



Secretary General

WELCOME REMARKS

Excellencies,
Heads of Telecommunications and ICT Regulatory Authorities,
Mr. Prit Chand and Ms. Eneng Faridah binti Iskandar Sastrawidjaja, Vice-Chairs of PRF,
Distinguished Guests, Moderators, Speakers, and Delegates,

Good morning.

It is my great honor and sincere pleasure to warmly welcome you all to the 25th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-25) here in Bangkok, Thailand.

This Forum brings together 150 representatives from 40 APT members and one international organization, with 100 delegates present onsite. Such strong participation underscores the continued importance of PRF as a vital platform for dialogue, collaboration, and exchange knowledge across the region.

At the recent APT Ministerial Meeting in Japan, Ministers adopted the Tokyo Statement of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers on Harnessing Emerging Technologies for Sustainable, Inclusive, and Equitable Digital Transformation. This Statement sets the strategic direction of APT for the coming five years. Within this framework, PRF plays a pivotal role in translating ministerial priorities into concrete initiatives and actionable outcomes.

Earlier this year, as part of our efforts to advance the APT Guideline on Good Practices for Public Consultation, endorsed at PRF in 2024, the APT organized a Web Dialogue on Public Consultation - Best Practices for Inclusive and Effective Engagement in the Telecommunications and ICT Sectors. The active participation of regulators, policymakers, and industry leaders reflected our region's shared commitment to openness, inclusivity, and effective governance.

Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

Guided by the Tokyo Statement, the APT Strategic Plan 2024–2026, and valuable insights gathered through last year's survey, PRF-25 has been designed with several distinctive features:

1. **Comprehensive Programme:** Over the next three days, we will address critical ICT policy and regulatory priorities. Highlights include a high-level session on harnessing emerging technologies, a roundtable for heads of regulatory authorities on enabling policies for the digital future, and a business dialogue on embracing disruptive technologies. Thematic sessions will further examine cybersecurity, quality of service, satellite communications, artificial intelligence, and community-driven connectivity.

2. Enhanced Partnerships: This Forum also features collaborative sessions with the Internet Society, GSMA, and GSOA. These partnerships broaden our perspectives and create stronger opportunities for cooperative action across the Asia-Pacific.

I am confident that our deliberations will generate meaningful insights, deepen mutual understanding, and support the development of policies that foster inclusive and sustainable digital transformation in our region.

I wish you all a most productive and rewarding PRF-25.

Thank you.