



## Secretary General

### WELCOME ADDRESS

Dr. Kohei Satoh, Chairman of APT Wireless Group,

Ms. Zhu Keer and Mr. Le Van Tuan, Vice-Chairmen of APT Wireless Group,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning to you all!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-19) in Chiang Mai, Thailand. We are having this meeting after almost one year since AWG-18 which was held in March last year in Kyoto, Japan. AWG-18 decided to postpone AWG-19 to 2016 due to the substantial preparatory works for the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015 (RA-15) and World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15).

It is heartwarming to see good number of delegates at this AWG-19. We are having about 169 registered delegates. I would express my sincere gratitude to all APT Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members who have made their time for AWG-19. I also thank the ITU, particularly Radiocommunication Bureau, for attending this meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the years, AWG has become one of the most popular platforms of the APT to discuss and share information on the issues related to radiocommunication technologies, services and spectrum related issues. The meeting of AWG has achieved significant results by developing important output documents such as Recommendations and Reports on many aspects of the radiocommunication technologies. These have been appreciated and welcome by the industry and many international forum. The dynamism in the work of AWG has attracted the industry stakeholders which are playing a key role in the decision making process of AWG along with the member administrations.

Previously, AWG had been very successful in the development of APT 700 MHz Band Plan which is well accepted not only in Asia-Pacific but also in other parts of the world. I believe that in the near future, AWG will be able to develop outputs that could also be widely recognized and accepted.

Last year, at AWG-18, I informed the meeting of the Strategic Plan of the APT for the year 2015 – 2017 that Radiocommunication has been identified as one of the priority work items of APT in the Strategic Plan. Four key Strategic Actions had been included in the Strategic Plan for Radiocommunication, which are relevant to the work of AWG. I firmly believe that the work of AWG is going in the directions as mentioned in the Strategic Plan.

The 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-39) was held in December last year in Thailand. The MC-39 instructed all Work Programmes to implement the Strategic Actions under the Strategic Plan relevant to the Work Programme. Further, all Work Programmes are to address the draft Strategic Plan for 2018-2020 and report analysis and suggestions at the next Session of the MC. I hope during the work of AWG-19, the meeting will address these two issues as suggested by the MC.

Distinguished Delegates,

As anticipated, WRC-15 in November last year was very much challenging. The APT submitted 199 APT Common Proposals to the Conference. As a region, the APT was very much united at the Conference to protect the interest of the region, particularly the needs of the developing countries. AWG contributed to the preparatory work for WRC-15 by conducting studies on a number of WRC-15 Agenda Items. Those studies helped APT Members to understand the issues of the Agenda Items and to reach consensus at the Conference. Analyzing the outcomes of WRC-15, I believe AWG need to work on those outcomes and develop plan to implement those outcomes in the region in a collaborative manner.

This year, we will start the preparatory stage for WRC-19. APG19-1 is planned to be held at the early of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. There will be two meetings of AWG: AWG-19 and AWG-20 as approved by MC-39. AWG-20 is planned to be held after APG19-1. I believe the discussion during APG19-1 will also provide issues for AWG.

For this AWG-19, as usual, we have received a good number of contributions. This meeting will discuss many on-going and other important wireless related issues for the Asia-Pacific region. I hope good outcomes will be developed as AWG has been doing for its inception.

While looking into the subjective work in the area of radiocommunication, we also need to look into the need of the developing countries and ensure their inclusiveness in the work of AWG. I note that the work of the Correspondence Group under the able leadership of Ms. Zhu Keer, Vice-Chairman of AWG is progressing well. I believe that the group will come up with relevant outputs for the work of AWG.

Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The achievement of AWG has always been possible by your sincere effort, dedication, expertise and commitment to AWG works. I thank the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and all office bearers for the hard work and contribution. I would like to request you to continue your excellent efforts to maintain AWG in its recognized position in the region. APT Secretariat will provide full assistance and support for your work.

Before I conclude, let me thank GSMA (Hong Kong) and Intel Microelectronics (Thailand) who have provided the kind sponsorship for this meeting.

I wish you all a successful meeting and happy stay in Chiang Mai.

Thank you.