



# ITU ASIA-PACIFIC CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

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## **FINAL REPORT OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

30-31 JANUARY 2019

BANGKOK, THAILAND

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND OPENING

The 1<sup>st</sup> ITU Asia Pacific Centres of Excellence (ASP CoE) Steering Committee Meeting of the 2019-2022 cycle was held in Grand Centre Point Ploenchit, Bangkok, Thailand, on 30-31 January 2019. The Meeting was organized by the ITU and hosted by the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission, Thailand. It was attended by 39 delegates including newly selected Centres of Excellence (CoEs), representatives from Governments hosting CoEs, GCBI Members from Asia-Pacific, ITU Sector and Academia Members, ITU Secretariat and other agencies. The list of participants is attached to this report (Annex 1).



Mr. Ioane KOROIVUKI, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific delivered the welcome remarks. On behalf of ITU, Mr. Koroivuki expressed his gratitude to Thailand for their continued excellent support to the ITU as well as to the Centres of Excellence program. He also thanked the CoEs, partners and participants for their support in the past cycle and welcomed the newly selected CoEs (Table below) to the first Steering Committee meeting.

Table 1: List of ITU ASP CoEs (2019-2022) and their priority areas

Name of institution	Country	Priority areas
Advanced Level Telecom Training Centre (AL TTC)	India	Wireless and Fixed Broadband Internet of Things Cybersecurity
China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT)	China	Conformance & Interoperability ICT Applications

IoT Academy	Iran	Internet of Things
National Information Society Agency (NIA)	Republic of Korea	ICT Applications
State Radio Monitoring Center / State Radio Spectrum Management Center (SRMC)	China	Spectrum Management
Wireless Communication Centre, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	Malaysia	Wireless and Fixed Broadband

Mr. Koroivuki emphasized the importance of the Centres of Excellence trainings as a vehicle to meet the expectations of the ITU Members, as stipulated in the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 outcome and the Buenos Aires Action Plan, in close cooperation with the other ITU Sectors. He called upon the different stakeholders to work together to taking the ITU Asia-Pacific Centres of Excellence to new heights and in the process coordinate, cooperate and support each other.

Mr. Korkit DANCHAIVICHIT, Deputy Secretary General, National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) delivered the opening remarks. He welcomed all the participants to the ITU ASP CoE Steering Committee and thanked the ITU for hosting the first meeting in Thailand. Mr. Danchaivichit recalled the close cooperation between NBTC and ITU in the framework of the Centres of Excellence and expressed his support going forward by organizing high quality trainings. He also expressed NBTC's interest to support trainings in 2019 in areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Wireless Network planning.

## **2.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE ITU ASP COE STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Ioane KOROIVUKI invited the meeting for the confirmation of CoE Chairman. The meeting confirmed the chairmanship of Thailand. Mr. Notachard CHINTAKANOND, Acting Executive Director, NBTC, Thailand thanked the meeting for the nomination and chaired the 1<sup>st</sup> ITU ASP CoE Steering Committee Meeting (2019-2022) Cycle.

Dr. Susan TELTSCHER confirmed the composition of the ITU Asia-Pacific Steering Committee for the 2019-2022. The Committee includes

- Centres of Excellence: ALTTC, CAICT, IOT Academy, NIA, SRMC and UTM
- Member States: China, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Thailand
- ITU

## **3.0 ITU PRESENTATIONS ON THE COE PROGRAM**

### **Introduction to new cycle 2019-2022**

Dr. Susan TELTSCHER, Head, Human Capacity Building, ITU, presented the details of the ITU CoE program and its strategic positioning in the ITU's capacity building and skills development activities. She explained the core elements of self-sustainability, defined priority areas and the number of CoEs, which formed part of the new strategy introduced in 2015. Dr. Teltscher shared the performance assessment of the previous CoE Cycle and highlighted these key achievements:

- 26 operational CoEs across 6 regions
- Over 90% of CoEs viewed their experience as CoE «excellent» or «very good»
- Over 5'000 participants were trained by the network over the cycle period through almost 200 courses
  - Increasing trend over the 4-year cycle (number of courses)
  - Course participation varied significantly (from 4 to over 300)
- 55% face-to-face courses, 45% online courses
- Online courses attract a higher number of participants than face-to-face courses (with some exceptions)
- There were high performers and low performers

Going forward, she informed the meeting on the process followed in the selection of the CoEs for 2019-2022 for all regions and the results of the selection process. She also summarized the following new elements in the new Cycle

- Each CoE can have up to three priority areas
- Strengthened role of Steering Committees
- Steering Committee (SC) can decide on courses to be delivered on other emerging topics
- CoEs are full and active members of SC
- Regional online meetings are recommended in between face-to-face meetings (CoEs, SC as necessary)
- CoE commitment to allocate resources to CoE operations was part of application
- New ITU Academy platform to be launched (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2019)

### **ITU priorities in Asia-Pacific and Centres of Excellence**

Mr. Ashish NARAYAN, ITU, presented the key strategic areas of focus for the ITU-D globally and the Asia-Pacific regional initiatives. He shared the priority areas of work undertaken by the ITU in the Asia-Pacific region and highlighted the various means of potential cooperation and synergy between the ITU, its partners and the CoEs. He also highlighted the achievements of the CoEs (trainings, participants, quality) in the Asia-Pacific region for 2015-2018 cycle and shared key success factors and experiences.

