



The 25th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-25)
30 September – 2 October 2025, Bangkok, Thailand (Hybrid)

CONCEPT NOTE

1. Background

The Asia-Pacific region is witnessing unprecedented growth in the telecommunications and ICT sectors. However, its vast geographical expanse and diverse cultural, climatic, and socio-economic landscape have resulted in varying levels of development among nations in the region.

The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) plays a pivotal role in fostering high-level discussions and collaboration by providing platforms for members to exchange best practices, insights, and experiences. Among these platforms, the APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF) stands out as a premier annual event, bringing together policymakers and regulatory authorities to address common challenges in telecommunications and ICT. The forum serves as a vital platform for industry leaders to collaborate with policymakers, share concerns, and actively contribute to the development of regulatory frameworks. By convening senior officials from ministries and regulatory bodies across the region, the PRF facilitates meaningful dialogue, promotes consensus-building, and strengthens regional cooperation.

Aligned with these efforts, the APT Strategic Plan for 2024–2026 provides a comprehensive roadmap for advancing telecommunications and ICT across the region. Currently, in its second year of implementation, the plan aims to accelerate digital transformation, strengthen digital connectivity, enhance trust and security, promote digital inclusion, and advance sustainability. In line with these strategic priorities, the PRF plays a key role in advancing regional initiatives that drive economic and societal progress in an evolving digital landscape.

The forum aims to bring together policymakers, regulators, and industry leaders to address the transformative changes reshaping the telecommunications and ICT sectors. It will also reaffirm commitments outlined in the Tokyo Statement of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers on "Harnessing Emerging Technologies for Sustainable, Inclusive, and Equitable Digital Transformation in the Asia-Pacific" which was adopted at the APT Ministerial Meeting held in May 2025. Additionally, the forum will feature thematic sessions on key regional priorities, fostering meaningful dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaborative policy development.

2. Objectives

The PRF serves as a platform for APT Members to share insights, address key challenges, and foster intra-regional collaboration on policy and regulatory matters. It also provides industry leaders and key stakeholders an opportunity to present their perspectives on critical issues shaping the sector.

The specific objectives of PRF-25 are to:

- Share innovative strategies and best practices for leveraging emerging technologies to drive sustainable, inclusive, and equitable digital transformation across diverse sectors and communities.
- Highlight the essential policy frameworks and strategies needed to ensure universal, resilient, and seamless connectivity in an increasingly digital and interconnected world.
- Explore the potential of disruptive technologies to revolutionize the ICT landscape, and discuss the challenges and opportunities they present for driving digital transformation across industries.
- Examine the role of community-centered connectivity solutions in bridging the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to digital resources and opportunities for all.
- Discuss the critical policies and frameworks required to overcome the last-mile connectivity challenges and ensure universal access to high-quality broadband for underserved populations.
- Discuss the best practices for optimizing Quality of Service and enhancing network performance to ensure that both operational efficiency and user satisfaction are consistently met.
- Explore the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence in reshaping industries, driving innovation, and addressing global challenges, while discussing the ethical and regulatory considerations surrounding AI technologies.
- Share insights on navigating the complex landscape of satellite licensing and regulation, while exploring the evolving paradigms of satellite-based connectivity and their potential to enhance global communications.
- Address the dynamic challenges of cybersecurity in the digital age, sharing resilient strategies and best practices for protecting systems, networks, and data against evolving cyber threats.

3. Expected outcomes

The Provisional Agenda and Tentative Programme for PRF-25 are attached to this Concept Note (please refer to Annex A and B for further details).

PRF-25 will feature a dedicated session for Ministers, Vice-Ministers, and senior officials from APT Member Administrations, where they will present strategies, share insights, and discuss policies being implemented in their respective countries for harnessing emerging technologies.

A roundtable session will be held with Heads of Regulators from APT Member Administrations, providing a platform for them to share their experiences, engage in meaningful dialogue, and identify key challenges and opportunities related to universal, resilient, and seamless connectivity.

Additionally, PRF-25 will host a business dialogue session designed to facilitate industry representatives in exchanging perspectives on current ICT trends and issues.

Throughout the forum, a wide range of topics will be explored, including Satellite Licensing, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Quality of Service, Community-Centered Communications, and other critical subjects impacting the digital ecosystem.

Specific outcomes include but are not limited to:

- Obtain a deeper understanding of how emerging technologies can drive sustainable and inclusive digital transformation, while addressing the challenges of equitable access and bridging the digital divide.

