



REPORT OF APT PREPARATIONS FOR THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (WTDC-10)

1. Background

The World Telecommunication Development Conference is the forum for the discussion and consideration of topics, projects and programmes relevant to telecommunication development and for the provision of direction and guidance to the Telecommunication Development Bureau of the ITU. The conference is held every four years and sets the agenda and the guidelines for the following four-year cycle.

The fifth World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-10) was held in Hyderabad, India, which was attended by 924 participants, including Ministers, Ambassadors, representatives from the governments of 138 countries, public and private sector representatives, representatives of telecommunication-related entities, and regional and international organizations.

APT has played a key role in coordinating the Asia-Pacific input to the World Development Conferences in the past. Similarly, APT has successfully coordinated the interest of its Members to WTDC-10. In preparation for the WTDC-10, APT established its Preparatory Group for WTDC-10 in its 1st Preparatory Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 8 May 2009.

The objectives of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-10 were to coordinate and prepare regional contributions to the WTDC-10 in identifying key issues of priority for the region and proposing regional input for the development of the Programme and Activities (including projects and questions for study), working methods and the Strategic Plan of the BDT.

APT held 3 Preparatory Meetings before the Conference and held 5 Coordination Meetings during the Conference.

The Preparatory Meetings developed a total of 17 APT Common Proposals and with the endorsement of the Member countries the proposals were submitted to the WTDC-10 by the APT Secretariat on behalf of its Members.

The Coordination meetings during the WTDC-10 provided the opportunity for the APT members to discuss and consolidate regional position and views on key issues of the Conference. It strategized for the way forward the ACPs through the lead and support countries that volunteered to look after the interest Member countries in presenting, defending and promoting the ACPs.

The APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-10 was chaired by Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah, Director, International Affairs, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), Malaysia. She was supported by 3 Rapporteurs and 6 Assistant Rapporteurs.

2. APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-10

APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-10 consists of the Plenary and the following three Correspondence Groups.

Correspondence Group 1 - Programme and Questions

Rapporteur : Mr. Le Thai Hong (Vietnam)
Assistant Rapporteurs: Dr. Shabina Fernando (Australia)
Mr. Alfred Soakai (Tonga)

Correspondence Group 2 – Regional Initiatives and Projects

Rapporteur : Mr. U.K. Srivastava (India)
Assistant Rapporteurs: Mr. Hiroyuki Sakurai (Japan)
Mr. Gihoon Park (Rep. of Korea)

Correspondence Group 3- ITU Strategic Plan & Other matters

Rapporteur : Mr. Pedram Maleki (Iran I.R.)
Assistant Rapporteurs: Mr. Tri Heru Raharjanto (Indonesia)
Mr. Mohamed Nasih (Maldives)

3. Outcome of the WTDC-10

3.1 APT Common Proposals

APT made 17 proposals on behalf of the APT Member countries. These include new resolutions, amendments to resolutions, input to the Programmes, Regional Initiatives, Study Group and Questions, and to the Hyderabad declaration. Most of the APT Common Proposals were well received by the conference and they are reflected in the Conference outcome in the Hyderabad Action Plan (Programmes, Regional Initiatives, Special Initiatives, Study questions) and Resolutions.

A summary of the outcome of the ACPs including the list of leading and supporting countries are included in the Annex of this document. Further details of the ACPs are available at APT website <http://www.apr.int/APR-WTDC>.

New proposed resolutions

1. **ICTs and climate change.** The proposal encourages to continue and further develop the ITU-D activities on ICTs and climate change in order to contribute to the United Nation's wider global efforts to moderate climate change. The Conference adopted a new resolution consolidating different inputs from the different regions. APT point of view was well taken into consideration.
2. **Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology accessibility for persons with disabilities.** The proposal calls to consider disability access issues in ITU-D work programmes and to work collaboratively on accessibility-related activities with ITU-T and ITU-R and other relevant organizations and entities, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that the needs of the disabled community are taken into account. The Conference adopted a new resolution "Access to information and communication technology by persons with disabilities, including persons with age-related disabilities", in which the essence of the APT proposal is incorporated along with the views of other proposals.

Proposed revision to resolutions

1. Resolution 2 - Establishment of study groups
2. Resolution 5 - Enhanced participation of developing countries in the activities of the Union
3. Resolution 24 - Authorization for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication development conferences
4. Resolution 34 - The role of telecommunications/information and communication technology in early warning and mitigation of disasters and humanitarian assistance
5. Resolution 45- Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam
6. Resolution 47 - Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries

Other proposals

1. Interoperability in Next Generation Networks
2. Youth and Gender Issues on ICT Development
3. Creation of Common Database of Information, sharing-mechanism of Radio Equipment including establishment of regional resources for Emergency Communications for disaster relief
4. ITU-D Assistance in Digital Broadcasting
5. Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (PacCERT)
6. Improving ICT development for small islands developing states in dealing with current Internet charging regime issue
7. Hyderabad Declaration for WTDC

3.2 Office bearers of the Conference

Asia-Pacific region was well represented in the Office bearers of the Conference. They include;

- Vice-Chairman of WTDC-10 – H.E. Dato' Joseph Salang Gandum, (Malaysia)
- Vice Chairman of Committee 2 (Budget Committee) – Prof. Akira Terasaki, (Japan)
- Chairman of Committee 4 (Regional Initiatives) – Mr. Seyed Mostafa Safavi, (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Vice Chairman of Working Group of Plenary – Mr. Ilyas Ahmed, (Maldives)

3.3 Office bearers of the TDAG

Asia-Pacific region was also offered following office bearer positions of the TDAG and study groups. The nomination from the region was made as agreed in the coordination meetings.

