



Secretary General

WELCOME ADDRESS

Mr. Ryo Horikawa, Chair of the Correspondence Group for the APT Ministerial Meeting (CGMM),
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon and welcome to the 1st Meeting of the Correspondence Group for the APT Ministerial Meeting 2025 (CGMM-1) here in the vibrant city of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

As we are already in the final meeting of the 3 back-to-back events, I hope you have had some time to explore Chiang Mai's ambience.

Today marks a significant milestone as we convene to discuss and shape the draft Ministerial Statement for the APT Ministerial Meeting 2025. This half-day event is dedicated to deliberating on the structure, themes, priority areas, and drafting processes that will guide our future efforts.

Your valuable input is crucial in ensuring that the APT Ministerial Statement reflects all APT members' diverse needs and aspirations. As we embark on this important task, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Government of Japan for graciously agreeing to host the APT Ministerial Meeting in 2025. Japan's unwavering commitment to promoting regional cooperation and development in telecommunications and ICT is truly commendable. We are confident that their support will significantly contribute to the success of our upcoming meeting.

Our discussions today are pivotal in laying the groundwork for a comprehensive and forward-looking APT Ministerial Statement. This statement will not only set the tone for our future initiatives but also reinforce our collective vision of leveraging telecommunications and ICT for the development and progress across the Asia-Pacific region.

Let us engage in open, constructive, and collaborative discussions. Together, let us lay the foundation for a successful APT Ministerial Meeting in 2025 and pave the way for a brighter and better future for our region.

Thank you, and I look forward to our productive discussions this afternoon.