ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY

Press Release

Asia Pacific Ministers Adopt Bali Statements on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Regional Broadband Economy

At the Asia Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy held on 12-13 November 2009 in Bali, Indonesia, Asia Pacific Telecom and ICT Ministers adopted the "*Bali Statement of the Asia-Pacific Ministers on Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards a Broadband Economy in the Asia-Pacific*" and the Plan of Action which will be used as the framework and guidelines for development of the ICT infrastructures and services in Asia Pacific towards broadband economy with APT playing a key role in facilitating regional cooperation and collaboration.

This Asia Pacific Ministerial Meeting was organized to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the APT, a milestone event in its services to the Region on ICT Development. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Indonesia (MCIT), Indonesia. Over 180 delegates attended the Meeting including 15 Ministers, 9 Vice Ministers and high-level representatives of APT Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members. The inaugural address was given by H.E. Mr. Tifatul Sembiring, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Indonesia. Dr. Hamadoun Touré, Secretary General of ITU also gave address at the opening ceremony. The Meeting was also joined by representatives of international organizations i.e. ESCAP, ITU, CEPT, UNDP and UNESCO.

The Ministers delivered statements on issues that require high-level commitment for ICT development and working towards a broadband economy, i.e. Connecting all: facilitating the digital inclusion, Creating a safer society: the regional effort to improve cyber security and protecting children in cyberspace, Facilitating the convergence: the technologies and content for the Broadband economy, and Business Dialogue: challenges and opportunities of the Broadband Economy.

The Bali Statement adopted at this Meeting draws five key objectives that are crucial for a successful broadband economy in the region, i.e.:

    A. Widen broadband connectivity
    B. Provide a secure, safe and sustainable environment through ICT initiatives
    C. Facilitate effective convergence of services
    D. Encourage development of content and applications
    E. Develop human resources capacity

APT Members are encouraged to provide necessary support and assistance to APT in the implementation of the Plan of Action which serves as the guideline for regional actions required for the realization of a broadband economy in the Asia-Pacific region.

Prior to the Ministerial Meeting, a preparatory meeting entitled "*Asia Pacific Telecommunications and ICT Development Forum (ADF)*" was held from 10 to 11 November 2009 to discuss key development issues and prepare the Bali Ministers' Statements and Plan of Action for submission to the Ministerial Meeting for consideration and adoption.

For online information about the Ministerial Meeting, please log on to
http://www.apt.int/meetings/2009/Ministerial/default.htm

About Us

The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) is the leading intergovernmental organization for the development of telecommunications and ICT in the Asia-Pacific region. The APT was established by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in July 1979 with the objective to promote the development of telecommunications and ICT services in the Asia-Pacific region, with particular emphasis on the developing countries. Currently, the APT has a strength of 34 Full Members, 4 Associate Members and 121 Affiliate Members.

For further information, please contact:
Asia-Pacific Telecommunity
12/49 Soi 5, Chaengwattana Road, Bangkok 10210 Thailand
Tel. 66 2 573 0044 / Fax: 66 2 573 7479
E-mail: aptmin@apt.int, aptmail@apt.int
Website: www.apt.int