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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No.:**  **PRFP-11/OUT-01** |
| **11th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-11)** |
| 27 – 30 November 2018, Apia, Samoa | 15 April 2019 |

Secretary General

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 11TH APT**

**POLICY AND REGULATION FORUM FOR PACIFIC**

1. INTRODUCTION

The 11th APT Policy and Regulation Forum for Pacific (PRFP-11) was held from 27 to 30 November 2018 in Apia, Samoa. The Meeting was hosted by Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) and Office of the Regulator (OOTR), Government of Samoa.

The Meeting was attended by 98 participants from APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, Regional/International Organization, other organization and the APT Secretariat. Document PRFP-11/ADM-03 contains the list of participants of the meeting.

1. OPENING SESSION *(Tuesday, 27 November 2018, 9:30 – 10:00 hrs.)*
   1. **Welcome and Opening Address by Honorable Afamasaga Rico Tupai, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Samoa**

Honorable Afamasaga Rico Tupai, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Samoa welcomed all participants to Samoa. He congratulated Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General for her reappointment and thanked for her support and commitment in the development of the Pacific Region. He encouraged the delegates to start a new initiative at home after returning from the Forum and highlighted some of the ICT development activities in Samoa.

The full text of his address is provided in Document PRFP-11/INP-01.

* 1. **Welcome Address by Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity**

Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General of APT welcomed all delegates to the Forum. She highlighted key outcomes of three important events after the last PRFP including the 14th Session of the General Assembly of the APT, and the 41st and 42nd Sessions of the Management Committee of the APT relevant to PRFP. She also mentioned the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 that would be held in June 2019 in Singapore and the establishment of the Correspondence Group for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting (CGMM) to prepare for the Ministerial Meeting.

The full text of her address is provided in Document PRFP-11/INP-02.

* 1. **Address by Chairman of PRFP**

Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP delivered the address. He welcomed all delegates and thanked APT for organizing the Forum which is an important Forum for Pacific sub region. He highlighted some important topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Cybersecurity, etc. and how the Pacific lag in the space of ICT development compared with developed world and how this could be a strategic advantage by learning of the mistakes of those that have gone before them and leverage on emerging technologies to “leap frog”.

The full text of his address is provided in PRFP-11/INP-03.

1. SESSION 1 - PLENARY *(Tuesday, 27 November 2018, 10:30 – 10:45 hrs*.*)*
   1. **Adoption of Agenda *(Doc. PRFP-11/ADM-01)***

Chairman of PRFP introduced the Provisional Agenda of the Meeting. He sought comments on the document. As there was no comment, it was approved.

* 1. **Outcomes of the 14th Session of the General Assembly of the APT and the 41st and 42nd Sessions of the Management Committee of the APT Relevant to PRFP *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-04)***

Secretary General presented the outcomes of the 14th Session of the General Assembly of the APT (GA-14) and the 41st and 42nd Session of the Management Committee of the APT (MC-41 and MC-42) relevant to PRFP. She informed that GA-14 adopted the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020. MC-41 adopted the report of the PRFP, approved the holding of PRFP-11 in 2018, and instructed all APT work programmes to implement the action plans of the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 and report to each session of the MC. Furthermore, MC-42 adopted the report of the PRFP, approved the holding of PRFP-12 in 2019, approved the holding of Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 and Senior Official Meeting for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019, approved TOR/the establishment of the Correspondence Group for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 and its two physical meetings, and noted the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the APT. The Plenary noted the outcomes of the 14th Session of the General Assembly of the APT and the 41st and 42nd Sessions of the Management Committee of the APT relevant to the work of PRFP.

* 1. **Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020 *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-05)***

Dr. Jongbong Park, Director Project Development, APT briefly presented the Strategic Plan of the APT for 2018-2020. He highlighted five Strategic Pillars of the Strategic Plan i.e. Connectivity, Innovation, Trust, Partnership, and Capacity Building. The Strategic Plan included action plan and expected outcomes. He encouraged members to go through the document for more information.

1. SESSION 2 –Trends on ICT Policy and Regulation/Updates of the Pacific (*Tuesday, 27 November 2018, 10:45 – 12:15 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

* 1. **ICT Trends on Policy/Regulation & Issues *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-06)***

Mrs. Renga Teannaki, ICT Policy Analyst, Kiribati presented the document. The presentation focused on the ICT reform highlighting the achievements of the National ICT Policy 2011 in Kiribati. The presentation discussed key priority issues including cybersecurity, connectivity, digital divide, and e-government. There was a review made to existing policy absorbing the ongoing and new developments activities undertaken in the country that encompasses ICT priority needs in the country.

