meeting would take the chairmanship of SATRC for next one year period. He informed the meeting that Bhutan had proposed the name of Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Director of Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority. The chairmanship SATRC was handed over to Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Director, Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority Bhutan.

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| **Decision no. 1 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council appointed Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Director of Bhutan Infocomm and Media Authority as the Chairman of SATRC until the next meeting. |

Mr. Phuntsho, the new Chairman of the SATRC thanked Mr. Ilyas and Maldives for the leadership of SATRC for last one year. Mr. Phuntosho said that he was pleased and proud to become the Chairman of SATRC which was the high level council of the regulators of the nine SATRC member countries. He promised that during his chairmanship he would work for the improvement of SATRC.

**3.3 Industry - Regulator Dialogue: Upcoming Regulatory Challenges in South Asian Context – Cooperation between the Regulators and Industry**

Three presentations were delivered at this session:

* **Towards more effective regulation – Unlocking the Value of Telecom Market** Mr. Didarul Alam, General Manager, Access, Pricing and Licensing, Robi Axiata Ltd., Bangladesh (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-21)
* **Regulatory issues and initiative for migration to IPv**6 by Mr. Srinivas Chendi, Senior Advisor, Asia Pacific Network Information Center (APNIC) (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-22)
* **Regulatory challenges – Perspective of Tashi Infocom** by Mr. Jamyang, Head Planning and Development, Tashi Infocom Ltd. Bhutan

1. **SESSION 2 (INDUSTRY-REGULATOR DIALOGUE) (14:00 – 15:30, Tuesday, 05 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Rajech Kumar Arnold, Member, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

**4.1 Industry - Regulator Dialogue: Upcoming Regulatory Challenges in South Asian Context – Cooperation between the Regulators and Industry (Contd.)**

Fours presentations were delivered at this session:

* **Ensuring effective consumer protection** by Mr. Rajesh Kumar Arnold, Member, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-20)

* **Technology neutrality and the value it can create** by Mr Andras Pali, Chief Technical Officer, Ncell Ltd., Nepal (Doc. SATRC-15/INF-01)
* **5G – Towards a better connected World** by Mrs. Xin Chang, Engineer, Huawei Technologies, P. R of China (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-17)
* **Regulatory challenges – Perspective of Bhutan Telecom Ltd.** by Mr. Pushpa Mani Pradhan, General Manager, B-Mobile, Bhutan Telecom Ltd.

1. **SESSION 3 (INDUSTRY-REGULATOR DIALOGUE) (15:45 – 17:15 Tuesday, 05 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Rajech Kumar Arnold, Member, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

**5.1 Industry - Regulator Dialogue: Issues Related to Spectrum**

Three presentations were delivered at this session:

* **Spectrum harmonization - A mobile broadband opportunity** by by Mr. Jitendra Singh, Director, Government Affairs, Qualcomm India Pvt. Ltd. (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-23);
* **Future mobile spectrum requirement – Creating a sustainable future for mobile broadband** by Mr. Sandeep Karanwal, Director, GSMA Hong Kong Ltd.(Doc. SATRC-15/INP-24);
* **Delinking spectrum authorization from license: Experiences and the way forward** by Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal, Acting Chairman, Nepal Telecommunication Authority (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-25).

1. **SESSION 4 (PLENARY) ( 09:00 – 10:30, Wednesday, 06 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, Chief Executive, Communication Authority of Maldives. The objective of the session was to report the activities of the SATRC Action Plan Phase IV.

* 1. ***Report of Implementation of the SATRC Action Plan Phase IV (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-04)***

Secretary General presented the report of implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. He informed that Action Plan Phase IV had been completed successfully and thanked SATRC members for providing cooperation in the implementation of the Action Plan. He mentioned that two SATRC Working Groups had worked as scheduled and had finalized outcomes of the assigned work items and those had been submitted to the meeting for approval.

Chairman thanked APT Secretariat for reporting the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. There was no further comment and it was approved by the meeting.

