

**Welcome Address**  
**by**  
**Mr. Toshiyuki YAMADA**  
**Secretary General**  
**Asia-Pacific Telecommunity**

His Excellency, Mr. Reza Taghipour, Minister of Communications & Information Technology

Dr. Kyu-Jin Wee, Chairman of the APT Management Committee,  
Mr. Ahmad Pourangnia, Vice Chairman of the APT Management Committee,  
Dr. Phan Tam, Vice Chairman of the APT Management Committee,  
Mr. Kraisor, Deputy Secretary General of APT,  
Distinguish representatives,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Management Committee of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity.

On behalf of the APT and its members, I would like to express my deep appreciation to our host, the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Islamic Republic of Iran, for hosting this important meeting in the famous city of Tehran. We are most grateful for all the excellent arrangements that you have prepared for the meeting and delegates. I have no doubt that your hard work and the tremendous effort will mean that the meeting will progress smoothly and will facilitate an effective and successful meeting.

This MC meeting occurs when APT celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Last month, as most of you will know, APT held a very successful Ministerial meeting in Bali, Indonesia. APT is very pleased that after 30 years of activities, APT has proved its sustainability and the Ministers reaffirmed their support for APT activities in the future. The Work Program for 2010 reflects the outcomes and Action Plan developed by the Ministers.

Since APT's establishment in 1979, APT has been making a continuous effort to accelerate the telecommunications and ICT development in the region. For the past three decades, APT's initiatives, not only in developing and enhancing the intra-regional and inter-regional cooperation and development goals for telecommunications in the region, but also in promoting harmonization of regional views of interest and of concern to our member countries. This MC will set the Work program for APT for 2010 bearing in

mind the Ministers directions, the economic conditions and the need to work inside a realistic budget.

This year of 2009 has seen many challenges for our members and APT. However we have survived the economic crises and the technological developments are continuing at a ever increasing pace. Governments, recognizing the importance of telecommunications and ICT, are taking a strong interest in telecommunications and ICT infrastructure as was evident at the Ministerial meeting in Bali. However as technology is creating new services and new opportunities that are challenging the traditional telecommunication marketplace, these new services are also creating new issues that need to be addressed and resolved with purposefulness and care. These issues are wide ranging from dealing with all aspects of spam and cybercrime to dealing with the unique challenges created by broadband, the ever increasing need for radio frequency spectrum, Next Generation Networks and convergence to name a few.

With this new drive, we will continue to derive strength from our spirit of co-operation and understanding that has brought all of us to this meeting today.

As all of you are aware, APT's work program for 2008 has been successfully implemented. Over the year, we were fully aware and kept in mind that the productivity and efficiency of APT is paramount. APT will continue to direct every dollar of member's contribution for the maximum benefit of our members. However the productivity and efficiency cannot be accomplished or materialized without the support from our members. In order to achieve the enlarged Work Program and to improve quality, all kinds of contributions, whatever form it takes, are solicited to enable APT to continue and carry out its mandate smoothly and successfully.

I am confident that with your co-operation, guidance and support, the APT will be able to move forward with strength and confidence.

I wish you success on your deliberations in the meetings and I look forward to having your full co-operation for the successful compilation of the APT Work Program and budget for 2010.

Before coming to a close, I once again wish to express my grateful thanks to our generous hosts – the Government of Iran with their very capable staff in arranging the excellent facilities for all of us to make possible an efficient and successful MC meeting.

Thank you very much for your kind attention