* 1. **Trends on ICT Policy and Regulation – Vanuatu Update *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-07)***

Mr. John Jack, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Vanuatu presented the document. He provided overview of a new legal and regulatory framework which was introduced under the TRBR Act and some of the lessons learnt as well as the policy review/development and amendments to legislation and some of the challenges. The presentation then covered future plans of Vanuatu in moving into the 4th Generation regime, with the policies, regulatory frameworks and legislations that will effectively and efficiently facilitate the use of OTT services, IoT, AI, data privacy, cybersecurity, smart city, etc.

* 1. **Update on ICT Policy, Regulation, Infrastructure and Services in PNG *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-08)***

Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP and CEO NICTA, Papua New Guinea presented the document. He first introduced the PNG context in term of satellite and submarine connectivity, broadband and Internet access, mobile coverage, etc. and key policy and regulatory instruments. He then talked about wholesale service review, retail prices public inquiry, and other regulatory public inquiries. The presentation then covered the Universal Access and Service (UAS) Regime, International Broadband Infrastructure, prospects for the Future, and IXP and Cybersecurity.

* 1. **Discussion**

Chairman shared information on the taxation for Infrastructure sharing and on regulation of submarine cable to provide telecommunication services in PNG as queried by Kiribati.

1. SPECIAL SESSION – Alternatives for Regulators and Service Providers in Resolving ICT Issues *(Tuesday, 27 November 2018, 13:45 – 14:00 hrs.)*

Moderator: Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Vice-Chairman of PRFP

* 1. **Alternative Dispute Resolution *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-32)***

Mr. Aidan Warren, Managing Director, McCaw Lewis Ltd presented the document. The presentation looked at mediation as a solution to resolving relevant disputes in a quick and efficient way with a specific focus on developing “pre dispute process” and mechanism. The mediation is the process where independent person is engaged to help the parties resolve the dispute. The aim is not the absence of conflict but the process developed to resolve the issue. The court process is very slow but the industry is fast pace where technology is changing. The outcome of the court process cannot be controlled and may not be the practical solution and it is also costly. The mediation is a win/win context where the parties control the process and timing, and appoint the mediator who understand terms and jargons. It can come up with range of solutions which the court cannot provide.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting widely discussed on the topic and shared some experiences which are different from country to country based on their cultures such as Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga.

1. SESSION 3 – AI AND IOT FOR THE PACIFIC *(Tuesday, 29 May 2018, 14:00 – 15:30 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Richard Bullock, Assistant Secretary, Department of Communications and the Arts, Australia

* 1. **Investing for the Future *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-09)***

Mr. David Morrison, Chief Transformation Office, Carrier Business Group, Huawei, presented the document. There were many technological and business trends that will transform Society and Industry including Big Data & Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, IoT, Advanced Robotics, 5G, etc. The presentation focused on how the 3 pillars of AI, IoT and 5G underpin and are integral to the development of smart nations. The key things for IoT are that All Things Smart and All Things Connected. AI is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines which include Learning, Reasoning, and Self-correction, and it will modernize industries. 5G underpins AI and IoT and fill the gap over 4G in term of latency, throughput, connections, and mobility.

* 1. **Practical Applications of Artificial Intelligence – A Broad Perspective *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-10)***

Mr. Stephen Sua Leota, CEO of NetVo, Samoa presented the document. He mentioned that Artificial Intelligence (AI) had taken the developments in the technological and telecommunications space by storm. There were mixed views towards the sustainability of such developments; however, millions of dollars had been invested in to developing this particular focus. The presentation looked at AI from a broad perspective and where the Pacific Islands stand to benefit in the later years. The presentation also discussed about applications of AI to a few SDGs out of the 17 which have been declared by the UN including SDG 3 Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 6 Clean Water & Sanitation, etc. Finally it covered some of the challenges such as availability of data, infrastructure, technical capacity, etc.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting widely discussed on the topic including challenges for Pacific perspective especially on technical capacity of the government representative and regulator. NBIOT, use of telecommunication spectrum by NBIOT.

1. SESSION 4 – INTERNET CONNECTIVITY OF THE PACIFIC AND ITS BEYOND *(Tuesday, 27 November 2018, 15:45 – 17:15 hrs.)*

Moderator: Dr. Bob Horton, Communications Consultant

* 1. **Enabling Access *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-11)***

Mr. Naveed Haq, regional Development Manager, Internet Society (ISOC) Asia-Pacific presented the document. There were two gaps in Internet adoption that need to be addressed which are those for whom access is still not available, and those who could access the Internet but choose not to. Rural areas faced a double digital divide in the supply side where there was insufficient investment and in the demand side where there was a lack of skill and knowledge. One of the approach was community networks which are network infrastructures that are built, managed, and used by local communities. The presentation then discussed some other issues including the adoption rate and lack of locally relevant content and services, limited use of the Internet, accessibility by design, and some of the recommendation for policy makers to enable sustainable connectivity.

