



**ITU Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM) for WTDC-17  
21-23 March 2017, Bali, Indonesia**



**Welcome Remarks  
by  
Ms Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity**

Honorable Rudiantara, Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Republic of Indonesia,

H.E. Hasan Kleib, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia and Permanent Representative for UN, WTO and other international Organizations,

Mr Brahim Sanou, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Representative of the Governor of Bali,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

It is indeed a privilege and honour for me to be here this morning to welcome you to the ITU Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 for Asia and the Pacific (RPM-ASP).

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to ITU, Mr Brahim Sanou in particular, for the kind invitation to the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and to me. Let me also express my deep appreciation to the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting this very important meeting of ITU in this beautiful Bali Island.

As we are all aware, the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17), will be held in October this year in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Regional

Preparatory Meetings for WTDC (RPM) are essential meetings to all membership of ITU. We are grateful to ITU and the Host for organising this RPM for Asia and the Pacific here so the members can discuss matters that would be our regional inputs to be contributed to WTDC-17.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Recognizing the importance of WTDC-17 and Asia-Pacific RPM, the 39th Session of the APT Management Committee established the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-17 to assist APT Members to prepare for the WTDC-17.

Main objectives of this APT Preparatory Group are:

- To assist APT Members to prepare for the WTDC in coordinating issues of regional interest and the submission of regional contributions to the Conference;
- To develop proposals from APT Members that considers the interest of the Asia-Pacific region as inputs for WTDCs;
- To develop inputs from APT Members for ITU RPM for Asia and the Pacific;
- To assist APT Members during the WTDC.

So far, the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-17 has already met two times. The first meeting was held in Singapore in August last year and the second meeting was recently hosted in Papua New Guinea in February this year. I would like to bring to your attention that the Group approved the document "APT view on draft regional initiatives for the Asia and the Pacific region" which will be discussed here during these three days.

I have also noticed that a number of the outcomes of discussion at the APT Preparatory meeting have been submitted to this RPM in order to have another consultation with the ITU membership. This will subsequently facilitate the process of setting up APT common proposals to WTDC-17 in the future. During the course of the deliberation, APT will be at the disposal of the Memberships of both APT and ITU thereby making the RPM and the WTDC achieve their objectives and fully meet our expectations.

Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In closing, let me thank ITU and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of the Republic of Indonesia once again for hosting this Regional Preparatory Meeting for WTDC-17 for Asia and the Pacific. I wish you a very successful and productive meeting.

Thank you very much.

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