



Secretary General

WELCOME ADDRESS

Dr. Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Chair of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-25, ~~15~~,

Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), ITU,

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is with pleasure and honor that I warmly welcome all of you to the 1st Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (APT WTDC25-1), convened in the beautiful city of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

This meeting represents a significant milestone as we embark on the preparatory journey towards WTDC-25. The objectives set forth for today's meeting are of paramount importance, encompassing the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs, the establishment of the group's structural framework, the nomination of Office Bearers, and the formulation of the Working Methods and tentative Work Plan which will guide our endeavors in the forthcoming months.

These initial steps are crucial as they lay the foundation for our collective efforts, ensuring that we address the key issues relevant to WTDC-25 effectively and with foresight. Your knowledge and expertise are essential in identifying critical concerns and developing comprehensive proposals that reflect the regional perspectives of the Asia-Pacific.

The Office Bearers will play a crucial role in speeding up and supporting the activities of the Preparatory Group, ensuring that we are fully ready for WTDC-25. With your active participation and spirit of collaboration, we will achieve our goals and significantly contribute to telecommunication and ICT development.

The essence of this preparatory process is profoundly anchored in the invaluable contributions from our APT members. Let us engage in concerted cooperation and collaboration to forge a shared vision for the Asia-Pacific region.

Once more, I extend my heartfelt welcome to each of you and anticipate a productive meeting.

Thank you.
