International Institute of Communications

Asia Forum 2024 – in person

Date: 5th - 7th February 2024

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Agenda: Monday 5 February 2024 - Regional Regulators Forum Asia 2024 Roundtable

10:30-13:00: Optional site visit and tour of Axiata Cyber Fusion Center

13:00: Registration and networking lunch

The venue for the Roundtable is:
Tactic 3, Level (tbc)
Aloft Hotel
Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral
Jalan Stesen Sentral
Kuala Lumpur Sentral
50470 Kuala Lumpur

14:00: Welcome

Derek John Fernandez, Commissioner, Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

14:15: Session 1: Moving from legacy telecommunications/media regulation to digital regulation - is a new regulatory model required? How do we manage the migration/transition?

Moderator
Derek John Fernandez, Commissioner, Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)
Stimulus speakers:
Aileen Chia,Deputy Chief Executive – Connectivity Development & Regulation / Director-General – Telecoms & Post, Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), Singapore
Pulsiri Ninkitsaranont, Executive Director of Policy and Planning Bureau, Telecommunication Cluster, National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC), Thailand
Yih-Choung Teh, Group Director, Strategy and Research, Ofcom UK

Melissa Tithymirda Nikman, Senior Manager, Market Access and Competition, Authority for Info-communications Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam (AITI)
Muhammad Khurram Siddiqui, Assistant Director (Law), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)
J.A.S. Gunanandana, Director Spectrum Management, Spectrum Management Division, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

15:45: Networking Break

16:00: Session 2: Experimenting, innovating and collaborating – applying new tools, resources and skills; best practice regulatory collaboration, nationally and internationally

Stimulus speakers:
Mohamed AlNoaimi, Director of Technology and Network Security, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain
Ninjbolor Khurel, Head, Department of Communications Networks and Infrastructure, Communications Regulatory Commission of Mongolia (CRC)
Ivan Koh, Director, Infocomm Policy, Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), Singapore
Yih-Choung Teh, Group Director, Strategy and Research, Ofcom UK
Muhammad Khurram Siddiqui, Director General (Law & Regulations), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)

17:30: Close of Regional Regulators Forum

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

17:30-19:00: Networking Reception

A Networking Reception will be held in:
Private Dining Room, Level 1
Aloft Hotel
Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral
Jalan Stesen Sentral
Kuala Lumpur Sentral
50470 Kuala Lumpur
The reception is kindly hosted by Axiata.
All delegates attending the Roundtable on the 5 February and the Asia Forum on 6-7 February are welcome to attend.

Agenda: Tuesday 6 February 2024 - Asia Forum

08:15: Registration and networking

The venue for the Asia Forum is:
Axiata Headquarters
Jalan Stesen Sentral 5
KL Scentral
Kuala Lumpur

09:00: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Mohd Ali Hanafiah Mohd Yunus, Chief Operating Officer, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

09:15: Keynote

Vivek Sood, Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO) and Managing Director, Axiata Group Berhad

09:30: Session 1: Creating the optimum investment environment to enable digital transformation for all

• How is the roll out digital infrastructure evolving across the region?
• How is long-term investment being incentivised? Where can efficiencies be achieved? How will rural and remote regions be served?

Moderator

Lim May-Ann, Director of Data Governance, Access Partnership

Panellists

Dr Hans Wijayasuriya, Group Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Telecommunications Business, Axiata Group Berhad
Håkon Bruaset Kjøl, Senior Vice President, Head of Investment Management and Deputy Head of Asia, Telenor Group
Navid Haghighi, Vice President & General Counsel International, Operations and Regulatory, Verizon Communications
Sidney Tsan, Assistant Director (Regulatory Affairs), Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), Hong Kong, China
Charles Chew, Head of Government Affairs, Southeast Asia, Nokia

11:00: Networking break

11:30: Session 2: WRC-23 wash-up; 5G/6G realities and progress report; role of satellite in the region

Moderator

Jean-Jacques Sahel, Asia-Pacific Head of Content Policy and Global Head of Telecommunications Policy, Google; Director, International Institute of Communications

Panellists

Yi Shen Chan, Director, Spectrum APAC, GSMA
Alasdair Grant, Head of Public Policy, AUNZSEA, Project Kuiper, Amazon

12:30: Spotlight session: priorities and predictions from the CTIO's office

Nor Azhar Hassan, Head of Industry Research and Data Analytics Division, Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

13:00: Networking lunch

14:00: Session 3: Facilitating a vibrant cultural and creative economy: radio, TV, streaming, gaming

• What are common policy and regulatory issues across the region, and how are different jurisdictions addressing them?

• Direct regulation, self-regulation, production incentives, publicly funded services?
• Cross pollination: how industry players can work together and with governments/regulators to promote creativity, innovation, skills in the areas of digital content/OTT services/games
• What are responsible mechanisms for age-appropriate content viewing?
• What are the big trends in consumption or business offerings which will challenge regulators, policy makers and content creators in the short-medium term?