- Develop insights into the policies needed to foster universal, resilient, and seamless connectivity, with an emphasis on overcoming infrastructure challenges and ensuring equitable access for all.
- Enhance awareness of the transformative potential of disruptive technologies, and explore how they can reshape the ICT landscape, drive digital innovation, and unlock new opportunities across sectors.
- Gain insights into the importance of community-driven connectivity solutions and how they can be leveraged to bridge the digital divide and ensure equitable access to digital resources and opportunities.
- Develop a better understanding of the policies and frameworks necessary to address last-mile connectivity challenges, enabling universal access to broadband in underserved regions and communities.
- Gain insights into the best practices for optimizing network performance while maintaining high Quality of Service, ensuring that user satisfaction and operational efficiency are effectively balanced.
- Develop a deeper understanding of how Artificial Intelligence can drive innovation and transformation across industries, while addressing the ethical, societal, and regulatory implications of its widespread adoption.
- Enhance understanding of the regulatory landscape surrounding satellite licensing and its critical role in advancing global connectivity, while exploring new paradigms in satellite communication services.
- Improve awareness of the evolving cybersecurity challenges and the strategies required to build resilient systems, protecting digital infrastructure and users from emerging threats in the digital landscape.

4. Timing and Venue

PRF-25 will be held from 30 September to 2 October 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand with physical attendance as well as online participation through Zoom (hybrid meeting). Please see information for participants for detailed information.

5. Participation

APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, International/Regional Organizations and eligible non-members can participate in the PRF-25.

6. Contact Information

For any further information about PRF-25, please contact to:

Mr. Tawhid Hussain, Project Coordinator (Email: tawhid@apt.int)

Ms. Jarumon Bhalang, Programme Secretary (Email: jarumon@apt.int)

APT Secretariat

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

Phone: +66 2 573 0044

Fax: + 66 2 573 7479

Email: aptpf@apt.int

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Outcomes of the APT Ministerial Meeting
4. Outcomes of the 48th Session of the Management Committee of the APT relevant to PRF
5. Discussion on the Proposal(s) of APT members (if any)
6. High-Level Dialogue: Harnessing Emerging Technologies for Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Digital Transformation
7. Regulators' Roundtable: Shaping the Digital Future: Enabling Policies for Universal, Resilient and Seamless Connectivity
8. Business Dialogue: Revolutionizing the ICT Landscape: Embracing Disruptive Technologies in the Era of Digital Transformation
9. Thematic Sessions:
 - Community-Centered Connectivity and Its Role in Bridging the Digital Divide
 - Crafting Enabling Policy Framework to Bridge the Last-Mile Connectivity Gap
 - Quality of Service and Network Performance: Improving User Experience and Ensuring Sustainability
 - Resilient Cybersecurity Strategies in an Ever-Evolving Threatscape
 - Unlocking Satellite Resources: Navigating Satellite Technology, Regulatory Frontiers, and Evolving Connectivity Paradigms
 - Artificial Intelligence: Unleashing Innovative Frontiers and Transformative Potential
10. Consideration of the Output Documents (if any)
11. Way Forward
12. Date and Venue for PRF-26
13. Any Other Matters
14. Closing

The 25th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-25)

Tentative Programme

TIME	PROGRAMME
Day – 1 (UTC +7)	Tuesday, 30 September 2025
08:30 – 09:30	Registration
09:30 – 09:45	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by the Secretary General of APT • Opening Remarks by the Chair of PRF
09:45 – 10:15	Session 1: Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the Agenda • Outcomes of the APT Ministerial Meeting • Outcomes of the 48th Session of the Management Committee of the APT relevant to PRF • Discussion on the Proposal(s) of APT members (if any) (Group Photograph)
10:15 – 10:45	Coffee/Tea Break
10:45 – 12:00	Session 2 (High-Level Dialogue) Harnessing Emerging Technologies for Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Digital Transformation <p>The High-Level Dialogue will feature the Ministers, Vice Ministers, and Senior Officials to highlight the pivotal role of emerging technologies in shaping a sustainable, inclusive, and equitable digital future. The distinguished leaders will deliver statement on national and regional strategies, policy frameworks, and collaborative efforts aimed to leveraging the power of emerging technologies. The session will emphasize the critical need for technological advancements to drive economic growth, promote social inclusion, and ensure environmental sustainability, all while bridging digital divides and fostering global cooperation.</p> <p>The topics to be covered in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and regional strategies for emerging technologies • Leveraging digital technologies for socio-economic growth and innovation • Ensuring social inclusion and equitable access to technology • Fostering environmental sustainability through digital solutions • Strengthening global cooperation for digital transformation • Promoting safe and resilient digital ecosystems <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p>