* 1. **Internet Exchange Point (IXP) *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-12)***

Mr. Srinivas Chendi, Senior Advisor Policy and Community Development, APNIC presented the document. He mentioned that IXPs allowed Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to extend their networks by exchanging routing information and traffic with other ISPs via a local exchange rather than needing to exchange local Internet traffic overseas. IXPs are integral part of the Internet ecosystem and critical Internet infrastructure of the economy. IXPs allow network providers to peer with other providers outside their own network to shorten their path to the transit coming from other participating global networks, thereby reducing latency, improving round-trip time, and potentially reducing costs.

* 1. **Bringing More People Online to a Faster Internet *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-13)***

Mr. Tom Chottayil Varghese, Manager, Connectivity & Access Policy, Facebook, presented the document. He mentioned that connectivity was at the heart of Facebook’s mission to bring the world closer together. High-quality internet access gave people a voice, enables richer communications, and created new opportunities to share knowledge and strengthen communities and economies. In collaboration with hundreds of partners across dozens of countries, Facebook has been working to help overcome the global internet connectivity challenges of access, affordability, and awareness – with the hope that, one day, everyone would have high-quality Internet access. The presentation focused on some of Facebook’s connectivity initiatives such as Terragraph, Open Cellular, High-Altitude Connectivity, etc.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting widely discussed on topics including HAPS (High-altitude platform stations and satellites), cost of microwave, local content vs local traffic. Regarding the issue on lack of digital literacy, since the computer come into the hand of the kid, the curriculum need to be revisited and updated. In some school, computer is treated like a private property and children are not allowed to use because there is no teacher. Community center could be used to teach the kid where they could not afford to go to school.

Secretariat further added that APT Members can share outcome of the pilot project to other members through the ADF. The community network and some of the capacity building and awareness programme could be shared to members, and APT is willing to accommodate any need including ISOC to share the finding through ADF platform. ITU further added on its digital skill framework which has been released earlier during the year.

CTO further added on the high cost of Internet even with submarine cable available. When ISP buy the bandwidth, the cost of Internet will slightly goes up to recover the money to buy the bandwidth.

1. SESSION 5 – SECURING CRITICAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE *(Wednesday, 28 November 2018, 09:00 – 10:30 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Tuaimalo Asamu Ah Sam, CEO of MCIT, Samoa

* 1. **Strategies for cybersecurity *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-14)***

Mr. Toleafoa Douglas Creevy, Group CEO Bluesky, Samoa presented the document. Bluesky Group is Telecommunications Carriers in American Samoa, Samoa and the Cook Islands. Recent evolution of ICT services in Samoa has been rapid and exciting. However, meeting the demand is very challenging. The presentation talked about technology, costs challenge, and security issues. Samoa is now on the in the information super highway and it must protect its networks and data. The presentation then covered strategies for cybersecurity in many aspects including core system security, facilities security, internal systems, future systems, and IoT and 5G.

* 1. **Assessing National Cybersecurity Capacity in the Pacific *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-15)***

Dr. James Boorman, Project Lead CMM in the Pacific, Oceania Cyber Security Centre (OCSC), Australia presented the document. The Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre (GCSCC) at the University of Oxford has developed the Cybersecurity Capacity Maturity Model for Nations (CMM) as a model to facilitate the assessment of the maturity of a country’s cybersecurity capacity. Developed in consultation with over 200 international experts, the CMM considers cybersecurity capacity across five dimensions: Cybersecurity Policy and Strategy; Cyber Culture and Society; Cybersecurity Education, Training and Skills; Legal and Regulatory Frameworks; and Standards, Organisations and Technologies. The CMM has been used to assess more than 60 nations across the globe. OCSC in partnership with GCSCC are working with nations in the region to conduct CMM reviews to help identify and prioritise areas for capacity building, including Critical Infrastructure (CI) Protection and Incident Response.

* 1. **Update on the PACSON Initiative *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-16)***

Mr. Richard Bullock, Assistant Secretary, Department of Communications and the Arts, Australia presented the document. The mission of the Pacific Cyber Security Operational Network (PACSON) is to work together across the Pacific to cooperatively and collaboratively develop collective cyber security incident response capabilities; enhance technical skills and knowledge; share cyber security threat information; and reflect bet practice in order to strengthen cyber security defenses. The presentation provided and overview of the PACSON initiative and an update on the most recent activities.