#### 4.0 PRESENTATIONS BY CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

The Chairman invited the ITU ASP Centres of Excellence to present their institution and their detailed operational/business strategy for the upcoming CoE cycle, including their marketing strategy. The following presentations were made:

- **Advanced Level Telecom Training Centre (ALTTC), India:** Mr. M.K. SETH, Chief General Manager introduced the ALTTC structure, history, functions, equipment, partnership and core area of training including Broadband Technology, Information Technology, Mobile Systems, Transmission Technology and Next Generation Network. He also introduced the various workshops and trainings being conducted by ALTTC for national and international organisations. He also shared the promotional efforts being undertaken nationally.
- **China Academy for Information and Communication Technology (CAICT), China:** Ms. Fu LI, Deputy Chief Engineer, CAICT made the presentation on behalf of the CAICT. The presentation introduced the organization, the structure, development positioning and business layout. She also highlighted the human resource capabilities, training content resource integration, hands-on lab visits and operational capacity, and collaboration with national and international entities.
- **IOT Academy, Islamic Republic of Iran:** Dr. Farzad EBRAHIMI, Chairman and Founder, IOT Academy presented the mission, vision, structure and overview of the IOT Academy. He highlighted the activities including citizen awareness; empowering HR, organizations and industries; national training and cooperation; IoT & Smart City Consulting Services; IOT & Smart City Lab; Research and Development; Collaboration with Business Accelerators; and Design and Implementation of Industrial IOT projects. Dr. Ebrahimi also proposed some marketing strategy and highlighted the challenges relating to international money transfer.
- **National Information Society Agency (NIA), Republic of Korea:** Ms. Jiyoung SEOL, Researcher, introduced the NIA history, administrative structure, vision, mission, key strategies and tasks. She also explained the DNA+ Strategy of NIA and the global planning team. In particular, Ms. Seol detailed the functioning and achievements of the NIA Global Academy, training projects, facilities, partnership as well as operational and business plan.
- **State Radio Monitoring Centre (SRMC), China:** Ms. LI BINGQI, Engineer, SRMC, introduced the China radio regulatory framework, organization structure, responsibilities including Radio Monitoring, Radio Data Management, Standard Developing, Spectrum Management, Radio Equipment Accreditation and Policy Support. Ms. Li informed the participants about the spectrum monitoring networks in China and

its participation in ITU and APT activities. She also provided a review of activities undertaken in 2015-2018 and shared some experiences.

- **Wireless Communication Centre - Universiti Teknologi Malaysia:** Dr. C.Y. LEOW presented the history of the Wireless Communication Centre. He introduced the organization chart of WCC and the facilities including Innovation Centre for 5G (with Ericsson), URLLC Robotics, Live demo of 5G test bed, 5G MMWAVE Lab, IOT lab amongst others. He presented a number of business and marketing strategy ideas including branding- ITU COE and HICOE in 5G; engaging industry Partners: MCMC Academy, HRDF, etc.; physical facilities, live demos, hands-on as attractions; promoting networking opportunity, early bird discount, group rate, online payment, bundle; email marketing through industry network, mailing lists, forum, brochures and flyers: print & digital; advertising on the web: official site, Eventbrite, ITU Academy, etc.; social media marketing- Facebook Boost Post, Google Ads; and publishing of testimonials of participants.

There was significant discussion on the need for promoting courses. The ITU and CoEs shared their practices, ideas and experiences in promoting the training programs including

- Invitations to the ITU Members
- Promotion at ITU Academy and regional websites
- Promotion in events
- Promoting through partners and third parties
- Using government networks

The Chairman emphasized on adopting a number of practices including social media efforts (e.g. creating ITU CoE hashtag).

## **5.0 PRESENTATION ON OPERATIONAL PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ITU CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE NETWORK**

Dr. Susan TELTSCHER, Head, Human Capacity Building, ITU, presented the “Operational processes and procedures for the ITU CoE network 2018” document and advised all Steering Committee Members to use it as the key reference. She explained in details the key elements relating to

- Delivery of trainings (Number of trainings, schedule, advertisement of courses, use of ITU Academy platform, training material development, evaluation and training report submission);
- Templates for use by the CoEs (Information note, Course outline for face-to-face courses, Course outline for online courses, Training course feedback form, Evaluation matrix for face-to-face courses, Evaluation matrix for online courses, User guide for evaluation matrix, Training report)
- Funding of CoE operations
- Training fees and revenue share

- Certificates
- Performance evaluation (Assessment report, KPI)
- Steering Committee (Role, Composition, Chair)

During the presentation, a number of questions for clarification were raised by the participants, in particular related to the number of trainings and whether CoEs could add training courses during the year; the use of training material developed by ITU; the issuance of certificates for courses that are tuition-free, cooperation among CoEs across the network (between regions), reaching out to a global audience, and the use of the ITU Academy platform.

