STATEMENT FROM MR.A.NARAYAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY (APT)

Mr. Chairman,
Mr.Utsumi,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Our congartulations to you Mr.Chairman and to other office bearers of the Conference.Our gratitude to our generous hosts and warm greetings to Mr Utsumi, other executives and all collegaues from the ITU.

The Asia Pacifc Telecommunity (APT) owes its origin to the ITU and enjoys an excellent relationship with the Union.

We believe that the regional organisations have an important roel to play in the development of ICT. The potential, capability and enthusiasm of the regional organisations can bring many benefits to our members.

APT is the regional organisation for ICT for about 60% of the humanity.

APT and ITU together with ITU are key partners in the inter agency coordination group on the ICT in the Asia Pacific region. The Regional Preparatory meetings organised by the APT for the Plenipotentiary, WRC, WTSA, WTDC etc have helped both the APT members as well as the ITU in making more focussed and coordinated preparations for these Conferences and in handling many complex issues raised which are discussed in these conferences.

APT and the ITU Regional office for the Asia and the Pacific are co located in the same campus and enjoy a very close cooperation on various issues of common interest to both organisations. This cooperation is getting further strengthend.

We express our wholehearted support and cooperation to the ITU and look forward to working together for the accelerated growth of Information and Communication Technology for the welfare of the people.

Thank you.