* 1. **Securing and handling abuses in the Domain Names System *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-17)***

Mr. Savenaca Vocea, Regional Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engatement, ICANN presented the document. The presentation discussed how badness (abuses) can happen in the Domain Names System (DNS) and the important elements in handling such abuses focusing on various processes. The presentation covered the work of ICANN and how it involve in ensuring the security, stability and resiliency (SSR) of the DNS Ecosystem. It explained the hierarchy of the Domain Name System, contractual relationship with the registry operator and service provider, and DNS Ecosystem relationships. It also covered topics on the DNS Components, elements of the DNS Vulnerable to attacks, Identifier Systems, and Domain Abuse Activity Reporting system (DAAR).

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting also discussed about top three recommendations for policy makers and regulators of the Pacific country that need to be considered to ensure to have a secured infrastructure. The recommendation included identifying what is considered the critical infrastructure in the country, identifying who is responsible for managing it, identify what would be the impact if the hazard occur. The Meeting also discussed on the capacity building programme which are part of PaCSON priorities from Australia.

CTO further commented that cybersecurity was one of the goal to be focused on and it has started training on policy side as well as regulation and legislation for Commonwealth country. CTO would be happy to be a partner to Australia going forward since it had experience in helping Fiji with national cybersecurity policy and looking forward for it.

1. SESSION 6 – SECURING CITIZENS AND THEIR DATA IN THE CYBERSPACE *(Wednesday, 28 November 2018, 10:45 – 12:15hrs.)*

Moderator: Mrs. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, Acting Secretary General and Director of ICT Development Department of Commonwealth Telecommunication Organization (CTO)

* 1. **Securing Citizens and their Data in the Cyberspace (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-20)**

Mr. Farid Mohammad, CEO Digicel Samoa presented the document. The presentation looked into Digicel’s approach as a domestic infrastructure provider to protecting the interests of its customer on-line. The approach is for example to offer services to people who are 18 years and over and targeted at adults from university age and above. As an investor in Samoa, Digicel has a vested interested in the welfare of the people of the country and its business decision making and operations are undertaken in the local context. The presentation also addressed the challenges raised by the growth in offshore social media and OTT service providers, and some of the concerns as well as remedies.

* 1. **Privacy in the Data-driven Era *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-19)***

Mr. Naveed Haq, Regional Development Manager, Internet Society (ISOC) Asia-Pacific presented the document. Today, the world’s most powerful companies hold a treasure trove of personal data, having collected it from millions of their customers worldwide. Emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things will make it easier for more granular information about us to be gathered, aggregated, triangulated and cross-referenced. A connected world offers the promise of convenience, efficiency and insight, but creates a platform for shared risk. Online privacy and data protection are evolving concepts and the presentation also covered topics on privacy by design, APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules, APEC Privacy Framework, and Online Trust Alliance (OTA) IoT Trust Framework.

* 1. **eSafety Policy in Australia *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-18)***

Mr. Richard Bullock, Assistant Secretary, Department of Communications and the Arts, Australia presented the document. With more and more Australian online, the eSafety Commissioner was established to address some of the policy challenges resulting from the growing digital environment. The eSafety Commissioner oversees a variety initiatives including a cyberbullying complaints scheme, an online content scheme, and a newly enacted image-based abuse scheme. The eSafety Commission also provides a variety of online safety tools to assist the elderly, parents, children, and school teachers to navigate the online environment.

* 1. **The ISP’s Role in Improving Internet Security *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-21)***

Ms. Rita Eteuati, Acting CEO/Operation Manager, Computer Service Limited (CSL), Samoa presented the document. Many are aware that using the Internet and being connected online has its risks. Getting connected is easy. However, network security can be complex. The presentation looked from an ISP (CSL Samoa) Perspective on the challenges and reasons for Internet Service Providers implementing security mechanisms on their national networks. Two key factors of security mechanism for ISP are the ISP Security Enabler-Who implements the security mechanisms, and the ISP Security Method-How the security mechanism is implemented. The presentation then looked into understanding of the positive and negative incentives of a security mechanism in the overall impact group.

* 1. **Discussion**

Facebook added some commented on the privacy and GDPR which are implemented by Facebook. It also tried to follow privacy by design principle.

The Meeting widely discussed on the issue including the cyber bullying and the center responsible for such issue, child online protection. Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Tonga, Fiji, Micronesia shared their measures concerning data protection and cybersecurity. Implementation and enforcement are two key important points. Policy, regulation, and legislation would only be paper without implementation and enforcement.

1. SESSION 7 – NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RISK REDUCTION AND MITIGATION *(Wednesday, 28 November 2018, 14:00 – 15:30 hrs.)*

Moderator: Dr. Hlekiwe Kachali, ETC Coordinator for the Pacific, World Food Programme

* 1. **Communication Cluster in Tonga (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-22)**

Mr. Alifeleti Tuihalamaka, Director of Communications, Tonga presented the document. The Emergency Management in Tonga is based on the 2007 Emergency Management Act. National Emergency Management Operation (NEMO’s) primary function is to coordinate Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management activities in the Kingdom. The National Emergency Management Plan (NEMP) has been developed. The presentation discussed the establishment of the Communication Cluster in Tonga and whereas the Department of Communication (Ministry MEIDECC) has being tasked with the responsibilities. (“Natural Disaster preparedness, risk reduction and mitigation).