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| **Decision no. 2 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil approved the report of the Implementation of the SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. |

* 1. ***Report of the Income and Expenditure for Implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-05)***

Secretary General presented the Report of the Income and Expenditure for Implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. He informed the meeting on the estimated expenditure for Action Plan Phase IV, extra budgetary contributions received from SATRC members, actual expenditure for the implementation and balance of the fund at the end of implementation. He also requested SATRC Members who have not paid their pledged contribution for the implementation of Action Plan Phase IV to kindly arrange the payments. Further, he thanked those SATRC Members who had provided the support in kind in various ways including hosting the meetings during the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV.

Chairman thanked Secretary General for the report and requested the importance of member’s contribution towards implementation of Action Plan. He requested the members who had outstanding dues to provide their pledged contribution in time.

Chairman asked comments from floor on the report. India thanked Secretary General for the detailed financial report and commented whether the advance payment by Bhutan for SATRC Action Plan Phase V would be used for next cycle. Secretary General informed that APT Secretariat had received the advance payment from Bhutan for SATRC Action Plan Phase V and it had been included in the balance and kept for future use. Maldives queried whether the SATRC Meeting was under Action Plan. Secretary General clarified that SATRC meeting was under regular work program of APT and financed by APT regular budget whereas, SATRC Action Plan activities are adopted and financed by SATRC itself. There was no further comment and the report was approved by the meeting.

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| **Decision no. 3 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil approved the report of the Income and Expenditure for Implementation of the SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. |

* 1. ***Report of the Chairman of Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-18)***

The report was presented by Mr. V. K. Agarwal from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, who is also the expert of SATRC Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services. He informed the meeting that due to prior arrangement Mr. Sudhir Kumar Gupta, Chairman of the Working Group was not able to attend. He informed the meeting about the structure of the Working Group, detail of work items and the outcomes of the meeting of Working Group. He mentioned that the Working Groups had finalized six outcomes for approval.

Chairman thanked Mr. Agrawal for providing the update on the Working Group and asked comments from floor. There was no comment. It was noted by the meeting.

* 1. ***Report of the Chairman of Working Group on Spectrum (Doc. SATRC-15/INP-19)***

The report was presented by Mr. Hossein Fallah Joshaghany from Communication Regulatory Authority of Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of Dr. Mina Dashti, Chairman of Working Group Spectrumwho was on study leave and not able to attend. He informed the meeting about the structure of the Working Group, detail of work items and the outcomes of the meeting of Working Group. He mentioned that the Working Group had finalized two outcomes at the SATRC-14 meeting and submitted three outcomes at SATRC-15 for approval.

Chairman thanked Mr. Joshaghanyl for providing the update on the Working Group and asked comments from floor. There was no comment. It was noted by the meeting.

* 1. ***Consideration and Approval of the Outcomes of SATRC Working Groups (Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services)***

Chairman informed that Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services had submitted a tota ofl six outcomes for the approval of SATRC-15 meeting. He informed that the session would consider two of those outcomes in documents SATRC-15/INP-07 and INP-08; and other four outcomes would be dealt in the following session.

***4.5.1 Draft new SATRC Report on t Growth of Mobile Value Added Service (Document SATRC-15/INP-07)***

This document was presented by Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal as SATRC Consultant. He informed that the document contained the draft SATRC Report on the Growth of Mobile Value Added Services. He informed that the issue was one of the work items under the responsibility of the WG and the issue was studied thoroughly during Action Plan Phase IV. He added that the draft report contained the outcomes of the study and a set of recommendations had been provided. He sought approval of the report from Council. He informed that the lead rapporteur was from Pakistan. However, due to his absence the report was completed by the consultant.

Chairman thanked Mr. Ananda for the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 4 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Growth of Mobile Value Added Services. |

***4.5.2 Draft new SATRC report on rationalization of tax structure in telecommunication sector (Document SATRC-15/INP-08)***

The document was presented by Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal as Acting Chairman of Nepal Telecommunication Authority. He informed that the document contained the draft SATRC Report on the Rationalization of Tax Structure in Telecommunication Sector. He informed that the issue was one of the work items under the responsibility of the WG and the issue was studied thoroughly during Action Plan Phase IV. He added that the draft report contained the outcomes of the study and a set of recommendations to the approach of taxation rationalization. He informed that Mr. Purushottam Khanal, expert from Nepal Telecommunication Authority was the lead expert on the work item. He sought approval of the report from Council.