They are:

- Vice-Chairman of TDAG – Mr. Bohyun Seo (Korea Rep. of)
- Vice-Chairman of TDAG – H.E. Mr Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum (Fiji)
- Vice-Chairman of Study Group 1- Mr. Nguyen Quy Quyen (Viet Nam)
- Vice-Chairman of Study Group 2 - Iran (Islamic Republic of)

4. APT Coordination Meetings at WTDC-10

APT Secretariat was presented at the Conference under the leadership of Mr. Toshiyuki Yamada. The objectives of those meetings were to discuss the progress of ACPs, points of negotiations on the proposals and issues related to the interest of region as whole.

APT held five coordination meetings during WTDC-10 to discuss the progress of ACPs, points of negotiations on the proposals and issues that are of importance to the APT Member countries.

The meetings were chaired by Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdulla, Chairperson of the APT Preparatory Groups for WTDC-10. The meetings were attended by representatives from Australian, Bhutan, Brunei, PR China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

It is noted that the chairperson and the lead and supporting countries were very active and contributed well in presenting and defending the ACPs and coordinating with the relevant countries/ regions that have made contribution on similar issues.

5. Points for consideration in the next cycle of APT Preparatory work

1. In preparation for the WTDC, ITU-D organizes regional preparatory Meetings (RPMs) for the 6 regions of the Development Sector. The RPMs are mainly focused on getting regional input to the programmes, projects and topics deemed essential by the regions. In the preparatory cycle for WTDC-10, it was noted that no coordination efforts were made by the region before the RPM, therefore, the inputs to the RPM were mainly individual inputs from Member countries.

It was also noted that the output of the RPMs were the main inputs considered by the WTDC-10 in formulating the Programmes, Regional Initiatives, Study Group structure and questions. Therefore, it is essential that if APT needs to coordinate issues for consideration in the Programme, Regional Initiatives, Study Group structure and questions of the ITU-D Sector, APT preparatory process needs to start early enough so that substantial input can be made at the RPM itself.

2. Further proposals that may be developed through the APT preparatory group need to focus on any issues that were not included in the RPM and on issues that needed special attention of the WTDC in terms of resolutions or decisions.
3. It was noted that whilst, the APT Preparatory process developed many APT Common Proposals, it was difficult initially to find the sponsors (lead and supporting countries) who would be committed to push the ACPs through the different stages of the Conference. It may be necessary that the countries who initially made the proposal to the APT Preparatory Group could lead the proposal throughout its process until the decision of the WTDC. Of course, the Office bearers of the Preparatory Group and countries who would co-sponsor the proposals will help during the process.
4. WTDC is held in every four years. The decisions of the WTDC-10 need to be followed in preparation for the next WTDC. Unlike other Conference preparatory groups of APT, the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC is not a permanent structure. Therefore, there is a need to have a mechanism in place to monitor the progress of the decisions and start to make early preparation based on substantiating information so that the ACPs are focused and according to the needs of the region.

6. Conclusions

APT's preparatory process for WTDC-10 was successful and appreciated by all the participating Members of the APT. The proposals were well received by the Conference and made a substantial impact on the outcome of the Conference. All the APT Members worked hard and enthusiastically for the success of the region and for the Conference.

Hard work and extreme commitment was demonstrated by the Chairperson of the preparatory group in coordinating the efforts and making sure the ACPs were well presented and coordinated during the conference. Other office bearers also gave their full expertise and hard works during the whole preparatory process. It was a good experience for all APT Members who participated the APT preparatory process and an opportunity that helped further cooperation and collaboration among APT Members.

