



Secretary General

WELECOME ADDRESS

Mr. Yoichi Maeda, Chairman of the APT Standardization Program (ASTAP),
Dr. Chaesub Lee, Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, International
Telecommunication Union,
Ms. Li Haihua and Dr. Hyoung Jun Kim, Vice-Chairmen of ASTAP,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning to you all.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 28th APT Standardization Program Forum (ASTAP-28) here in Bangkok, Thailand.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the ASTAP Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, all Office Bearers, and experts for your dedication and support towards ASTAP activities. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all APT members for extending their support and contributions not only to ASTAP but also to other APT Work Programmes.

Distinguished Delegates,

The 40th Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-40) held in Fiji last year made several key decisions for ASTAP, which include the approval of revised ASTAP Working Methods and holding of 2 meetings of ASTAP Forum in 2017. MC-40 advised ASTAP to revisit its Working Methods of ASTAP regarding the duration of term for ASTAP Chairman and Vice-Chairmen. MC-40 also advised all APT Work Programmes to identify the relevant issues and input for possible inclusion in the Strategic Plan of APT for 2018-2020. All of these decisions will be elaborated in proper session during this meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Innovation is recognized as one of the essential drivers of successful business and a key contributor to a nation's productivity and economic and social development. The effective and efficient use of standardization in areas of policy making and social and economic aspects is one of the key challenges in regional innovation. International standards are essential in reducing technical barriers to trade and creating a level playing field that enable companies from emerging economies to access regional and global markets. By increasing competition and creating a worldwide market, they lead to higher quality and more affordable products.

ASTAP was established almost 20 years ago to work for regional cooperation on standardization among APT members and to contribute to global standardization activities. Over the years, ASTAP has matured to fulfil its objectives and has become a regional platform for cooperative standardization activities.

Currently, ASTAP is working on many important areas related to standardization and technology development. Among those are Bridging Standardization Gap, Green ICT, EMF Exposure, M2M, Future Network, NGN, Seamless Access Communication, Multimedia Applications, Information Security, IoT and others.

ASTAP has continuously reviewed its structure, work plans of Working Groups and Expert Groups, enhanced regional standardization activities, liaised with relevant regional/international organization especially with ITU-T Study Groups, and produced useful practical outcomes to meet the needs of APT members. To strengthen the role of ASTAP in meeting the demands of the industry, I would like to encourage ASTAP to develop activities to increase participation of industry sector. ASTAP also needs to establish a closed cooperation with Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs) in the region to enhance its work.

As instructed by the MC-39 in 2015 to all APT Work programmes to develop tangible outcomes, I believe that, with your active participation, this ASTAP-28 will be able to produce practical tangible outputs for the benefit of the APT members and the region as a whole.

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nowadays Internet of Things (IoT) applications that leverage ubiquitous connectivity, big data and analytics are enabling Smart City initiatives all over the world. These new applications introduce tremendous new capabilities such as the ability to remotely monitor, manage and control devices, and make accessible to massive streams of real-time data. As a result, IoT helps improve infrastructure, communications, enhance safety and create more efficient and cost effective smart cities.

The theme of the Industry Workshop under this ASTAP-28 is “IoT and Smart Cities”. The workshop presentations cover topics on standardization, architecture, trends, development and planning, transportation and field trial cases related to IoT. I am certain that this Workshop will be very informative and useful to all of you.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank you all once again for your participation and support. The achievement of ASTAP has always been possible by the effort, dedication, expertise and commitment to ASTAP works of all of you. I assure you that the APT Secretariat will do our best to provide support to all delegates that require our assistance during the meeting. Please do not hesitate to ask us for any assistance that you may need.

I wish you have good deliberations and hope you enjoy your stay in Bangkok.

Thank you.