Chairman thanked Mr. Ananda for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He also thanked expert from Nepal Telecommunication Authority for drafting the report. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 5 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Rationalization of Taxation in Telecommunication Sector. |

APT Secretariat informed the two new SATRC Reports which were approved would be posted as output documents of the meeting and would be available on SATRC webpage as outcomes of Action Plan Phase IV.

1. **SESSION 5 (PLENARY)( 10:45 – 12:15, Wednesday, 06 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Lotfollah Saboohi, Acting President of the Communication Regulatory Authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

* 1. ***Consideration and Approval of the Outcomes of SATRC Working Groups (Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services)(Continued)***

Chairman informed that Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services had submitted total six outcomes for the approval of SATRC-15 meeting. He informed that the previous session had considered two of those outcomes and other four outcomes would be dealt in his session. He informed the four outcomes can be found in documents SATRC-15/INP-09, INP-10, INP-11 and INP-14.

***5.1.1 Draft new SATRC Report on Sustainable Broadband Network for SATRC Countries (Document SATRC-15/INP-09)***

This document was presented by Mr. Hossein Fallah Joshaghany from Communication Regulatory Authority of Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of Ms. Azadeh Ahmadian of Islamic Republic of Iran who was the lead expert of the Work Item “Sustainable Broadband Network for SATRC Countries: Addressing the Issues of Interconnection, Backhaul Capacity and Infrastructure Sharing”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on the work item subject. He added that the draft report included a set of challenges and way forward to develop sustainable broadband network in SATRC countries. He sought approval of the report from Council. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 6 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Sustainable Broadband Network for SATRC Countries: Addressing the Issues of Interconnection, Backhaul Capacity and Infrastructure Sharing. |

***5.1.2 Draft new SATRC Report on Applications and Services in Broadband Networks (Document SATRC-15/INP-10)***

This document was presented by Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal as SATRC Consultant. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Applications and Services in Broadband Networks. He informed that the issue was one of the work items under the responsibility of the WG during Action Plan Phase IV and lead expert of the work item Mr. Taifur Rahman from Bangladesh. He added that the draft report contained the outcomes of the study and a set of recommendations had been provided. He sought approval of the report from Council.

Chairman thanked Mr. Ananda for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He also thanked expert from Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission for drafting the report. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 7 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Applications and Services in Broadband Networks. |

***5.1.3 Draft new SATRC Report on Mobile Roaming within South Asian Countries (Document SATRC-15/INP-11)***

This document was presented by Mr. Wangay Dorji of Bhutan who was the lead expert of the work item “Mobile Roaming within South Asian Countries”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Mobile Roaming within South Asian Countries He informed that the report reviews the current mobile roaming market in the SATRC region, and explores possible principles that could form the basis for good practices in international mobile roaming (IMR) agreements amongst SATRC member countries. A set of recommendations are also provided in the report in order to implement the mobile roaming in the region at affordable price. He sought approval of the report from Council.

Chairman thanked Mr. Dorji for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 8 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Mobile Roaming within South Asian Countries. |

***5.1.4 Draft new SATRC Report on Migration Strategies to IPv6 (Document SATRC-15/INP-14)***

This document was presented by Mr. Vinit Kumar Agarwal of India who was the lead expert of the work item “Strategies for Migration to IPv6”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Strategies for Migration to IPv6. He informed that the report reviews the current situation of the status and allocation of IPv6, migration situation in SATRC countries and worldwide, and explores possible strategies for the migration of IPv6. A set of recommendations are also provided in the report in this regard. He sought approval of the report from Council.

Chairman thanked Mr. Agarwal for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 9 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Migration Strategies to IPv6. |

Chairman thanked the Chairman and the lead experts of the Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services who worked hard to develop six outcomes.

APT Secretariat informed the four new SATRC Reports which were approved would be posted as output documents of the meeting and would be available on SATRC webpage as outcomes of Action Plan Phase IV.

1. **SESSION 6 (PLENARY)( 14:00 – 15:30, Wednesday, 06 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Tariq Sultan, Member (Finance), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority.