Dr. Susan TELTSCHER presented the ITU Academy platform and informed the meeting of the features in the platform. She also briefly introduced the new platforms being developed by the ITU.

Dr. Supavadee ARAMVITH, Chulalongkorn University introduced the programs of the university and shared the various possible means for promotion of courses and expand the outreach. She shared experiences from Chulalongkorn university relating to Special Task Force for Activating Research, Research Unit and the Center of Excellence.

## 6.0 TRAINING PLAN 2019

The CoEs presented the training program for 2019 and the Steering Committee agreed on the following ITU ASP CoE Trainings for the year.

Training topics	CoE	Dates	Venue	Training fees	Partners
1 Information Security Internal Audit	ALTTC	22-26 April	Ghaziabad, India	275	
2 Evolution and Emerging Trends of Broadband Access Technologies	ALTTC	20-24 May	Ghaziabad, India	275	
3 Spectrum management and Radio technology application	SRMC	Mid June	Harbin, China	Free	
4 Fifth Generation (5G) Technology: State-of-the-Art, Opportunities and	UTM	2-4 July	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	550/450	
5 DNA driven Smart City	NIA	8-12 July	Busan, Rep. of Korea	Free	
6 Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields	UTM	6-8 Aug	Johor Bahru, Malaysia	550/450	
7 Broadband Network Security: Issues & Challenges	ALTTC	26-30 Aug	Ghaziabad, India	275	
8 IOT Security Aspects	ALTTC	2-6 Sep	Ghaziabad, India	275	
9 Smart City and C&I	CAICT	18-21 Sep	China	Free	
10 Smart City and ICT Application	CAICT	21-24 Sep	China	Free	
11 Cyber Security Analyst	ALTTC	23-27 Sep	Ghaziabad, India	275	
12 Traffic engineering and advanced wireless network planning	UTM	30 Sep-3 Oct	Bangkok, Thailand	Free	NBTC
13 Building IOT Solutions for Energy and Water Resource Management	IOT Academy	5-9 Oct	Tehran, I.R.Iran	500	
14 Artificial Intelligence Overview and Applications (tbc)	NIA	16-19 Sep	Bangkok, Thailand	Free	NBTC
15 Cyber Network Defense	ALTTC	4-8 Nov	Ghaziabad, India	275	
16 Network driven e-applications	NIA	25-29 Nov	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	200	
Online Trainings	CoE	Dates	Partners	Training fees	
1 5G and C&I	CAICT	8-26 April		Free	
2 IOT Security Challenges and Solutions	IOT Academy	27-31 May		125	
3 Ubiquitous Broadband Network: Design and Implementation	ALTTC	7 Oct - 1 Nov		100	
4 5G and ICT Application	CAICT	17-28 June		Free	
5 Spectrum Management (SMTP)	SRMC	Jul-19		Free	

## 7.0 ISSUES DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The meeting discussed a number of issues and provided suggestions.

- a) The steering committee agrees to keep interacting during the year including the possibility of holding an online SC meeting during the year.
- b) Cooperation among CoEs in the region and with CoEs from other regions is encouraged including organization of joint training activities. ITU will share the contact details of all CoEs in the global network. It was also encouraged to improve collaboration between ITU Members and CoEs across the network.
- c) Need for CoEs to actively promote their activities (in addition to ITU's promotion) is very important. One example is to create a CoE hashtag and ITU CoE linkedIn account.
- d) CoEs are highly encouraged to use ITU content and while developing the content take into account the work of the ITU on the issue.
- e) Consider organizing common Thematic Workshop with CoEs (inside & outside the region) during forums such as WSIS on relevant issues e.g. Digital Transformation, Digital Economy and Affecting Emerging Technologies on GDP.
- f) The CoE invitation should be sent out to Members at least 2 months in advance for online course and 3 months in advance for face to face courses.
- g) A revenue share of 20% (ITU) and 80% (CoE) was agreed upon with the CoE.
- h) CoEs can also introduce new courses in between steering committee meetings by writing to the ITU regional coordinator, who would then circulate to the steering committee. The courses will be approved if there is no objection from any Member of the Steering Committee within 7 days.

## 7.0 CLOSING SESSION

The meeting ended with closing remarks from Dr. Susan TELTSCHER, Head, Human Capacity Building, BDT, ITU and Mr. Notachard CHINTAKANOND, Acting Executive Director, NBTC, Thailand.