

**5th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19
(APG19-5), Tokyo, Japan**

Wednesday, 31 July 2019

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Mario Maniewicz

Director, ITU Radiocommunication Bureau

Excellency, Ms. Makiko Yamada, Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs
and Communications

Ms Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific
Telecommunity

Dr. Kyu-Jin Wee, Chairman, APT Conference Preparatory Group for
WRC-19

Ms Zhu Keer, Mr. Christopher Hose, Vice-Chairmen, APG19

Mr. Kavouss Arasteh, Special Senior Advisor, APG19

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Ohayōgozaimasu!

Good morning ladies and gentlemen!

It is a pleasure for me to address the opening of the 5th Meeting of
the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-19. I would like to
thank the organizers of their kind invitation to be here today.

It is an honour to come to Japan as the new Reiwa era begins – an era
of *beautiful harmony*. We couldn't have had a better name as we are

about to take on the important task of harmonizing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits!

Dear Colleagues,

Telecommunications services are key to accelerating progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Satellite technologies enable the monitoring of life below water and life on land. They provide critical knowledge about our planet and how to better protect the environment amid the perils of climate change. As for broadband technologies, they are driving industry innovation and digital transformation around the world.

All sectors of the economy are benefiting from the evolution of radiocommunication services.

According to Forbes Global ranking, 6 of the 20 largest public companies in the world are from the ICT industry sector. They include Internet and software companies, mobile operators and product manufacturers. This is reflected in ITU's work by the participation of more diverse membership, with both large and small companies active in different sectors of the economy – from energy and cybersecurity to automotive and shipping and logistics.

In this context, the fast pace of innovation has heightened the expectations on the next World Radiocommunications Conference to satisfy an increasing range of demands on the spectrum and orbit resources.

We are now less than 3 months away from WRC-19 and the success of this conference depends heavily on the work of Regional organizations such as the APT.

The fundamental goal of achieving global spectrum harmonization relies on the discussions and consensus obtained within the different regions prior to the deliberations that will take place in Sharm-El-Sheik.

APT has been instrumental in assisting its members in preparing for ITU global conferences. The diversity of the 38 member countries of the APT is compelling! The Asia-Pacific region comprises both the largest and the smallest economies of the world! In addition to the economic levels, geographies and populations are also very different.

While Small Island states may rely strongly on Satellite communications both for broadband connection and for emergency communications; other Administrations may rely more on terrestrial services. What a challenge to accommodate the spectrum requirements of each country!

I have witnessed during the last four years APG's advances in the development of Preliminary Views for several important Agenda Items of WRC-19, including AI 1.13 on IMT (by supporting the identification of the 26 GHz and 40 GHz bands), AI 1.16 on RLANs, AI 1.5 on ESIMs and AI 1.6 on Non-GSO satellites.

And I highly commend you for your work. It demonstrates the ability of the Region to reach agreement considering both the requirements of big economies as well as the needs of Small Island States.

Now, taking into account the outcomes of the CPM-19-2, there is more work to do before concluding the preparations for WRC-19.

I note that during this APG Meeting issues for consideration include the definition of unwanted emission levels to protect EESS (passive) in the 23.6-24.0 GHz frequency band and the definition of altitude limits and pdf limits for aeronautical ESIMs.

In addition, I must mention the relevance of the regional groups with regards to the proposals of new agenda items for WRC-23, and I point you to Resolution 804 that defines the principles for establishing

agendas for WRCs [e.g. manageable for ITU-R Study Groups within the period, proposals can be submitted with an indication of priority etc].

I am confident these issues will be solved to the best interest of the Region.

And when submitting your contributions on APT's common positions to the WRC, I strongly encourage you to the use of the Conference Preparatory Interface. This interface has embedded all the CPM methods within the software and will greatly facilitate your work.

Before I end my remarks, I invite you to prepare in advance your trip to Sharm el-Sheikh. In particular, to look into the webpage of the host country to obtain all logistic information regarding hotels, visas, etc. The ITU has been working hard together with the Host Country to ensure all is in place for you.

I wish you all a very fruitful meeting. May the deliberations taken in this new Japanese era of beautiful harmony improve the life of all the world's citizens.

Have a pleasant stay in Japan, and I hope to see you all soon in Sharm-El-Sheik.