* 1. ***Consideration and Approval of the Outcomes of SATRC Working Groups (Working Group on Spectrum)***

Chairman informed that Working Group on Spectrum had submitted a total of three outcomes for the approval of SATRC-15 meeting. He informed the these outcomes can be found in documents SATRC-15/INP-06, INP-12 and INP-13.

***8.1.1 Draft new SATRC Report on Market Based Methods of Spectrum Management (Document SATRC-15/INP-06)***

This document was presented by Mr. Jaipal Singh Tomar of India who was the lead expert of the work item “Market Based Methods of Spectrum Management”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Market Based Methods of Spectrum Management. He informed that the report reviews different market based approaches of spectrum management from several directions including the practices in several countries and the situation in SATRC Members.

Chairman thanked Mr. Tomar for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 10 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Market Based Methods of Spectrum Management. |

***8.1.2 Draft new SATRC Report on Regional Requirement and Availability of Spectrum for Mobile Broadband( Document SATRC-15/INP-12)***

This document was presented by Mr. Min Prasad Aryal of Nepal who was the lead expert of the work item “Regional Requirement and Availability of Spectrum for Mobile Broadband”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Regional Requirement and Availability of Spectrum for Mobile Broadband. He informed that the report reviews global scenario for the requirement of spectrum for mobile broadband and recommended some strategies for consideration to cater the demand for mobile broadband. He mentioned that the report did not cover the requirements of spectrum for SATRC countries due to the lack of data and suggested to continue the work on the issue.

Chairman thanked Mr. Aryal for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 11 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Regional Requirement and Availability of Spectrum for Mobile Broadband. |

***8.1.3 Draft new SATRC Report on Digital Switchover Plan in SATRC Countries (Document SATRC-15/INP-13)***

This document was presented by Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal, Consultant SATRC on behalf of Ms. Rumana Haque who was the co-lead expert of the work item “Harmonized Use of 700MHz Digital Dividend Band”. He informed that the document contained the draft new SATRC Report on Digital Switchover Plan in SATRC Countries. He informed that the report contained the current scenario of digital switchover situation in SATRC countries. It also touched the regulatory issues related to migration as well as recommendations for SATRC countries.

Chairman thanked Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal for the presentation of the draft SATRC Report and thanked Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission for drafting the report as an outcome. He asked for comments from floor. There was no comment and it was adopted.

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| **Decision no. 12 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil adopted the new SATRC Report on Digital Switchover Plan in SATRC Countries. |

Chairman thanked the Chairman and the lead experts of the Working Group on Spectrum who worked hard to develop three outcomes.

APT Secretariat informed the three new SATRC Reports which were approved would be posted as output documents of the meeting and would be available on SATRC webpage as outcomes of Action Plan Phase IV.

1. **SESSION 7(PLENARY) (15:45 – 17:15, Wednesday, 06 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Chairman, SATRC. The objective of the session was to discuss the proposals for SATRC Action Plan Phase V.

* 1. ***Proposal for SATRC Action Plan Phase V (Document SATRC-15/INP-15)***

Secretary General introduced the document related the proposal for SATRC Action Plan Phase V. He mentioned that SATRC has just completed the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV which was initiated at the 13th SATRC Meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal for the implementation period of 2012-2014. He further mentioned that two Working Groups of the SAP Phase IV had worked very efficiently and developed the outcomes as planned in a timely manner. Further, financial situation of the SATRC Fund was able to support the activities of the Working Groups very well. Hence, he requested to maintain the same structure for the proposed Action Plan Phase V. He also explained the estimated income and expenditure for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V. He mentioned that detail of the proposal could be found in document SATRC-15/INP-15.

Chairman thanked Secretary General for the proposal of SATRC Action Plan Phase V. Chairman expressed his support for the proposal from Secretariat considering the successful result of SATRC Action Plan Phase V. He mentioned that the proposal would be discussed at the heads of delegation meeting in the evening. The document was referred to the heads of delegation meeting for discussion.