Moderator

Clare Bloomfield, Chief Policy Officer, Asia Video Industry Association (AVIA)

Panellists

Mediha Mahmood, CEO, The Communications and Multimedia Content Forum (CMCF), Malaysia

Yoonee Jeong, Senior Digital Technology Specialist, Asia Development Bank (ADB)

Yee Ler Lau, Senior Manager, Global Public Affairs, Tencent

Esther Peh, Director, Asia Pacific Government Affairs & Public Policy, Warner Bros. Discovery

Ruben Hattari, Director of Public Policy, Southeast Asia, Netflix

15:30: Networking break

16:00: Session 4: Digital economy trade agreements: implications for the telecom, media, technology sectors

• Cross-border data flows and data localisation
• e-commerce
• Cybersecurity
• Digital ID and digital financial services

Moderator

Rajesh Sreenivasan, Head, Technology, Media & Telecommunications and Senior Accredited Specialist in Data & Digital Economy, Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP

Panellists

Ivan Koh, Director, Infocomm Policy, Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), Singapore

Kristoffer Rada, Head of Public Policy (Philippines and Malaysia), ByteDance

Lim May-Ann, Director of Data Governance, Access Partnership

17:00: Spotlight session: regulating the metaverse

• Overview of ITU Focus Group Metaverse (FG-MV)
• Current status of metaverse standardization work
• Metaverse interoperability
• Future work of FG-MV

Dr Hideo Imanaka, Managing Expert, National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), Japan

in conversation with**Lim May-Ann**, Director of Data Governance, Access Partnership

17:30: Close of day one

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

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Agenda: Wednesday 7 February 2024

08:15: Registration and networking

09:00: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:15: Session 5: Countering harmful online content

• Definitions and scope: illegal harms; misinformation/disinformation (election integrity); hate speech; legal but harmful content (harmful for minors)
• Emerging good practice in dealing with harmful content; effective public policy approaches; outcomes-based vs prescriptive
• From media literacy to self-regulation to legislation – assessing the range and effectiveness of tools available, and the importance of international collaboration
• Does online harm to consumer vary substantially in different countries and regions? Do trust and safety measures and regulatory approaches need to vary from region to region?
• What do global platforms want to see from regulators in different jurisdictions?

Moderator

Jean-Jacques Sahel, Asia-Pacific Head of Content Policy and Global Head of Telecommunications Policy, Google; Director, International Institute of Communications

Panellists

Yih-Choung Teh, Group Director, Strategy and Research, Ofcom
Beltsazar Krisetya, Safer Internet Lab (SAIL) Principal Researcher, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)
Muhammad Khurram Siddiqui, Director General (Law & Regulations), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)
Rita Irina Wahab, Director, Regulatory & Corporate Affairs, Astro
Ella Serry, Manager International Engagement, eSafety Commissioner, Australia

10:45: Networking break

11:15: Session 6: Mitigating consumer harms caused by unsolicited communications, scams, phishing and fraud

Moderator

Tony Verghese, Partner, JSA

Panellists

Jean-Jacques Sahel, Asia-Pacific Head of Content Policy and Global Head of Telecommunications Policy, Google; Director, International Institute of Communications
Mohamed AlNoaimi, Director of Technology and Network Security, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain
Arisa Siong, Director, Public and Regulatory Affairs, Telenor Group
J.A.S. Gunanandana, Director Spectrum Management, Spectrum Management Division, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

12:15: Spotlight session: Digital Transformation and the DNS: Policy, Technology, and Security Implications

ICANN Updates on Initiatives

• New gTLD Program: Next Round

- Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
- Universal Acceptance (UA)
- Registration Data Request Service (RDRS)

Upcoming ICANN Regional Event: APAC DNS Forum 2024
Yien-Chyn Tan, Stakeholder Engagement Senior Manager, APAC, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

12:45: Networking lunch

13:45: Session 7: AI governance – latest global initiatives to foster responsible innovation

- Looking through the telco industry lens
- Looking through the creative / media economy lens

Moderator
Ahmed Saady Yaamin, Head of Analytics and AI, Axiata
Opening speaker
Yasunari Ueno, Director for International Policy Coordination, Global Digital Policy Office, Global Strategy Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Government of Japan
Panellists
Rajesh Sreenivasan, Head, Technology, Media & Telecommunications and Senior Accredited Specialist in Data & Digital Economy, Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP
Desi Indrimayutri, Director, Government Affairs and Public Policy, ASEAN, Cisco Systems
Adilah Junid, Director, Legal and Government Affairs Malaysia, Microsoft
Wai San Wong, Senior Manager, Policy – APAC, BSA | The Software Alliance
Yan Xi Chan, Senior Manager, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Southeast Asia & Greater China, Salesforce

16:00: Closing remarks

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications