



ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY

**The 5th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory
Group for WRC-19 (APG19-5)**

31 July – 6 August 2019, Tokyo, Japan

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Secretary General

WELCOME ADDRESS

Her Excellency Ms. Makiko Yamada, Vice Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications,
Government of Japan,

Dr. Kyu Jin Wee, Chairman, APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19,

Mr. Mario Maniewicz, Director, Radiocommunication Bureau, International
Telecommunication Union (ITU),

Mr. Christopher Hose and Ms. Zhu Keer, Acting Vice-Chairmen, APT Conference Preparatory
Group for WRC-19,

Mr. Kavouss Arasteh, Special Senior Adviser to the APG,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the Fifth and the final meeting of the APT
Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19 in the vibrant capital city of Tokyo, Japan.

On behalf of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and all delegates here, I would like to
express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Ms. Makiko Yamada, Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs
and Communications, Japan for presiding over the opening ceremony of this meeting. It is indeed
a great honour for us all.

I would also like to convey my sincere and special thanks to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and
Communications of Japan for hosting this meeting and for the excellent and impressive
arrangements. I would also like to thank all the local supporters from Japan for the generous
support for this meeting.

I would also like to thank Mr. Mario Maniewicz, Director, Radiocommunication Bureau, ITU,
for his presence. I would like to congratulate him for the election.

I would like to thank other Regional Telecommunication Organizations and international
organizations for attending this meeting.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all delegates for your presence in such a large
number. I would like to report that we have nearly 600 registered delegates at this meeting. The
APT secretariat had received nearly 150 contributions for the work of the meeting. This is an
indicator of your enthusiasm for the APG work and for your strong support towards the activities
of the APT.

Contact: Ms. Areewan Haorangsi
Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity

Email: aptapg@apt.int

Distinguished delegates,

As I mentioned early this year in Busan, this year, the APT would celebrate the 40th Anniversary of its establishment and one important event in the commemoration of the 40th Anniversary was the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019. I would like to inform you that the Ministerial Meeting was successfully held from 25 to 26 June in Singapore. The Ministerial Meeting adopted the Singapore Statement on Co-creating Connected Digital Future in the Asia-Pacific.

The Singapore Statement provides the guidelines for the next five years to lead the APT including all APT members and the APT Secretariat to co-create a connected digital future in the Asia-Pacific. Concrete action plans will be drawn up through the Strategic Plan of the APT to be adopted by the subsequent sessions of the General Assembly.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The role of regional organizations has been increasingly important for the preparation of major ITU conferences. The APT has been playing a key role that contributes to the success of major ITU conferences particularly for WRCs. We started APT work in this area with a Preparatory Meeting for the ITU World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) 92 in Bangkok. Since then, our coordination has continued to develop. Over the years, the APG has matured into a vital and vibrant programme of the APT. We have to thank all APG Chairmen for the leadership and to APT members that not only established the APG but also continued to contribute wholeheartedly to its work.

It is well recognised that the tasks before us are difficult and complex. Demands on the radio frequency spectrum and satellite orbital resources are diverse and competing. Requirements and aspirations of administrations are divergent and conflicting. Nevertheless, we will need to consolidate our efforts and work together in the spirit of mutual cooperation and accommodation so as to maximise our outputs by reaching reasonable consensus, despite diversity of perceptions.

APT Community has always been working harmoniously as a close family, showing mutual respect and accommodation in all our activities. The same spirit of solidarity, fraternity and co-existence would be the key to our success in the future as well. I am confident that with your expertise, cooperation and mutual understanding, we will continue to achieve our goals collectively at WRC-19 and RA-19.

We are now at the final stage of preparation for the WRC-19 and RA-19, which will start in October/November in Sherm El Sheikh, Egypt.

The work plan of the APG for WRC-19 was adopted in 2016 immediately after the WRC-15. The four-year preparation plan for WRC-19 and RA-19 has been successfully implemented in a timely manner with the cooperation of APT Members. It will bring real success when the common interests of the Asia-Pacific Region will be properly addressed and taken care of at the Conference.

Since the last meeting of APG in Busan, Working Party Chairmen and experts have been working by electronic means. The numbers of input proposals constitute a great interest shown by the Member Administrations and industries to the APT. I am grateful for that and I am convinced that we would make a good progress in this meeting.

The main purpose of this final meeting of APG-19 is to conclude the Preliminary APT Common Proposals (PACPs) for the agenda items of WRC-19 and RA-19, I hope the meeting could

develop a sufficient number of PACPs as the outcomes of this meeting. Once confirmed by the Member Administration, the PACPs will eventually be submitted as APT Common Proposals (ACPs) to WRC-19 and RA-19. I would like to recall you that the APT submitted 199 APT Common Proposals at WRC-15 and 203 APT Common Proposals at WRC-12.

I would like to remind you that this meeting will not conclude our cooperation for the preparation of RA-19 and WRC-19. We will continue our cooperation on the issues during RA-19 and WRC-19 through coordination meetings. The APT Secretariat will schedule a series of coordination meetings during the Conference. I would like to invite you in advance to participate in the APT Coordination Meetings at the venue of RA-19 and WRC-19.

Once again, I wish to thank you Mr. Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Working Party Chairmen, the Chairman of the editorial committee, and all other experts who have been working throughout the year to produce qualitative results. This meeting will set the tone for our preparations for the Conference.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to H.E. Ms. Makiko Yamada, Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan for her kind presence and to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan for hosting this meeting in Tokyo.

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

Thank you.