* 1. ***Proposed Work Items for SATRC Action Plan Phase V (Document SATRC-15/INP-16Rev.1)***

Mr. Kumarapathirana from APT Secretariat introduced document SATRC-15/INP-16(Rev.1) which contained the proposals of new work items for the proposed new SATRC Action Plan Phase V. He informed that Secretariat had compiled the work items received from two SATRC Working Groups and SATRC Members. Mr. Kumarapathirana mentioned that Secretariat had received 7 work item proposals for Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services and 8 work item proposals for Working Group on Spectrum. The detail of each proposal can be found in document. He requested the meeting to consider the work items for inclusions during the implementation of SATRC Action Plan Phase V.

Chairman thanked APT Secretariat for compiling the proposals received from the Working Groups and SATRC Members. He commented that number of items proposed was too many and needed to be discussed at the head of delegation meeting for finalizing. The document was referred to the heads of delegation meeting for discussion.

* 1. ***Proposal from SATRC Members for Action Plan Phase V (Document SATRC-15/INP-26)***

Chairman informed that a proposal had been received from Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) for inclusion in SATRC Plan Phase V. He requested the delegation of BTRC to present the proposal. Dr. Rajesh Palit, delegate of BTRC presented document SATRC-15/INP-26 which contained proposal to organize a regional training program mobile applications development for South-Asian countries in Bangladesh. He mentioned that the objective of proposal was to improve knowledge and skills through training on latest mobile application development technology for effective use of mobile phone and preparing them in domestic and international markets. He mentioned that the outcomes of the proposal would bring additional and valuable inputs for supporting the skills development and contribution in overall development. He also explained further detail of the proposal including detail program and budget required.

Chairman thanked BTRC for the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was interesting. Sri Lanka also expressed views that the mobile applications development was an important issue for consumer and need to be considered by the regulators. Chairman suggested to discuss the issue at the head of delegation meeting.

1. **SESSION 8 (FINAL PLENARY) (09:00 – 10:30, Thursday, 07 August 2014)**

This session was chaired by Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Chairman of SATRC. Chairman mentioned that the agenda of the final session of the plenary was available in document SATRC-15/ADM-04. He sought approval of the Agenda. He further mentioned that the heads of delegation meeting had met previous evening to finalize the SATRC Action Plan Phase V and other issues and those had been included in the agenda for the approval of the Council.

* 1. ***Presentations on Sharing Regulatory Experiences and Challenges:***

Three presentations were delivered from Telecommunication Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) and Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) to share the regulatory experiences and challenges. Those presentations are available in document SATRC-15/INP-27, INP-28 and INP-29 respectively.

Chairman thanked TRCSL, PTA and BTRC for sharing their experiences, achievements and challenges.

* 1. ***Consideration and Approval of the Working Method of SATRC (Document SATRC-15/OUT-01)***

Chairman requested Secretary General to present the document. Secretary General informed that due to the outcomes of SATRC it was necessary to revise the Working Method of SATRC particularly inclusion on Policy Document as an additional deliverable of SATRC. He also added that some other sections of the Working Method had been revised due to the decision of the Head of Delegation meeting to create Vice-Chairman of Working Group.. He sought approval of the Council for the revised Working Method.

Chairman asked comments from floor. There was no comment and it was approved with minor editorial changes as suggested by the Secretary General. The revised Working Method can be found in document SATRC-15/OUT-01(Rev.1).

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| **Decision no. 13 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil approved the revision of the Working Method of SATRC which can be found in document SATRC-15/OUT-01(Rev.1). |

* 1. ***Consideration and Approval of the Joint Statement by SATRC Members for the adoption of regional mobile roaming (Doc. SATRC-15/OUT-02)***

Chairman informed that the new SATRC Report on Mobile Roaming in SATRC Countries which had been adopted by the Council had suggested to develop a joint statement by SATRC Member Regulators to play an important role in making affordable price for mobile roaming in SATRC countries. He added that the heads of delegation meeting discussed the issues in length and developed a text for the statement which can be found in document SATRC-15/OUT-02. He mentioned that similar statement had been adopted at SATRC-14 meeting on the harmonize use of 700 MHz digital dividend band. He sought approval of meeting.

The statement was approved by the meeting with one editorial change. The final version is available in document SATRC-15/OUT-02(Rev.1).

