



**Secretary General**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

Distinguished Representatives of Training Institutions,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning to all of you.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the APT Coordination Meeting of Training Institutions in 2016 here at APT Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. I would like to thank you all for taking time from your busy schedule to come to Bangkok and to share your expertise with us.

The APT Capacity Building Programme or Human Resource Development programme has always been a very important activities of APT since its establishment in 1979.

At the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting held in Brunei Darussalam in 2014, the attending 27 ICT Ministers adopted “Brunei Darussalam Statement on Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT” and capacity building is recognized as one of the six key priority areas in the Brunei Darussalam Statement. In addition the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2015-2017 also highlighted its importance as one of strategic action.

Under the APT Capacity Building Programme, more than 20 training courses have been held and attended by more than 250 trainees every year. We, APT Secretariat, do believe that the APT training courses have significantly helped enrich the expertise of APT members. Capacity Building is considered the APT’s largest work programme area. It is therefore essential for the APT to try to provide the best possible and most efficient training courses for the benefits of our members.

The objective of this coordination meeting is to bring together experts of Training Institutions responsible for training under APT Capacity Building Programme to discuss and identify the issues to improve the Programme and each training course as well as to discuss the annual plan of APT Training Courses in 2016. In order to facilitate the discussion, APT Secretariat will share the result of Survey which was conducted early this year to identify the needs of APT members in terms of training programme.

I look forward to having a fruitful discussion and outcomes and I also hope that everyone finds this meeting useful for you and for our training courses this year and the coming years.

Thank you