



Secretary General

**WELCOME ADDRESS**

Mr. Yoichi Maeda, Chairman of the APT Standardization Program (ASTAP),  
Ms. Li Haihua and Dr. Hyoung Jun Kim, Vice-Chairmen of ASTAP,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning to you all.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 30th APT Standardization Program Forum (ASTAP-30) here in Bangkok, Thailand. I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to ASTAP Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Office Bearers, and all experts for your dedication and support towards ASTAP activities.

I also welcome the representative from Timor-Leste who is here with us to observe the activities of ASTAP.

At this ASTAP-30, there are 125 registered participants from 19 Members States, 12 Affiliate members and other organizations. The secretariat received over 85 input contributions and information documents. I sincerely thank all participants for your contribution and attendance.

ASTAP is one of the most important Work Programmes of the APT. ASTAP has produced several important reports and guideline with the assistance of technical experts from APT members. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all APT members for their contributions by providing technical expertise and support to ASTAP and its activities.

At present, ASTAP has 28 Work Plans under its 3 Working Groups and 11 Expert Groups. These Work Plans cover a wide range of topics including Internet of Things, Smart Cities, Green ICT, M2M communication, Future Transport Network Technology, Interoperability, Accessibility, Security, Seamless Access Communication, Multimedia Applications, etc. Among these, 8 Work Plans is targeted to complete at this ASTAP-30. Hence, I would like to encourage ASTAP

to accelerate its work and produce more tangible outcomes to bring efficiency and benefits to citizens in the Asia-Pacific region. I also request APT members to contribute and support your expertise for completion of these works.

In recent years, ASTAP has made significant contributions to the work of ITU-T Study Groups and exchanged liaison statements with ITU-T Study Groups as well as with other standardization organizations. ASTAP needs to work for closer cooperation and collaboration, knowledge sharing and information exchange with international organization, other standardization organizations such as Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), IEEE, IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force), ETSI [European. Telecommunications Standards Institute], Standards Developing Organization (SDOs) and other relevant organizations in the region.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like inform you that the 14th Session of the General Assembly of the APT (GA-14) held in November last year in Thailand adopted the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020. The new Strategic Plan emphasizes five Strategic Pillars and identifies a number of strategic actions to be implemented by all APT work programmes including ASTAP during 2018 - 2020. These Strategic Pillars provide focus and clarity for the APT while the Action Plan and implementation mechanisms assist planning of relevant works and guide their activities and monitor progress.

The new Strategic Plan gives a lot of emphasis on developing digital infrastructure and harnessing the benefits of new technologies. It gives directions to APT to continue its effort to foster the development and adoption of the latest telecommunication technologies. The Strategic Plan is also developed with the intent of strengthening APT's capacity to identify, address and respond to the needs of its membership and to build and leverage strategic partnerships with relevant organizations and entities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to mention that GA-14 also re-elected me the Secretary General of APT for the second term. I am grateful for the trust that APT Members have placed in me once again. I would like to assure you that I would do my best as Secretary General of APT to enhance the activities of APT and uphold the interest of APT members.

Before I conclude, I would like to once again thank all ASTAP office bearers and all participants for the effort to participate and contribute in ASTAP-30. I assure you that the APT Secretariat will do our best to provide necessary support to all of you.

I wish you successful deliberations and look forward to fruitful outcomes of the forum. I hope you enjoy your stay in this Bangkok.

Thank you.