* 1. **Disaster Response with Mobile ICT System and Need of Flexible Regulatory Framework for Public Protection (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-23)**

Dr. Kader-Hiroshi Pramanik, Special Adviser to the President, JTEC Japan presented the document. He mentioned that natural disaster had been more significant in recent years causing loss of lives and damage to property where International Organizations were seamlessly acting to assist countries to meet their needs. Those disasters included cyclone, volcanic eruption, earthquake, tsunami, landslide, flash flood, sea level rise, etc. However, due to inadequate coordination and experience, delay in action was experienced, especially while introducing new ICT equipment. The presentation looked at some of the new technology/equipment and constraints, and discussed to deepen understanding for smooth actions to save lives.

* 1. **Samoa National Emergency Telecommunication Plan (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-24)**

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Regulator, Samoa presented the document. The presentation introduced the Samoa National Emergency Telecommunication Plan (NETP) that was first developed after the Tsunami in 2009. NETP provided recommended initiatives and milestones as guidance to service providers, relevant government ministries and non-governmental organizations in making measurable improvements in their emergency telecommunication capabilities. The vision was to ensure that telecommunication services were available and continue to be available so that the message could be delivered to the public and to allow emergency responders to communicate effectively before, during and after natural disasters. NETP was a multi sectoral stakeholding arrangement which was implemented by all sectors, lead Office of the Regulator.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting discussed on the regulatory and licensing framework in time of emergency Papua New Guinea commented that Resolution 30 of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 addressed some of the issue. The Meeting also discussed the physical testing of the NETP, the clearance process for the VSAT terminal, the ease of which terminal could be circulated and brought to the country. Chairman of PRFP further added on the issue of smooth circulation of terminals within the region. PRFP was trying to address the issue by harmonized common licensing framework. The issue had been discussed in PRFP-9 in PNG and he suggested to progress the issue then. Members also shared their information regarding National Emergency Telecommunication Plan including Fiji, Micronesia, and Kiribati. The point in preparedness was not 100% prepared but 80% prepared and leave 20% for the Ad Hoc since each disaster was different.

1. SESSION 8 – CLOSED SESSION FOR POLICY MAKERS AND REGULATORS *(Wednesday, 28 November 2018, 15:45 – 17:15 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

* 1. **Discussion**

Chairman requested Members to propose topics for discussion prior to the session. The topics proposed included:

* PiRRC
* Harmonized Common Licensing Framework
* ITU Connectivity Project

In addition, the Meeting also discussed about the Global Symposium for Regulator (GSR) which would be hosted by Vanuatu in 2019 where it would provide a good experience for Regulator in the Pacific to attend such international meeting. Vanuatu also took note of the Chairman for his suggestion to have regulators in the Pacific as moderators of the sessions.

1. SESSION 9 – CATALYZING E-APPLICATION IN THE PACIFIC *(Thursday, 29 November 2018, 9:00 – 10:30 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Ashish Narayan, Program Coordinator, ITU Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific, International Telecommunication Union

* 1. **E-Application Economy – The What, When, How, Why, Where, Challenges and the Way Forward (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-26)**

Mrs. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, Acting Secretary General and Director of ICT Development Department of CTO presented the document. The Internet has played a huge role in transforming our lives and the way we do business. One of the recent trends is building or developing Mobile applications or simply referred to as mobile APPS. E-Application refers to electronic services that deemed to provide increased transparency, efficiency and participation for governments and businesses. These Apps are increasingly playing a vital role in business convenience of access on-demand to information & solutions that has led to a very strong App Economy in many parts of the world including the Asia and African region. The presentation looked at the situation in the Pacific, challenges and possible options.

* 1. **Catalyzing e-Application in the Pacific - Vanuatu Experience *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP25)***

Mr. John Jack, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Vanuatu presented the document. The presentation introduced the Vanuatu Integrated Government Initiative. Its principles included effectiveness and efficiency, access to services, and transparency and accountability. Vanuatu decided to look towards a more integrated approach in boosting the uptake of ICT. The entry point for an integrated approach to whole-of-government is to determine the baseline conditions which allow for collaboration, across and between departments, through institutional arrangements so that the ensuing system is holistic, synergistic and coordinated in the delivery of services to its citizenry and residents. The presentation then talked about lessons learnt, challenges, and future plan in moving into moving into the 4th Generation Regulator.