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| **Decision no. 14 (SATRC-15)** |
| Counucil on no. 3s SATRC Report.tyoyoe fo teh CMA and lead expert for teh ubmit final plenary for approval texts posed approval procil approved the Joint Statement by SATRC Members on Adoption of Regional Mobile Roaming. |

* 1. ***Adoption of SATRC Action Plan Phase V (Document SATRC-15/OUT-03)***

Chairman informed the meeting that head of delegation meeting discussed in detail the proposals of APT Secretariat in documents SATRC-15/INP-15 and INP-16 for SATRC Action Plan Phase V. Based on the discussion of head of delegation meeting Secretariat had developed the SATRC Action Plan Phase V which is in document SATRC-15/OUT-03. He requested Secretary General to present the document.

Secretary General mentioned key points of the SATRC Action Plan Phase V:

* To maintain the same structure of the Action Plan as that of the Action Plan Phase IV
* Fours work items for each Working Group
* Yearly one physical meeting of each Working Group
* Two workshops; one for each Working Group related activities
* To maintain the same level of contributions from each country towards SATRC Fund
* Estimated expenses for implementation of Action Plan Phase V US$ 131,817
* Expected grand total income towards implementation of Action Plan Phase V US$ 147,385

Secretary General also pointed out the leadership of the SATRC Working Groups to change or maintain the same.

Chairman thanked Secretary General to present the SATRC Action Plan Phase V based on the discussion of head of delegation meeting. Chairman suggested to consider the document step by step.

Chairman first asked approval for maintaining the two existing working groups. It was approved by the meeting. Regarding the chairmanship of the Working Groups he mentioned that head of delegation meeting had proposed as follows:

* For Working Group Policy, Regulation and Services: Chairman Mr. Wangay Dorji (Bhutan) and Vice-Chairman Mr. Abdus Samad (Pakistan)
* For Working Group Spectrum: Chairman Mr. Sudhir Gupta (India) and Vice-Chairman from Sri Lanka (name to be confirmed at later stage)

Chairman asked comments from floor. There was no comment and it was approved by the meeting. Chairman mentioned that current experts in the Working Groups should continue their involvement unless any change offered by the respective regulators. He suggested all the regulators to nominate more than one expert for each Working Group in order to maintain the continuity of work. Secretary General indicated that APT Secretariat would send letter to each SATRC members on the nomination of experts.

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| **Decision no. 15 (SATRC-15)** |
| 1. Council decided that the current two Working Groups of SATRC to continue. 2. Council nominated Mr. Wangay Dorji (Bhutan) as Chairman and Mr. Abdus Samad (Pakistan) as Vice-Chairman of WG Policy, Regulation and Services 3. Council nominated Mr. Sudhir Gupta (India) as Chairman and Sri Lanka (name to be confirmed later) as Vice-Chairman of WG Spectrum. |

Chairman then asked approval on the work items allocated for each working groups. He mentioned that head of delegation meeting decided to allocate four work items for each Working Group for effective outcomes and the items were selected carefully. There was no further comment and those were approved. Council also approved one physical meeting per year for each Working Groups and the two proposed workshops related to the activities of the Working Groups.

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| **Decision no. 16 (SATRC-15)** |
| 1. Council decided following four work items for WG Policy, Regulation and Services  * Measures to protect interests of consumers of telecom services * Policy, regulatory and technical aspects of OTT services in SATRC Countries * Emerging licensing framework including exit and relicensing policy * International connectivity for the provision of providing broadband services  1. Council decided following four work items for WG Spectrum  * Spectrum re-farming in SATRC countries * Spectrum requirement estimation for IMT in SATRC countries * Increasing role of network sharing regulation for SATRC countries: From passive network sharing to mobile virtual network operation * Non-Ionizing radiation safety in frequency bands used for mobile telephone  1. Council approved one physical meeting each year for both the Working Groups 2. Council approved holding two workshops. |

Chairman then asked comments from floor regarding the proposal of BTRC for the inclusion of Regional Training Program on Mobile Applications Development in SATRC Action Plan Phase V. Chair commented that the proposed training program a bit different from usual SATRC activities and needed to check in terms of the value to SATRC regulators. He asked comments from floor.