TIME	PROGRAMME
	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministers, Vice Ministers and High-Level Officials from APT Member Administrations
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 14:45	<p>Session 3 (Regulators’ Roundtable) Shaping the Digital Future: Enabling Policies for Universal, Resilient and Seamless Connectivity</p> <p>The Roundtable discussion will feature the Heads of Regulatory Authorities who will share their experiences on shaping policies that drive universal, resilient, and seamless connectivity. The distinguished speakers will provide valuable insights into the regulatory frameworks necessary to foster equitable access to digital technologies, ensure long-term sustainability, and support the development of robust infrastructure. Their contributions will highlight the critical role of regulatory leadership in navigating challenges and enabling a connected and resilient digital future.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory strategies for universal and resilient connectivity Best practices in shaping inclusive and sustainable digital policies Ensuring equitable access to digital technologies Strengthening regulatory frameworks for long-term sustainability Addressing challenges in digital infrastructure development The role of regulatory leadership in driving digital transformation Recommendations for enabling ICT policies <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heads of the Regulatory Authorities from APT Member Administrations
14:45– 15:15	Coffee/Tea Break
15:15 – 16:30	<p>Session 4 (Business Dialogue) Revolutionizing the ICT Landscape: Embracing Disruptive Technologies in the Era of Digital Transformation</p> <p>The Roundtable will bring together the Industry CXOs to explore how disruptive technologies are transforming the ICT landscape in the era of digital transformation. Senior executives will share insights on emerging trends, innovative strategies, and the evolving role of technology in driving business growth and industry resilience. The discussion will highlight key opportunities, challenges, and best practices for leveraging disruptive technologies to accelerate digital transformation, enhance competitiveness, and shape the future of the ICT sector.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key disruptive technologies reshaping the ICT landscape Strategies for leveraging innovation to drive digital transformation

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcoming challenges in adopting emerging technologies • The role of policymakers, regulators and industry in shaping the future of the ICT sector • Accelerating business growth through technological advancements • Best practices for ensuring industry resilience in the digital age • Building a competitive edge with disruptive technologies • Conducive policy and regulatory framework at evolving ICT era <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT Industry CXOs
16:30	(Networking Session)
Day – 2 (UTC +7)	Wednesday, 1 October 2025
09:00 – 10:15	<p>Session 5 (in collaboration with ISOC) Community-Centered Connectivity and Its Role in Bridging the Digital Divide</p> <p>This session will explore community-centered connectivity solutions and their various models, focusing on how these approaches are effectively bridging the digital divide. It will highlight real-world examples and showcase the positive impact of these complementary access solutions on communities in remote and rural areas across Asia and the Pacific. The discussion will emphasize the critical role of community-centered connectivity in ensuring equitable access to digital opportunities for all.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of community-centered connectivity solutions and models • Bridging the digital divide through community-driven approaches • Real-world examples of connectivity impact in remote and rural areas • The role of community-led initiatives in ensuring digital equity • Challenges and opportunities in expanding connectivity in unserved and underserved areas • Impact of complementary access solutions on local communities • Prospects of community-centered connectivity <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Administrations • International Organizations • Industry Representatives
10:15 – 10:45	Coffee/Tea Break

TIME	PROGRAMME
10:45 – 12:00	<p>Session 6 <i>(in collaboration with ISOC)</i> Crafting Enabling Policy Framework to Bridge the Last-Mile Connectivity Gap</p> <p>This session will bring together the PRF-25 participants to explore best practices for extending last-mile connectivity. It will address the challenges and opportunities associated with digital transformation, emphasizing the creation of an enabling policy environment to connect the unconnected. Through interactive group discussions, the session will provide a platform for PRF-25 participants to exchange insights, analyze effective strategies, and explore collaborative approaches to overcome the last-mile connectivity gap and advancing digital inclusion.</p>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 15:00	<p>Session 7 <i>(in collaboration with GSMA)</i> Quality of Service and Network Performance: Improving User Experience and Ensuring Sustainability</p> <p>This session will explore what constitutes QoS including network performance. It will examine QoS trends in APAC and how the regulations have evolved. The session will focus on success drivers of QoS, factors impacting QoS, role of policy makers and all ecosystem players as well as the need for a new collaborative approach. The session will also highlight best practices and innovative approaches to ensure that network performance meets the demands of users in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles of policymakers and industry players in driving QoS • Factors and drivers impacting QoS • Impact of QoS regulations on investment and industry sustainability • Effective approach towards QoS regulation to address identified concerns • Good practices by advanced markets <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Administrations • International Organizations • Industry Representatives
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee/Tea Break
15:30 – 16:45	<p>Session 8 Resilient Cybersecurity Strategies in an Ever-Evolving Threatscape</p> <p>In an era of rapidly evolving cyber threats, organizations and individuals must adopt resilient cybersecurity strategies to mitigate risks effectively. This session will explore key aspects of cybersecurity, including the rising threat of online scams, the importance of cyber wellness, and strategies to combat cyberbullying. Experts will discuss best practices for risk mitigation, incident response frameworks, and regulatory considerations while highlighting cutting-edge technologies and</p>