* 1. **E-Agriculture Strategy and Partnership in PNG *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-27)***

Mr. Jackson Kariko, Manager International Affairs, NICTA, Papua New Guinea presented the document. The presentation introduced the e-Agriculture Strategy Development Roadmap which started in 2015 where NICTA requested ITU for assistance and the implementation was started in August 2018. Priority E-agriculture Solutions were for example e-agriculture extension advisory and monitoring system, integrated natural resource management information system, communication channel amongst agriculture stakeholders, etc. where some of them has been achieved and other would be implemented soon. The presentation then discussed e-agriculture strategy implementation, capacity development and education using ICTs, FARMIS application, access to ICTs, and partnership of the project which included international organizations, country partner, and local organizations.

* 1. **A Telco’s perspective – Opportunity for a regional approach (Doc. PRFP-11/INP-34)**

Mr. Alex Abraham, Country Manager, Bluesky, Samoa presented the document. The presentation looked at Telco’s perspective on Regional efforts in developing various solutions to common challenges. Connectivity foundation was in place which include international connectivity, broadband, and mobility. Some of the challenges are for example various standalone e-government platforms are online but not integrated under local framework, limited integration option by 3rd parties, limited cross industrial integration, etc. The presentation then outlines some examples of efforts that have shown benefits e.g. connectivity and mergers and acquisition, etc.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting widely discussed on the topics especially on the e-agricultural project in PNG and sharing of information to other Members in the Pacific. Meeting also provided some recommendation including capacity building, sharing of information Implementation and capacity building are important keywords.

1. SESSION 10 – SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT IN THE PACIFIC AND ITS CHALLENGES *(Thursday, 29 November 2018, 10:45 – 12:15 hrs.)*

Moderator: Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Regulator, Samoa

* 1. **Regulatory “Best Practices” for Space-based Broadband *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-29)***

Dr. Siok Tan, Director of Regulatory Affairs, OneWeb presented the document. Global demand for data was growing exponentially, and terrestrial solutions cannot keep up. Satellite industry has been transforming to meet increasing data demand. The presentation covered the latest NGSO LEO satellite systems such as OneWeb’s innovative systems as a solution to connect the unconnected in the Pacific island. It also discussed why regulators should encourage the deployment of innovative satellite technologies and the regulatory best practices to encourage deployment of innovative satellite technologies. It also provided example of regulatory regime in Europe.

* 1. **Wireless broadband in the Pacific: how spectrum decisions can shape the future of Pacific Nations in the digital world *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-30)***

Mr. Cristian Gomez, Director, Spectrum Policy & Regulatory, Asia Pacific, GSMA presented the document. Connecting people to the digital economy is just as important for Pacific Nations as it is for mainland countries. Wireless is the primary form of communication infrastructure nowadays, particularly important where geography and distance determine the level of flexibility needed to enable access. Mobile technology continues to evolve and new capabilities will bring benefits to users and businesses in the Pacific. Pacific Nations must plan their spectrum decisions early in order to take advantage of these benefits. The presentation discussed spectrum management in the Pacific, mobile broadband in Asia Pacific (coverage and capacity), and benefits and planning Gigabit mobile (5G networks).

* 1. **Spectrum Management Practices in PNG *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-28)***

Mr. Jackson Kariko, Manager, International Affairs, NICTA, Papua New Guinea presented the document. Spectrum Management remains a critical function of Governments and Regulations. The island countries are no exception and overly depend on spectrum based technologies to achieve their connectivity plans. The presentation shared PNG experience to date. In essence, it revisited the PNG Spectrum Management framework, an update on current Spectrum planning activities in PNG, Satellite filing activities, and future work (preparations for WRC2019).

* 1. **Prospects of APT Frequency Information System (AFIS) *(Doc. PRFP-11/INP-31)***

Dr. Jongbong Park, Director Project Development, APT presented the document. APT Frequency Information System (AFIS) is a smart way to share the information of spectrum usage in Asia-Pacific. It is a web-based portal of frequency information of APT Members. The presentation then explained the purpose of AFIS, main contents of AFIS, example of 3 layers of application and radio interfaces parameters, and further explained how AFIS works. AFIS is a potential tool that can assist Members to manage spectrum efficiently. It can also compare data for a series of Administrations, and would contribute to the regional harmonization of usage of frequency spectrum. It would also contribute to the underdeveloped/developing nations for the development of electronic version of their NTFA. APT was working with a number of Administrations and provided AFIS training. Some of them has been trained and APT would continue to provide training to APT Members.