India commented that the idea contained in the proposal was good indeed. However, India mentioned that it was not clear what was exact purpose of the training program and whether that should be considered under SATRC activities. India particularly mentioned that in most cases regulators are not directly/indirectly involved in the development of applications for mobile phones.

Nepal also supported the views of India and raised concern of the authority and mandate of regulators in the development of mobile phone applications. Nepal also queried if the personnel from regulatory bodies were trained then where to use the skill.

Sri Lanka commented that the proposal had its own value and supported the proposals as development of contents was equally important. However, Sri Lanka raised concern on the linkage of the training program in SATRC activities. Maldives also echoed the concerns as raised by India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Chairman commented that it would not be suitable for SATRC activities and better to consider it under other related work program of APT. However, Chairman requested BTRC to provide its comment. BTRC thanked the Council to consider and commenting the proposal of BTRC. BTRC suggested to defer the discussion on the proposal if Members did not agree. Secretary General also suggested whether the proposal could be discussed at the next SATRC Meeting.

Chairman thanked BTRC and Secretary General and proposed to decline the proposal considering the concerns from the SATRC Members. It was removed from Action Plan Phase V.

Chairman than asked comments on the estimated expenses for SATRC Action Plan Phase V activities. Secretary General mentioned that as the training program had been removed from the table the figure would be revised. He indicated that the revised estimated expenses figure would be US$116,817.

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| **Decision no. 17 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council approved the estimated expense of US$116,817 for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V. |

Japan indicated that it would provide Extra Budgetary Contributions for organizing one of the SATRC Workshop. Chairman thanked Japan for the generous offer. It was accepted by the Council.

Chairman then asked comments on the income and pledged contributions by SATRC Members for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V. He asked comments from SATRC Members present at the meeting for their commitment of contributions. All the Members presented at the meeting affirmed their commitments (subject to the approval of their respective Governments) for the pledged amount as indicated in the table in Section 4 of SATRC Action Plan Phase V. It was approved by the meeting.

Secretary General indicated that APT Secretariat would send a letter to each SATRC Members for pledged contribution. Meeting approved the figure of expected income for Action Plan Phase V.

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| **Decision no. 18 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council approved the expected income of US$147,385 for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V including the pledged contributions by SATRC Members as indicated in the table in Section 4 of SATRC Action Plan Phase V. |

Chairman asked comments on the tentative calendar for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V which can be found in Section 5 of the document. He requested Members to host the SATRC activities as planned for Phase V. Pakistan and Sri Lanka proposed to host the Working Group meetings in 2015. Maldives and India proposed to host the Working Group meetings in 2016. Nepal and Bhutan proposed to host the two workshops. The hosting offers were approved by the meeting.

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| **Decision no. 19 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council approved the tentative calendar for the implementation of Action Plan Phase V which is in Section 5 of SATRC Action Plan Phase V including the hosting offer. |

Chairman thanked all the SATRC Members for their comments, commitments and generous offer for SATRC Action Plan Phase V. He requested APT Secretariat to revise the document accordingly. Secretariat informed that the revised Action Plan V was available in document SATRC-15/OUT-03(Rev.1). Chairman thanked Secretariat for the quick preparation of the document and sought approval of the Council. SATRC Action Plan V, as in document SATRC-15/OUT-03(Rev.1) was approved by the meeting.

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| **Decision no. 20 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council approved the SATRC Action Plan Phase V as a whole as in document SATRC-15/OUT-03(Rev.1). |

* 1. ***Date and Venue of 16th SATRC Meeting***

Chairman requested SATRC Members to consider the hosting of 16th SATRC Meeting which would be held in 2015. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India offered to host the 16th SATRC Meeting in India. India mentioned that the exact venue would be communicated at later stage. Chairman thanked India for generous offer and suggested India to consult with APT Secretariat for the timing. It was suggested that August/September time frame would be suitable for 16th SATRC Meeting.

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| **Decision no. 21 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council approved that the 16th SATRC Meeting would be held in India hosted by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. |

Pakistan expressed its intention to host the 17th SATRC Meeting in 2016. Chairman thanked Pakistan for the offer. It was noted by the meeting.

