

## Fourth session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Steering Committee

(Virtual Meeting) 11 August 2020

### Key Outcomes

1. The Fourth Session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS) Committee was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2020 to review progress in implementation of the AP-IS Master Plan 2018-2022 at the subregional level , to discuss future direction of implementation and to review implementation of WSIS Action Lines.
2. The AP-IS Steering Committee was attended by ICT government officials from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan. Resource persons and other non-government entities participated in the virtual session. The list of online registered participants and the programme of the session are attached to this document (Annex 1 & 2).
3. The Members of the Steering Committee unanimously agreed on the following bureau composition:
  - Chair: Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communication, Science and Technology, Maldives
  - Vice-Chairs: (1). Mr. Talatalaga Mata'u Matafeo, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Samoa; (2). Dr. Piyanuch Wuttisorn, Inspector General, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, Thailand; (3). Mr. Emil Ahmadov, Leading Advisor, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Transport and Communication of

Azerbaijan; and (4). Mr. Odkhuu Tsolmondelger, Chief Strategy Officer, Information Communications Network, Communications and Information Technology Authority of Mongolia.

4. The AP-IS Steering Committee discussed the following issues:

- a) Highlighted need for continued support on the implementation of the AP-IS Master Plan 2018-2022 and commitment to bridge the digital divide
- b) Acknowledged that improving efficient digital connectivity requires new regulatory enabling policy frameworks that improve Internet price and speed and responses to new emerging technologies
- c) Highlighted the important role of international organizations and funding institutions in promoting regional cooperation and supporting ICT projects considering changing priorities at national level in fighting the pandemic
- d) Recognized the importance of enhancing Internet traffic management through the establishment of neutral Internet exchange points for promoting local content development and affordability. Thailand informed the AP-IS Steering Committee of its interest to discuss further the study and participate in consultations on Internet exchange point in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (CLMV).
- e) Requested the secretariat for continued support on supporting the subregional implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway including South and South-West Asia, and welcomed the opportunity to provide inputs to the next phase of the AP-IS plan
- f) Acknowledged the important role of ESCAP and ITU on supporting the regional review of WSIS action lines implementation and expressed appreciation to the various innovative projects from Asia and the Pacific to the WSIS Forum award for 2020

## **Annex 1 – List of Online Registered Participants**

### **Members**

#### **Afghanistan**

Mr. Hayatullah Ibrahimy, Director of Innovation and Emerging Technologies, MCIT

Mr. Nesar Ahmad Abidi, Head of Foreign Relation, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology,

#### **Azerbaijan**

Mr. Emil Ahmadov, Leading Advisor, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Transport and Communication, Baku

#### **Bangladesh**

*Representative:* Mr. Md. Rashadul Islam, Additional Secretary, Information and Communication Technology Division

*Alternates:* Mr. Syed Rashedul Hossen, Economic Counsellor (Deputy Secretary) and alternative Permanent Representative to ESCAP Embassy of People's Republic of Bangladesh

#### **Bhutan**

*Representative:* Mr. Jigme Tenzing, Director, Ministry of Information and Communications, Thimphu

*Alternates:* Mr. Karma Jamyang, Senior ICT Officer, Ministry of Information and Communications, Thimphu

#### **Cambodia**

*Representative:* H.E. Mr. Meas Po, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications

*Alternate:* H.E. Mr. Chun Vat, Director General, Department of ICT, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications

Mr. Theara Horn, Director, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, Phnom Penh

#### **India**

Mr. Sudip Kumar, Permanent Representative, Embassy of India, Bangkok

Mr. V. Raghunandan, Deputy Director General (IR), Department of Telecommunication, New Delhi

Dr. Ajai Kumar Garg, Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, New Delhi

Mr. Prabhat Kumar Das, Assistant Attache, Embassy of India, Bangkok

#### **Indonesia**

Ms. Andhika Widyarani, Cooperation Analyst, Ministry of Communications and Informatics

Mr. Chrisna Harimurti, Law and Cooperation Analyst, Ministry of Communications and Informatics

#### **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

Mr. Massoud Hamedanlou, Vice-President of ICT CRA

Ms. Bita Khorrami, Head of International Affairs, Ministry of ICT CRA

#### **Kazakhstan**

Mr. Meirbek Mukatov, Deputy Director of Innovation Ecosystem Department, Ministry of Digitalization, Innovation and Aerospace Development

Mr Ilias Ospanov, Director CETT, MDDIAI

#### **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

Mr. Thavisak Manodham, Director General, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications

Ms. Charuda Luanglath, Director of Policy, Planning and Cooperation, E-Government Center of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication

#### **Malaysia**

Mr. Asrul Nizam Asat, Principal Assistant Director, MAMPU, Prime Minister's Department

#### **Maldives**

Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology

### **Mongolia**

Mr. Odkhuu Tsolmondelger, Chief Strategy Officer, Information Communications Network LLC, Communications and Information Technology Authority

### **Myanmar**

Mr. Than Htun Aung, Deputy Director General, Department of Posts and Telecommunication

### **Pakistan**

Mr. Adeel Aijaz Shaikh, Joint Director (Business), Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunications

