

Document No: APG19-4/INP-01

Secretary General

## WELCOME ADDRESS

His Excellency Mr. Young Min You, Minister for Science and ICT, Republic of Korea, Dr. Kyu-Jin Wee, Chairman of APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19 (APG-19), Mr. Kavouss Arasteh, Special Senior Adviser to the APG, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning and Happy New Year 2019!

It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to the 4th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19 (APG19-4) in this beautiful city of Busan, Republic of Korea.

First of all, on behalf of delegates of this meeting, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Young Min You, Minister of Science and ICT, Republic of Korea for graciously preside over this opening ceremony to inaugurate the meeting. It is a great honour and privilege for all of us here.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Ministry of Science and ICT, Republic of Korea for hosting this important meeting.

I am also grateful for the excellent arrangements done by Korea Radio Promotion Association (RAPA) and for the warm hospitality extended to us all. My sincere thanks also go to all sponsors who are providing various supports.

I would like to thank all participants for your presence in such a large number. We have over 435 registered participants at this meeting. Also, we have received nearly 150 contributions for the meeting from APT members as well as international and regional organizations. This is an indicator of your great enthusiasm for APG work and for your strong support to the APT activities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

APG19-4 is the first meeting of APT in 2019. I would like to inform you that this year, APT is reaching 40 years since its establishment in 1979. Since then, APT has been continuing its effort in promoting and facilitating development and growth of regional telecommunication and ICT sector with the strong and constant support and cooperation from APT members. Over the years, APT work areas have been widened in many aspects.

In commemoration of its 40th Anniversary, APT is organizing the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting, which will be held from 25-26 June 2019 in Singapore.

The Ministerial Meeting will provide high-level policy guidelines on the development of telecommunication and ICT in the Asia-Pacific region for the next five years. The 42nd Session of the Management Committee of the APT in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in last October approved the establishment of the Correspondence Group for the preparation of the Ministerial Meeting or CGMM. APT members are encouraged to participate in the preparatory process though CGMM. I would like to invite you all to join in the activities of CGMM for successful preparation for the Ministerial Meeting.

Distinguished Delegates,

We are now almost at the final stage of our preparation for the WRC-19. The 2nd Session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-19 (CPM19-2) will be held from 18 to 28 February 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland.

This APG19-4 will develop the contributions to the CPM19-2. In addition, the process of updating the preliminary views on WRC-19 Agenda Items will continue through intensive discussion at various levels of meeting. A substantial number of contributions have been submitted for this meeting. It is a good sign for our preparatory work.

As you all know, the two Vice-Chairmen of APG-19, Mr. Neil Meaney and Mr. Xiaoyang Gao will not be able to continue their roles due to their new assignments. Therefore, this meeting shall elect two new Vice-Chairmen of APG-19. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank both Mr. Meaney and Mr. Gao for their dedication and devotion to the work of APG-19. I wish both of them a great success in the future.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

WRC-19 will be challenging and it will require significant coordination in our region. As a region, APT members have always shown solidarity and cooperation. We have officer bearers of APG-19 who are very much competent and best experts in the region on WRC-related issues.

Furthermore, APT Members have provided eminent experts who are working as the Chairman of the Drafting Groups. I could see all experts from APT Members are here for their utmost efforts for the success of the meeting. As Secretary General, I shall ensure that the APT Secretariat will do our best to facilitate the work of APG-19.

Before I conclude, may I once again express my sincere gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Young Min You, Minister for Science and ICT, Republic of Korea, for being with us today. My special thanks go to the Ministry of Science and ICT, Republic of Korea for the gracious hosting of this meeting and also to various sponsors from Republic of Korea for the excellent support.

I wish you all a productive and successful meeting and enjoy your time in Busan.

Thank you.