* 1. ***Election of Vice-Chairman of SATRC***

Secretary General informed that according to the Working Method of SATRC, the host of the next SATRC Meeting would take the vice-chairmanship of SATRC. Secretary General indicated that as India would host the 16th SATRC Meeting, India needs to nominate a candidate for the Vice-Chairman of SATRC. India thanked Secretary General and proposed the name of Dr. Rahul Kular, Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority on India as the Vice-Chairman of SATRC. It was approved by the meeting.

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| **Decision no. 22 (SATRC-15)** |
| Council elected Dr. Rahul Kular, Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority on India as the Vice-Chairman of SATRC. |

* 1. ***Presentation of Certificates to Rapporteurs of the SATRC Report***

Secretary General informed that in previous SATRC Meetings it was proposed to appreciate and recognize the work of the experts in developing the SATRC outcomes. APT Secretariat made a proposal to APT Management Committee and it was approved.He informed that experts in SATRC Working Groups had worked very hard to develop the outcomes. In recognition of their hard work APT had prepared Certificate of Appreciation for all the authors of the outcomes of SATRC Action Plan Phase IV. The certificates were handed over to the 11 awardees. The list of the awardees can be found in Annex 1 of this report.

* 1. ***Any Other Business***

There was no other business.

* 1. ***Closing***

Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, Chairman of SATRC thanked the head of each delegation for their presence at the meeting and their effort for the successful meeting. He also thanked Secretary General and APT Secretariat for their hard works. He promised that as the Chairman of SATRC he would try his best to enhance the SATRC activities among its members.

Secretary General thanked all the regulators for very successful meeting and for their contribution to SATRC activities. He very much appreciated the commitment and contributions of SATRC Members towards SATRC activities. He mentioned that SATRC was unique sub-regional program which is fully financed by its Members and Members were keen to host and participate in SATRC activities. He congratulated on the new leadership taken by Mr. Sonam Phuntsho, SATRC Chairman and Dr. Rahul Kular, Vice Chairman of SATRC. He thanked the team of BICMA who had successfully provided all the hosting facilities. He assured that APT Secretariat would do its best for the success of SATRC activities.

Chairman declared the meeting closed.

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**Annex 1: List of the Awardee**

**WG Policy, Regulation and Services**

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| **Awardee** | **For the Outcome** |
| Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal, Nepal Telecommunication Authority | SATRC Report on Growth of Mobile Value Added Services |
| Mr. Purushottam Khanal, Nepal Telecommunication Authority | SATRC Report on Rationalization of Tax Structure in Telecommunication Sector |
| Ms. Azadeh Ahmadian, Communication Regulatory Authority, Islamic Republic of Iran | SATRC Report on Sustainable Broadband Network for SATRC Countries: Addressing the Issues of Interconnection, Backhaul Capacity and Infrastructure Sharing |
| Mr. S M Taifur Rahman, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission | SATRC Report on Applications and Services in Broadband Network |
| Mr. Wangay Dorji, Bhutan Information, Communication and Media Authority | SATRC Report on Mobile Roaming Within the SATRC Member Countries |
| Mr. V K Agarwal, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India | SATRC Report on Strategies for Migration to IPv6 |

**WG Spectrum**

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| **Awardee** | **For the Outcome** |
| Mr. Jaipal Singh Tomar, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India | SATRC Report on Market Based Method on Spectrum Management |
| Mr. Min Prasad Aryal, Nepal Telecommunication Authority | SATRC Report on Regional Requirements and Availability of Spectrum for Mobile Broadband |
| Ms. Rumana Haque, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission | SATRC Report on Digital Switchover Plan in SATRC Countries |
| Mr. Ikram – ul- Haq, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority | SATRC Report on Harmonized Use of the 700 MHz Digital Dividend Band in SATRC Countries |
| Ms. MARYAM ESPANDAR, Communication Regulatory Authority, Islamic Republic of Iran | SATRC Report on Cross Border Coordination: Process of Arranging the Agreement Between Countries in Cellular Networks |