Mr. Yasir Iqbal Butt, Counsellor/Alternate Permanent Representative, the Embassy of Pakistan in Thailand

### **Republic of Korea**

Ms. Minkyong Kim, Deputy Director, Multilateral Cooperation Division, Ministry of Science and ICT

### **Russian Federation**

Ms. Natalia Kulieva, Senior Specialist – Expert, Ministry of Digital Development

Ms. Maria Bolshakova, Lead Engineer on International Legal Protection (NIIR), Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation

### **Samoa**

Mr. Suetena Loia, ACEO ICT, Ministry of Commerce and Information Technology

Mr. Talatalaga Matau Matafeo, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

### **Tajikistan**

Ms. Dilorom Jumakhonzoda, Chief, Department of Science, Innovation and Information Resources

### **Thailand**

*Representative:* Dr. Piyanuch Wuttisorn, Inspector General, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

*Alternates:*

Ms. Ishariyaporn Smiprem, Foreign Relations Officer, Senior Level, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Mr. Taran Osiri, Policy and Plan Analyst, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Ms. Jitsupa Tungkasiri, Foreign Relations Officer, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Ms. Natthaleeya Nrash, International Relations Officer, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Mr. Jackrakit Srisun, International Relations Officer, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Mr. Wanchalearm Petsuwan, Officer, The Meteorological Department, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

Ms. Kamonwan Kerdnaimongkol, Policy and Plan Analyst, Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

### **Timor-Leste**

Mr. Nicolau Colestino, Director, ICT Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications

### **Tonga**

Mr. Andrew Toimoana, Director of Information and Technology, Ministry of MEIDECC

### **Turkey**

Ms. Malike Polat Ortakaya, Senior ICT Expert, Information and Communications Technology Authority (ICTA), Tel.: 903122947135, email: malike.polat@btk.gov.tr

### **Turkmenistan**

Mr. Turkmenistan Aragatnashyk, Turkmencom

### **Tuvalu**

Mr. Opetai Simati, Director of ICT, Ministry of Justice, Communications and Foreign Affairs

### **Uzbekistan**

Mr. Shakhobiddin Sharifov, Director, Scientific and Practical Center for the Implementation of Innovative Projects under the Ministry of Innovative Development, Tashkent

Ms. Shirin Khalmetova, Head, International Department of Scientific and Practical Center for the Implementation of Innovative Development, Tashkent

Mr. Shokhrukhbek Nazarov, Head, Exhibitions and Laboratories Organization, Sector of Scientific and Practical Center for the Implementation of Innovative Development, Tashkent

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### **Specialized agencies and related organizations**

#### **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

Mr. Sibesh Bhattacharya, ICT Specialist

#### **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**

Mr. Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary-General

Ms. Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, Office for Asia and the Pacific

Ms. Gitanjali Sah, Policy and Strategy Advisor

Ms. Ruth Sidabutar, Project Officer

### **World Bank**

Ms. Natasha Beschoner, Senior Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Policy Specialist in the World Bank's Global ICT Department

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### **Other entities**

#### **A2i, ekShop**

Mr. Rezwanul Huq Jami, Team Lead, Rural eCommerce

#### **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**

Mr. Paul Lam, Strategy & Policy Officer (Digital & Technology)

#### **APNIC Foundation**

Mr. Duncan McIntosh, CEO/Executive Director,

#### **CAT Telecom Public Company Limited**

Ms. Areewan Boonglam, Delegate, Data Communication Operation Department

Mr. Somsak Yupakdee, Engineer, Data Communication Operation Department

Mr. Jitrakorn Somcharee, Engineer, Data Communication Operation Department

#### **Confederation Indonesia Trade Union**

Mr. Nur Yasin

#### **Crest Infosolutions Sdn Bhd**

Mr. Noor Aziera Taip, Executive Marketing Operations



**CyberPeace Foundation**

Mr. Vineet Kumar, Founder and President

**CyberSecurity Malaysia**

Mr. Lee Hwee Hsiung, Head of Department, Cyber Security Professional Development

**GSMA**

Mr. Melle Tiel Groenestege, Senior Manager Advocacy,

**Internet Society**

Mr. Rajnesh Singh, Regional Vice President Asia-Pacific, 3 Temasek Avenue Level 2, Centennial Tower

**Korea Information Society Development Institute (KISDI)**

Mr. Byungwoo Kim, Researcher, Department of International and Cooperation

**Literasi TIK Suara Madiun Talkshow**

Mr. Yosep Rusfendi Susianto, Initiator

**Monenco Iran Consulting Engineers**

Mr. Vahid Veysi, Project Manager, ICT Development

**O.S. Popov Onat**

Mr. Vadym Kaptur, Vice-Rector on Scientific work

**Pinetree**

Ms. Ninie Wang, Founder and CEO

**RIPE Network Coordination Centre**

Mr. Vahan Hovsepyan, External Relations Officer

**Siberkreasi (Indonesia's National Movement for Digital Literacy)**

Mr. Yosi Moku, Chairman

**Shilpa Sayura Foundation**

Ms. Poornima Meegammana, Director of Youth Development

**Telecommunication Infrastructure Company (TIC), Iran**

Mr. Mahdi Moshiri, Deputy Director of Research and Development Network,  
Telecommunication Infrastructure Company