Summary of the outcome of the APT Common Proposals to the WTDC-10

Doc. 27	Title of ACP	ACP No.	Leading Country	Supporting Country	Outcome
ADD. 1	Proposal on a new WTDC Resolution on ICTs and Climate Change	ACP/27/01	Rep. of Korea	Japan	SUCCESSFUL WTDC-10 adopted a new resolution (COM3/6) on “Information and communication technology and climate change”, which consolidates the different inputs on the resolution. APT view point was taken into consideration.
ADD. 2	Proposal on a new WTDC Resolution on Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology accessibility for persons with disabilities	ACP/27/02	Sri Lanka	Thailand / Australia	SUCCESSFUL WTDC-10 adopted a new resolution (PLEN/1) “Access to information and communication technology by persons with disabilities, including persons with age-related disabilities”, in which the essence of the APT proposal is incorporated along with the views of other proposals.
ADD. 3	Revision of Resolution 5 Enhanced participation of developing countries in the activities of the Union	ACP/27/03	Vietnam	Australia	SUCCESSFUL WTDC-10 adopted certain changes to the Resolution 5, some modifications proposed in the ACP were considered except the part on facilitating visa by the host country was not agreed.
ADD. 4	Revision of Resolution 45 Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including countering and combating spam	ACP/27/04	Australia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	SUCCESSFUL This issue was highly debated in the WTDC. A compromised text to modifying the Res 45 was adopted. The general concept included in the ACP was covered in the text.
ADD. 5	Revision of Resolution 47 Enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries	ACP/27/05	Vietnam	Japan	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL The WTDC-10 adopted revision to Res 47 with improvements to the text. However, not much of the revisions proposed in the ACP were included in the revised text.
ADD. 6	Revision of Resolution 34 The role of telecommunications/information and	ACP/27/06	Vietnam	Papua New Guinea	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL WTDC-10 adopted revision to Res 34. Some of the

Doc. 27	Title of ACP	ACP No.	Leading Country	Supporting Country	Outcome
	communication technology in early warning and mitigation of disasters and humanitarian assistance				changes proposed in the ACP were considered.
ADD. 7	Revision of Resolution 24 Authorization for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group to act between world telecommunication development conferences	ACP/27/07	Australia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	SUCCESSFUL The resolution 24 was modified with inputs from ACP, ARB, CITEL and RCC. The changes proposed in ACP were accepted except text on performance measures WTDC-10 adopted revisions to the Res 24 considering Doc# 12 (BDT)
ADD. 8 (Rev.1)	Revision of Resolution 2 Establishment of study groups	ACP/27/08 ACP/27/18 ACP/27/19	Philippines	Islamic Rep. of Iran	NOT SUCCESSFUL The revisions to RES 2 were mainly based on Doc 46 of BDT. New questions proposed in the ACP were not accepted.
ADD. 9	Interoperability in Next Generation Networks	ACP/27/09	India	Japan / Islamic Rep. of Iran	SUCCESSFUL Covered under Programme 1, 3.3 Next Generation Networks in providing assistance to Member countries in migration to NGN and ensuring interoperability, and providing seminar, workshop, etc. Study question 26 /2 (Migration from existing networks to next-generation networks for developing countries: technical, regulatory and policy aspects) also cover the issues in the ACP.
ADD. 10	Youth and Gender Issues on ICT Development	ACP/27/10	Marshall Islands	Bhutan / Thailand	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL The development of youth and gender is included in Programme 4. The specific details of the proposal are not elaborated.
ADD. 11	Creation of Common Database of Information, sharing-mechanism of Radio Equipment including establishment of regional resources for Emergency Communications for disaster relief	ACP/27/11	India	Maldives	SUCCESSFUL The creation of common database to share information on emergency communications is included in Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives - 2. Emergency telecommunications. The details as

Doc. 27	Title of ACP	ACP No.	Leading Country	Supporting Country	Outcome
					given in the ACP were not covered.
ADD. 12	ITU-D Assistance in Digital Broadcasting	ACP/27/12	India		SUCCESSFUL Covered under Programme 1, 3.2 Broadcasting where assistance to regulators are specified. Also Asia-Pacific Regional Initiative 3 – Digital broadcasting covers areas specified in the ACP.
ADD. 13	Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (PacCERT)	ACP/27/13	Papua New Guinea	Fiji	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL Any specific reflection to PacCERT was not included in the outcome of the Conference. However, the issue covered in Programme 2, under para 3.2.2.5 to establish organizational structures, such as computer incident response teams (CIRTs), to identify, manage and respond to cyber threats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level.
ADD. 14	Improving ICT development for small islands developing states in dealing with current Internet charging regime issue	ACP/27/14	Papua New Guinea	Maldives	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL The revised RES 23 (Internet access and availability for developing countries ¹ and charging principles for international Internet connection) covers the scope of this proposal to some extent although the specifics of the donors and SIDs are not covered.
ADD. 15	Hyderabad Declaration for WTDC	ACP/27/15	Indonesia	Iran	SUCCESSFUL The base text is different from that proposed in the ACP/27/15. The concept included in the ACP was accepted including points on Broadband, Green ICT, assistance to LDCs, support disaster mitigation, strengthening regional presence, are included.
ADD. 16	Managing Cyber Security Challenges of Social Networking Applications	ACP/27/16	Malaysia	Singapore	PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL The concept of security for social networking covered under the Strategic Plan 6.1.8 Building confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs. However the details of actions related to social networking providers were not included there or in the Programme 2.

Doc. 27	Title of ACP	ACP No.	Leading Country	Supporting Country	Outcome
ADD. 17	Bridging the Digital Divide through development of local content	ACP/27/17	Malaysia	Singapore	<p>SUCCESSFUL</p> <p>The scope of bridging digital divide and development of local content is covered under Programme 4. It is also covered under Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives – 4. Broadband access and uptake in urban and rural areas.</p>