* 1. **Discussion**

The Meeting discussed on challenges in frequency management and guidance to address the issue. PNG also took note of GSMA regarding the allocation of spectrum for 5G. CTO commented regarding the commonalities among commonwealth countries in each region in term of agenda item for WRC-19 and would populate to the member countries so that they could support the agenda item that other regions also support.

1. SESSION 11 -- PANEL DISCUSSION: FUTURE OUTLOOK *(Thursday, 29 November 2018, 14:00 – 15:30 hrs.)*

Moderator: Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

* 1. **Discussion**

Chairman gave a brief introduction on the intention of this session where Members put forward their proposals to allow collaboration and cooperation going forward, and allowed Members to raise any specific topics that they want to include in the next PRFP.

He briefly summarized all the sessions which had been discussed earlier during the forum and then acknowledged organizations participated in the Forum including ITU, CTO, ISOC, APNIC, ICANN, as well as Industry representatives and service providers.

He then requested Members to provide their comments and proposals where Members were actively participated in the discussion. The topics/issues as raised Members were summarized in the following table.

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| Administrations | Topics/Issues |
| Fiji | * Collaboration: spectrum, e-Application, disaster * E-Application * Robust ICT Infrastructure |
| Kiribati | * Cybersecurity * Spectrum management training * Fellowship * E-Application |
| Micronesia | * E-Application – policies, implementation * Regional approach |
| Nauru | * Spectrum management training |
| Palau | * New Telecommunication Act * Collaboration * Cybersecurity * E-Application |
| Papua New Guinea | * Emerging technology, AI, IoT, Blockchain – real life applications |
| Samoa | * Regional approach and partnership for sharing resources, finance, human capacity * Capacity building – not many participants from Pacific, fellowship issue * Pacific need to be heard * Partnership and sharing resources - new submarine cable project * Cybersecurity, PACSON initiative, CERT * PiRRC * National Digital Transformation Council * IXP * Satellite Services |
| Tonga | * Regional approach on Satellite Services * New technologies, IoT and their impacts |
| Tuvalu | * Spectrum Management * CERT |
| Vanuatu | * E-Application * Disaster Management * PACSON initiative * Cooperation and collaboration |
| Cook Islands | * Cybersecurity * Cost of Internet * E-Application |

Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP, added that active participation and continuity were important for those who attended the international meeting.

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, Vice-Chairman of PRFP, commented on the issues for WRC and how the Pacific voice should be heard.

Secretary General added that it was important to listen to the need of countries in the Pacific and PRFP was an exclusive programme for the Pacific. Some of the issues proposed was similar to the need of other sub-regions. In term of training courses, one full fellowship, or two partial fellowships (one for ticket and the other for accommodation) could be provided. Moreover, Members could also request for local training courses, which provide opportunity for more people to be trained. Partner organizations such as GSMA, APNIC, ISOC, and other training organizations had been working with APT for the capacity building programme. APT also provided expert mission on AFIS in 2018 and would continue in 2019.

ITU added that it had taken note the issues from the discussion and would be happy to work with Members and the issue of E-Application would be discussed further during the workshop that would be held in the following day after PRFP.

ISOC added that it would be happy to work with Members on the matter of network connectivity, community network, IXP, cybersecurity training on routing security, encryption, IoT security, privacy, and Internet Governance training.

APNIC also added that it was open for collaboration with Members and could support capacity building program where it also provided fellowship.

1. SESSION 12 – PLENARY AND CLOSING *(Thursday, 29 November 2018, 15:45 – 17:15 hrs.)*

Chairman: Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP

* 1. **Inputs for Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019**

Chairman summarized what had been presented earlier by Secretariat that Mr. Charles Chew from Singapore was nominated as the Chairman of the Correspondence Group for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 (CGMM) and Members were requested to submit nomination for member of CGMM to the APT Secretariat. It was important for Pacific region to have inputs for the Ministerial Meeting. He encouraged each country member of PRFP to provide inputs for the Ministerial Meeting through the CGMM, which would work mainly through correspondence. There would be two physical meetings of CGMM to be held at the APT Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand in January and April 2019.

As for the Ministerial Meeting in June 2019, he mentioned that the host country, Singapore, would provide hospitality package including return air tickets and hotel accommodation for the Minister and one senior official for each Administration.

* 1. **Nomination of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of PRFP**

Chairman informed that the Working Methods of PRFP specified the terms of office of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairman of PRFP as two years that was extendable once. Since he had completed his second term as the Chairman and Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, a Vice-Chairman of PRFP had also completed his second term. Both were not eligible for being nominated for the next term. He added that Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, another Vice-Chairman from Samoa had completed her first term as a Vice-Chairman so she was eligible for another term. Then, he invited the Meeting to nominate the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of PRFP.

Papua New Guinea, seconded by Nauru, proposed Ms. Unutoa Fonoti from Samoa as a new Chairman of PRFP. The Meeting agreed to nominate Ms. Unutoa Fonoti as the new Chairman of PRFP by applause.

