



ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY

12/49 Soi 5, Chaeng Watthana Road, Bangkok 10210, Thailand

Ref: APT/2024/PRFP-17/INV-NF

19 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: The 17th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-17)
3-5 September 2024, Nuku'alofa, Tonga**

I am pleased to inform you that the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) will organize the 17th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-17) from 3 to 5 September 2024 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga with physical attendance as well as virtual/online participation through Zoom meeting platform (i.e. hybrid meeting). The forum will be hosted by the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change, Communications and CERT, Tonga and supported by the generous contributions from Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Australia and Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan.

Since 2009, the PRFP has become one of the premium forums for regulators and policymakers in the Pacific region and is a key sub-regional activity of the APT, attracting high-level participants from the Ministries and Regulatory authorities from the Pacific each year. It continues to cover a wide range of topics in line with the common concerns and issues of the Pacific region, such as connectivity, innovation, trust and safety, capacity building and disaster management.

PRFP-17 will organize its session based on the priority areas of the “Lagatoi Declaration” adopted at the 4th Pacific Ministerial Dialogue (28-29 August 2023, Papua New Guinea) as in previous year. These priority areas include Digital Transformation, Digital Innovation, Digital Infrastructure, Security and Trust, Digital Capacity Building and Skills and Disaster Management, which are also strategic pillars of the APT’s Strategic Plan for 2024-2026. Through this forum, we aim to support the development of telecommunications and ICT policies in Pacific countries, share policy and regulatory trends, and enhance the capacity to address emerging opportunities and challenges. It is also hoped that it will contribute to the successful implementation of the Action Plan on the “Lagatoi Declaration”

It will also host a Roundtable for Ministers and Heads of Regulators to share their recent policy and regulatory issues and experiences. Additionally, there will be a Business Dialogue, providing a platform for the ICT industry to share their insights and experiences, while ICT policymakers and regulators discuss new challenges and opportunities to drive Digital Transformation.

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In this regard, I invite representative(s) from your administration/organization involved in telecommunication policy and regulation to consider participating in these events. The Concept Note with Provisional Agenda (Annex A) and Tentative Programme (Annex B) is attached for your information. The Information for Participants will be posted in due course on the APT website.

To attend the Forum, please register online at <https://www.apr.int/content/online-registration> by **13 August 2024** for making necessary arrangements. Only the registered participants are entitled to join the forum. APR Secretariat will provide detailed information to the registered participants prior to the forum. If you need further information or assistance regarding the forum, please contact the APR Secretariat by e-mail aprpolicy@apr.int. Any presentations and contributions on the agenda items for the Forum will be highly appreciated in Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint, English Version and send it to aprpolicy@apr.int not later than **27 August 2024**.

I am looking forward to your positive response and active participation in the Forum.

Yours sincerely,

(Original signed)

Masanori Kondo
Secretary General

Encl: Concept Note with Provisional Agenda (Annex A) and Tentative Programme (Annex B)

To: APR Members (NF), Associate Members (NF), Affiliate Members, and International/Regional Organizations