

IAFI submitted five contributions to APT for WTDC; propose new Resolution on NGSO



The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) will organise the 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-25 (APT WTDC25-3) from 17 to 18 March 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting aims to assist APT members to prepare for the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25), scheduled to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 17 to 28 November 2025. The meeting will develop preliminary positions on those matters, based on the input contributions submitted by APT members.

IAFI has submitted five contributions to the APT WTDC25-3 meeting. Four contributions are regarding the amendments/modifications suggested by IAFI in WTDC resolutions and also proposed a new resolution to bridge the digital divide by harnessing the transformative potential of Non-Geostationary Orbit (NGSO) satellite systems.

IAFI is regularly participating in various APT meetings and submitted five contributions to the APT WTDC25-3 meeting. Four contributions are regarding the amendments/modifications suggested by IAFI in the resolutions adopted by WTDC-2022, as detailed below.

- Resolution-63:** Proposed amendments with aim to strengthen the effectiveness in facilitating IPv6 deployment and addressing Internet Protocol address allocation in developing countries.
- Resolution-69:** Proposed amendments aim to enhance the effectiveness of Resolution 69 in addressing the evolving cyber-security challenges faced by developing countries.
- Resolution-78:** Proposed amendments aim to enhance the effectiveness of Resolution 78, to counter and combat misappropriation and misuse of E.164 international telecommunication numbering resources.
- Resolution-79:** Proposes updates for enhancing international cooperation and information sharing among Member States, action against online platforms to disrupt illicit supply chains and combat the online trade of counterfeit devices.
- APT WTDC25-3/ INP-34** Proposal of a New Resolution on Itu Role in Facilitating Connectivity Through Ngsa Satellite Systems: Bridging the Digital Divide

All contributions has been uploaded on the APT WTDC25-3 portal as INP-22 to 25 and new contributions as INP-34. It is may be noted that India has submitted highest contributions, 9 as updated on the existing resolutions (9, 34, 43, 45, 58, 62, 84, 85, 86) and modifications suggested in the two running proposals.

IAFI draft contribution to NWP for WP-4A



IAFI sent a draft contribution to NWP for WP-4C regarding the progress the work of the Working Document regarding WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.5. Contribution is to be submitted by the Indian administration to the upcoming WP-4A which will be held from 5 May, 2025 in Shanghai, China. The contribution proposes draft CPM text for the agenda item.

IAFI draft contribution to NWP for WP-4C



IAFI sent a draft contribution to NWP for WP-4C regarding the progress the work of the Working Document regarding WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.13. Contribution is to be submitted by the Indian administration to the upcoming WP-4C, likely to be held from 23 rd April to 02 nd May, 2025 in Shanghai, China. The contribution proposes updates to the working document on Agenda Item 1.13 regarding Frequency bands to be considered for D2D.

Mobile World Congress -2025 (MWC-2025)



Barcelona's Mobile World Congress (MWC) = 2025, themed "Converge. Connect. Create.", proved to be a landmark event, uniting over 101,000 attendees, 2,700+ exhibitors, and leaders from 200+ countries, held between March 3-6. The event served as a global platform for showcasing the latest breakthroughs in 5G, AI, IoT, and digital transformation, with 1,200+ influential speakers addressing critical topics like 5G Inside, AI+, Connect X, Enterprise Re-invented, Game Changers, and Digital DNA.

Minister for Communications, Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia, significantly elevated India's presence at MWC- 2025. Through strategic meetings with global CEOs and impactful addresses, he showcased India's remarkable telecom advancements. Key highlights included India's swift 5G deployment, the world's most affordable data tariffs, the development of indigenous 4G/5G stacks, and robust cyber- security measures. His participation reinforced India's dedication to responsible tech governance, evident in his insightful sessions on "Global Tech Governance: Rising to the Challenge" and "Balancing Innovation & Regulation: Global Perspectives on Telecom Policy." MWC-2025 underscored India's growing influence and leadership within the global telecommunications sector.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU-T SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies	03rd - 14th Mar 2025	22nd Feb 2025
ITU-R Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	05th - 12th Mar 2025	24th Feb 2025
ITU-R Working Party 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	10th - 13th Mar 2025	28th Feb 2025
ITU-R Study Group 6 (SG 6)	14th Mar 2025	02nd Mar 2025
ITU-R Working Party 7B (WP 7B) - Space radio-communication applications	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU-R Working Party 7C (WP 7C) - Remote sensing systems	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU-R Working Party 7D (WP 7D) - Radio astronomy	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU-R Radio Regulations Board (RRB)	17th - 21st Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-25 (APT WTDC25-3)	17th - 18th Mar 2025	06th Mar 2025
ITU-D Regional Preparatory Meeting for Asia & Pacific for WTDC-25	20th - 21st Mar 2025	08th Mar 2025
APT: The 34th Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-34)	31st Mar - 2nd April 2025	24th Mar 2025
ITU-R Working Party 4C (WP 4C) - Efficient orbit/spectrum utilization for MSS and RDSS	23rd April 05th May 2025	11th April 2025
ITU-R Working Party 4B (WP 4B)	30th April - 05th May 2025	18th April 2025
ITU-R Working Party 4A (WP 4A) - Efficient orbit/spectrum utilization for FSS and BSS	05th - 16th May 2025	24th April 2025
APT: The 2nd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-2)	28th July - 01st Aug 2025	18th July 2025

Telecom Stories:



India's newly unveiled Telecommunications Act 2023, that seeks to consolidate and revamp the historical framework, will be fully enacted by the mid of this year, a top official said. "It will be fully operationalised in June-July this year, since the authorisation, service and network, are the only things which are pending. So, it will be 100% implemented by then," Neeraj Mittal, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, told ETTelecom. In December 2023, the then telecom minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw introduced the Bill and both houses of the Parliament passed the Indian Telecommunications Act, 2023 that seeks to repeal the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. It received the presidential assent on December 24, 2023. The new framework aimed to consolidate laws relating to development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, and unveiled a new system of administrative allocation of spectrum for satellite broadband services.



Telecom operators on Wednesday claimed that the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) have not addressed their concerns on over-the-top (OTT) communication services and satellite communication, in the proposed service authorisation framework. In a major overhaul of the licensing ecosystem in the telecom sector, the telecom regulator had last year recommended three new categories of authorisations be created to cover the gamut of telecom services in the country in line with the new Telecom Act, 2023. In a key move, it had also called for replacing the current license regime based on a "contractual agreement" with the government, in favour of a system where the government grants authorisation to telecom operators.



The addition of new 5G base stations in India has significantly decreased in recent quarters. According to ICICI Securities, the number of new 5G sites added per quarter has dropped to around 8,000 to 9,000 in Q2 and Q3 of FY25, down from approximately 111,000 in Q2 of FY24. This decline reflects a sharp reduction in capital expenditures by Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel. Some investments are expected from Airtel, as it is still expanding networks in five key markets where its tower footprint is smaller than Jio's. Vodafone Idea's ongoing 4G and initial 5G expansions may offer some relief. Still, they won't be enough to offset the decline caused by Airtel's nearing completion of its 4G rural expansion.

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