Palau, seconded by Samoa, proposed Mr. Criden Appi from Nauru as a new Vice-Chairman of PRFP. The Meeting agreed to nominate Mr. Criden Appi as a new Vice-Chairman of PRFP by applause.

Fiji, seconded by Cook Islands, proposed Mr. John Jack from Vanuatu as a new Vice-Chairman of PRFP. The Meeting agreed to nominate Mr. John Jack as a new Vice-Chairman of PRFP by applause.

Chairman congratulated the new Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for their nomination for the next term.

* 1. **Date and Venue of PRFP-12**

Chairman informed that at MC-42 in Mongolia, Palau had proposed to host PRFP-12 in May 2019. He mentioned that during the off-line discussion among the Members, there were concerns regarding the timeframe of the meeting, which would be a month before the Ministerial Meeting, and also regarding the route for travelling to Palau from other Pacific Members.

He mentioned that according to the timeline of CGMM, CGMM would meet in early April to discuss and conclude the second draft Ministerial Statement. Then, within April 2019, such draft would be circulated for the consideration of APT Members. If PRFP would meet in May, PRFP could not provide comments to such draft since other Members would be during their internal clearance for their Minister to consider in Singapore in June 2019. Therefore, May was not appropriate timeframe for PRFP-12. PRPF could follow the APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF) to have the next meeting after the Ministerial Meeting to discuss how to incorporate the Ministerial Statement into its work programme.

Chairman further mentioned that basically, the discussion regarding the next host of PRFP would be discussed first at PRFP and then submitted to MC for approval. However, for this year, PRFP was held after MC-42 so the meeting had no chance to discuss the issue in advance. Chairman thanked Palau for the proposal and would further work for confirmation.

He also requested any Member who was interested to host the PRFP-13 to make its proposals. Vanuatu proposed to host PRFP-13 in 2020. The Meeting welcomed the proposal of Vanuatu.

Samoa queried whether there would be two reports of PRFP meetings (PRFP-11 and PRFP-12) at the next MC.

Secretary General clarified that during MC-42 in Mongolia, there was a report of the Chairman of PRFP being presented. MC-42 was also reported that PRFP-11 would be held in November which was after the MC. The activities and expected outcomes of PRFP-11 had already been reported to MC-42. However, the actual outcomes of PRFP-11 could also be reported again in the next MC.

* 1. **Any other matters**

Vanuatu informed the Meeting that it would host the Global Symposium for Regulator (GSR) from 9 to 12 July 2019. The invitation letter would be sent out soon.

Secretary General expressed her recognition and appreciation to Mr. Charles Punaha, Chairman of PRFP, and Mr. Shivnesh Prasad, Vice-Chairman of PRFP who had contributed to the work of PRFP during their terms. She then presented the token of appreciations and certificates to Mr. Charles Punaha and Mr. Jonacani Veiqati, a representative of Mr. Shivnesh Prasad.

* 1. **Closing**

Ms. Areewan Haorangsi, Secretary General of APT delivered a closing remarks. She mentioned that APT Secretariat would take back the suggestions from Members and consider how to provide more cooperation and how to work together for telecommunication and ICT development of the Pacific sub-region. She thanked all delegates for the active participation.

Mr. Charles Punaha, outgoing Chairman of PRFP, delivered a closing remarks. He mentioned that Pacific had different challenges and different level of ICT development and PRFP was the only forum for policy makers and regulators in the Pacific to meet together, with experts to make presentations and listen to their challenges. He acknowledged the support from APT to PRFP since the time of Mr. Yamada. He thanked Government of Samoa for successful hosting the event and thanked all local staffs for their support during the whole period. He thanked Secretary General and APT Secretariat for wonderful support. He thanked all speakers, moderators, experts for their contribution. He congratulated the new Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for their nomination.

Ms. Unutoa Fonoti, incoming Chairman of PRFP thanked the Government of Samoa for the support and endorsement for her to be a new Chairman of PRFP. She thanked Mr. Punaha for his guidance and support to the Pacific during his terms. She thanked all staffs from the Office of the Regulators for their support during the Meeting.

Mr. Tuaimalo Asamu Ah Sam, CEO of MCIT Samoa thanked all delegates from Members and partners including ITU, ISOC, APNIC, JTEC, and OCSC for their participation and active contribution. He thanked APT for selecting Samoa as the host for this meeting and congratulated the new Chairman from Samoa. He thanked Digicel for the sponsorship and thanked all MCIT staffs for their support.

Mr. Charles Punaha thanked the Government of Australia and Japan for their Extra Budgetary Contribution support for the forum. He then declared the meeting closed.

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