

APT Cyber Security Forum 16-19 November 2010 Sydney, Australia

WELCOME ADDRESS
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Ms. Sabeena Oberoi, Assistant Secretary, Department of Broadband, Communications and Digital Economy (DBCDE), Government of Australia,
Mr. Richard Brown, Director Regional Cooperation Section, DBCDE, Australia,
Distinguished Speakers and Participants

Good morning to you all and welcome to the APT Cybersecurity Forum that is being held here in the cosmopolitan city of Sydney. It is indeed a pleasure to see you here this morning for this important meeting.

Firstly please let me take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to our host, the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE) of the Government of Australia for the excellent arrangements for hosting this Forum. Australia is also supporting this forum by assisting it financially through the extra-budgetary contribution as well as by providing a number of speakers for this meeting. The Australian Government has always supported APT activities and has hosted a number of important APT events this year. Thank you very much for your contribution towards APT activities.

I would also like to thank PITA to be a partner of this event by sponsoring social function of the forum. I notice the president of PITA and General Manager is among us here. Thank you for your participation.

My thanks go to a number of international organizations who are attending this meeting. They are APCERT, APNIC, ICANN, IMPACT, ITU, and SPC and I thank them for their substantial contributions to the forum.

I also greatly appreciate the participation of our affiliate members who provide expertise to the meeting without that it would be difficult to make our meeting successful.

Lastly but not the least I congratulate the participation of Republic of Vanuatu who joined APT as from 10 November and became a Full Member of APT. Vanuatu is the 36th Member of APT. This meeting is the first meeting for Vanuatu to participate in APT as a Member State. Congratulations.

Everyone here is well aware of the benefits that the Internet has brought to society as a whole. But unfortunately with this new technology, new threats have also arisen. Having effective responses to these cybersecurity threats is increasing becoming more important to Governments, businesses and individuals.

This Forum which is now having the first meeting here in Sydney, Australia has been substantiated by the Ministerial Meeting held in Bali, Indonesia in November last year. The Bali Ministerial Statement and Plan of Action clearly put the emphasis of the importance of the cooperation in the field of Cybersecurity. The Management Committee of APT which had its session immediately after the Ministerial Meeting unanimously approved the creation of Cybersecurity Forum considering the wishes of the Ministers. This forum is designed for creating awareness of the many facets of cyber threats, combating cybercrime and enhancing the cooperation of APT members in the area of cybersecurity in the Region.

Having said this, let me explain a little bit about the general thrust of our program, The Cybersecurity environment will be outlined and the role of Computer Emergency Response Teams that are known as CERT's will be covered. Combating harmful sites, particularly in regard to content, will also be covered. An important aspect of this program is that of protecting Children who have become particularly vulnerable in this new cyber world.

Working with industry is very important as Governments cannot undertake the task of cybersecurity by itself. Various countries experiences and practices will be presented for your information along anti spam measures which I am certain every one of you here in this room has experienced.

I am very optimistic that this Forum will give you the opportunity to benefit from the exchange of information and views with other participants that will lead to further enhancing cybersecurity in the region.

While at this Forum, it is important that you communicate your experiences and take the opportunity to learn from others. In this way, highly relevant information can be shared between other participants.

The success obtained from this Forum depends on your active participation over the next three days. Please make sure you do your part and work together to make this meeting a success.

I also hope that while you are here you have an opportunity to enjoy Sydney.

Thank you very much