TIME	PROGRAMME
	<p>proactive defense mechanisms to enhance cybersecurity resilience in an ever-changing threat landscape.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the evolving cyber threat landscape • Mitigating risks associated with online scams and fraud • Promoting cyber wellness and digital hygiene • Combatting cyberbullying and fostering a safer online environment • Developing proactive defense strategies and incident response frameworks • Regulatory frameworks and compliance requirements in cybersecurity • Leveraging emerging technologies for enhanced cyber resilience • Building organizational culture and awareness for cybersecurity • Best practices for risk management and data protection • Future trends in cybersecurity and preparing for the next generation of threats <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Administrations • International Organizations • Industry Representatives
16:45	(Networking Session)
Day – 3 (UTC +7)	Thursday, 2 October 2025
09:00 – 10:30	<p>Session 9 (in collaboration with GSOA) Unlocking Satellite Resources: Navigating Satellite Technology, Regulatory Frontiers, and Evolving Connectivity Paradigms</p> <p>The regulatory frameworks governing satellite services vary significantly across jurisdictions, encompassing diverse requirements for satellite authorization, service licensing, spectrum allocation, and terminal approvals. The rapid advancement of satellite technologies and services, including ESIMs, IoT, and Direct-to-Device (D2D) communications, further complicates this evolving landscape. This session will provide a comprehensive analysis of best practices in satellite licensing, examine emerging regulatory challenges, and explore strategic approaches to ensuring compliance while enabling innovation in global connectivity.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of global satellite licensing frameworks and regulatory variations • Key challenges in satellite authorization, service licensing, and spectrum allocation • Emerging satellite technologies/services: ESIMs, IoT, and D2D communications • Regulatory considerations for new satellite services and evolving connectivity paradigms • Best practices for navigating complex satellite licensing processes • Spectrum management and international coordination for satellite services • Impact of regulatory changes on innovation and satellite industry growth

TIME	PROGRAMME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic approaches for ensuring compliance while enabling technological advancements • Future trends in satellite regulation and the expanding role of connectivity solutions <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Administrations • International Organizations • Industry Representatives
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee/Tea Break
11:00 – 12:15	<p>Session 10 Artificial Intelligence: Unleashing Innovative Frontiers and Transformative Potential</p> <p>This session will explore the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in driving innovation and shaping the future. It will highlight how AI is unlocking new frontiers in automation, data analytics, and decision-making processes. The discussion will cover the strategic opportunities and challenges associated with AI adoption, emphasizing best practices for harnessing its potential to enhance efficiency, foster growth, and maintain a competitive edge in an increasingly digital world.</p> <p>The topics to be discussed in this session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Artificial Intelligence and its evolving capabilities • AI-driven innovation in automation, data analytics, and decision-making • Strategic opportunities and benefits of AI adoption • Key challenges and barriers to implementing AI solutions • Ethical considerations and responsible AI deployment • Best practices for integrating AI into existing systems • Future trends in AI and its potential impact on various sectors • Leveraging AI for sustainable growth and competitive advantage • Navigating the risks and ensuring data security in AI applications <p>Moderator: (TBD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Administrations • International Organizations • Industry Representatives
12:15 – 12:30	Intermission
12:30 – 12:45	<p>Session 11: Plenary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the output documents (if any) • Way forward • Date and venue for PRF-26 • Any other matters

TIME	PROGRAMME
12:45 – 13:00	Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remarks by the Secretary General of APT• Remarks and Closing by the Chair of PRF
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00	(Networking Session)