**TOT Public Company Ltd.**

Mr. Natthapong Liamcharoen, Engineer, Cooperate Strategy Section

**World Wide Web Foundation**

Ms. Eleanor Sarpong, Deputy Director and Policy Lead

Ms. Anju Mangal, Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator, Alliance for Affordable  
Internet

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**ESCAP Secretariat**

**Office of the Executive Secretary**

Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary

Mr. Lorenzo Santucci, Coordinating Officer

**Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk  
Reduction Division**

Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, and Officer-in-Charge, ICT and  
Development Section

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Section

Mr. Keran Wang, Chief, Space and Applications Section

Mr. Tae Hyung Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, Space Applications Section

Ms. Kelly Hayden, Economic Affairs Officer, Space Applications Section

Mr. Chang Yong Son, Expert on ICT, ICT and Development Section

Ms. Madhurima Sarkar Swarsgood, Economic Affairs Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction Section

Ms. Aida Karazhanova, Economic Affairs Officer, ICT and Development Section

Mr. Siope Vakataki 'Ofa, Economic Affairs Officer, ICT and Development Section

Ms. Ingrid Dispert, Junior Professional Officer/Associate Expert, Disaster Risk Reduction Section

Ms. Cristina Bernal Aparicio, consultant, ICT and Development Section

Ms. Elena Dyakonova, consultant, ICT and Development Section

Mr. Matteo, Intern, ICT and Development Section

Mr. Maya Bergins, Intern, ICT and Development Section

**Annex 2: Agenda**

Fourth Session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS) Steering Committee and WSIS  
Regional Review

Virtual Meeting

11 August 2020, 09:00-16:00 (Bangkok Time)

Agenda

**Fourth session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Steering Committee (Virtual Meeting)**

**Tuesday 11 August 2020, 09:00-16:00 (Bangkok Time)**

<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	<p><b>Session 1: Opening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening remarks, Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary for Sustainable Development, ESCAP</li> <li>• Statement by Mr. Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary-General, ITU</li> <li>• Election of Bureau and adoption of agenda</li> </ul>
<b>09:30- 10:30</b>	<p><b>Session 2: Update on Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative &amp; way forward (AP-IS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Siope Vakataki 'Ofa, Economic Affairs Officer, ICT and Development Section, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP</li> <li>• Ms. Natasha Beschorner, Senior Digital Development Specialist, World Bank</li> <li>• Mr. Paul Lam, Strategy &amp; Policy Officer (Digital &amp; Technology), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)</li> <li>• Mr. Sibesh Bhattacharya, Principal Infrastructure Specialist-ICT, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</li> </ul> <p><i>(Discussion)</i></p>
<b>10:30-12:30</b>	<p><b>Session 3: Progress on AP-IS subregional initiatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South-East Asia</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Yeong Ro Lee, Vice President, National Information Society Agency (NIA)</li> <li>• Pacific             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Rajnesh Singh, Regional Vice-President Asia-Pacific, Internet Society (ISOC)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• North and Central Asia             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Vadim Kaptur, ESCAP consultant</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other Subregions</li> </ul> <p><i>(Discussion)</i></p>
12:30-14:00	<b>BREAK</b>
14:00-15:30	<p><b>Session 4: WSIS Regional Review for Asia &amp; the Pacific</b></p> <p><b>Moderated by:</b> Ms Gitanjali Sah, Strategy and Policy Coordinator, ITU</p> <p><b>Opening Remarks:</b> Mr Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary-General, ITU</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP</li> <li>• Ms. Okuda Atsuko, Regional Director, R.O. Asia &amp; Pacific, International Telecommunications Union (ITU)</li> <li>• Mr. Lee Hwee Hsiung (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Head of Department, Cyber Security Professional Development, CyberSecurity Malaysia, Government, Malaysia</li> <li>• Mr. Vineet Kumar (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Founder &amp; President, CyberPeace Foundation, Civil Society, India</li> <li>• Ms. Ninie Wang - Founder &amp; CEO, Pinetree Care Group, Private Sector, China</li> <li>• Mr. Yosi Moku (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Chairman, Siberkreasi (Indonesia's National Movement for Digital Literacy), Civil Society, Indonesia</li> <li>• Mr. Hemant Prasad (WSIS Prizes Champion) – Chief Executive Officer (CEO, Crest Infosolutions Sdn Bhd. (on behalf of vendor for DDMS 2.0, MAMPU) Private Sector, Malaysia</li> <li>• Mr. Rezwanul Huq Jami (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Team Lead, Rural eCommerce, A2i, Government, Bangladesh</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Poornima Meegammana (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Director of Youth Development, Shilpa Sayura Foundation, Civil Society, Sri Lanka</li> <li>• Mr. Yosep Rusfendi, (WSIS Prizes Champion) - Initiator of LITERASI TIK Suara Madiun Talkshow, Civil Society, Indonesia</li> </ul>
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<b>Session 5: Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESCAP</li> </ul>