International Institute of Communications

Annual Conference 2026

Date: 13th - 15th October 2026

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Agenda: Tuesday 13 October 2026

18:00: Welcome Reception

Welcome Reception

Kindly sponsored by Netflix

Venue: MaiBar, Level R, Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral

All delegates are welcome to join us at MaiBar, Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral's vibrant rooftop bar, for an evening of drinks, BBQ and networking as we close the International Regulators Forum and kick off the Annual Conference.

Agenda: Wednesday 14 October 2026

08:00: Breakfast roundtable (Invitation only): Bridging the connectivity gap: collaborating to unlock LEO satellite capacity

• Satellite innovation as a catalyst for global connectivity: How can next-generation LEO satellite constellations accelerate progress toward universal connectivity goals, and what role should governments play in fostering an enabling environment for new entrants and technologies?

• The case for technology-neutral regulation: enabling all satellite architectures — including LEO — to compete and serve connectivity needs on their merits

• Modernising international technical standards: Current equivalent power flux density (EPFD) limits were designed for an earlier era of satellite technology. How can the international community update these frameworks to reflect today's technological realities while maintaining appropriate protections — ensuring that outdated limits do not unnecessarily constrain the capacity of new systems to deliver connectivity

• Ensuring all voices shape the global framework: How can countries — particularly emerging and developing economies — engage more effectively in international telecommunications forums such as the ITU to ensure that updated standards and regulatory frameworks reflect their connectivity priorities and development needs?

Moderator:

Jose Feu Vidal, ITU/WRC Strategy Engineer, APAC Lead, Amazon Leo
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08:45: Registration and networking

09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Isolde Goggin, President, International Institute of Communications
Thomas Hundt, Group Chief Business & Technology Officer, Axiata Group Berhad

09:50: Building, protecting and defending digital communications infrastructure and ecosystems

• How are the core pillars of trusted, resilient digital infrastructure evolving – what trends are emerging globally?
• How is AI impacting network and device resilience?
• How does the sovereignty lens impact policy priorities and regulatory decision making?
• Collaboration across supply chains and across borders to ensure we have future-proofed, safe and secure infrastructure

Moderator:
Noelle Francesca de Guzman, Senior Director for Regional Affairs, Asia-Pacific, Internet Society (ISOC)
Speakers:
Nina Cummins, Director and Global Head of Connectivity Policy Strategy, Meta; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Mohamad Rejab Sulaiman, CEO, Credence, TM Group
Mothibi Ramusi, Chairperson, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)
Chan Chuey Hwye, Head of Digital Enablers Department, Digital Adoption Division, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC)
Marc-Antoine Prévost, Enforcement Officer, Compliance and Enforcement, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

11:00: Spotlight session: The impact of climate change on networks

Using publicly available datasets, this session will present some recent research into the costs that operators around the world may face from extreme weather events, and how these costs may change as such events become more common.
James Bellis, Executive Director, Telecommunications Practice, Frontier Economics; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

11:15: Networking break

11:45: Connectivity for all: unlocking digital inclusion in Asia and the Pacific

• Just over 45% of the world’s unconnected population lives in developing Asia and the Pacific
• Achieving universal connectivity is therefore no longer solely about expanding network coverage, but about enabling people to access and use mobile internet confidently, safely, and meaningfully

• Key findings from the newly launched joint ADB-GSMA report will be shared
• The panel will explore how coordinated efforts encompassing policy, investment, digital skills, affordability, and trust can help ensure that everyone can benefit from an increasingly digital future.

Moderator:
Mohammad Chowdhury, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Long Street Advisors
Report Highlights:
Kalvin Bahia, Senior Director of Economics, GSMA Intelligence
Jonathan Yap, Digital Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Speakers:
Tahani Iqbal, Senior Digital Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Polume Lume, CEO, National Information and Communications Technology Authority (NICTA), Papua New Guinea
Chee Kheong Foong, Group Chief Regulatory Officer, Axiata Group Berhad
Brig. Gen. Mohammad Moniruzzaman Jewel, Director General, Spectrum Division, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC)
Flavio C. Neves, President and Chairman, National Communication Authority (ANC), Timor Leste

13:00: Spotlight session: Connected on arrival: the regulatory puzzle of the travel eSIM

• From switching off roaming to always-on: how the travel eSIM became the default way people connect abroad
• A global product, national rulebooks: a borderless model regulated market by market, raising questions of licensing, identity, lawful access and consumer protection
• A live case study: the MCMC's live consultation on eSIMs
• The provider's view: how regulation can ensure the benefits of the model are realised

Chiara Garbellini, Principal Consultant, DT Economics LLP
Graeme Di Rollo, Senior Legal Counsel, Airalo

13:15: Networking lunch

14:15: End-to-end solutions for scams and fraud prevention

• Governance frameworks for collaboration between telcos, banks and digital platforms
• Cross-sector intelligence sharing
• Multi-regulator oversight and dispute resolution

Moderator:
Gordon Moir, Partner, Bird & Bird, UK
Speakers:
Nerida O'Loughlin, Chair and Agency Head, Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)
Reski Damayanti, Director & Chief Legal and Regulatory Officer, Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison
Chris Perera, Vice President, Head of Global Regulatory Affairs, PCCW Global
Tengku Osmawi Raja Mustafa, Head, Telecommunications Fraud Department, Network Security Operations Division, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)
Jean-Jacques Sahel, Global Head of Scams and Telecommunications Policy, and

Asia-Pacific Head of Content Policy, Google

15:30: Spotlight session: The evidence gap: why independent network measurement matters for regulators and policymakers

Ceri Howes, VP of Government and External Affairs, Opensignal

15:45: Networking break

16:15: Online safety & consumer protection

• How are legal, technological, and societal responses converging globally to safeguard young and vulnerable users online?
• Comparing standards and enforcement practices for content moderation, age classification, fact-checking

Moderator:
Dr. The Hon. Allyson Leacock, Chairman, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Director, National Transformation Initiative, Government of Barbados; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Speakers:
Sh. Abdulla Bin Humood Al Khalifa, Director of Consumer and Communications, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain
Noelle Francesca de Guzman, Senior Director for Regional Affairs, Asia-Pacific, Internet Society (ISOC)
Wathshlah G. Naidu, Executive Director, Centre for Independent Journalism, Malaysia
Clare Bloomfield, Chief Policy Officer, Asia Video Industry Association (AVIA)
Nur Syamimi Bakhtir, Director II, Content Regulation Department, Content Platform Management Division, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

17:30: Close of day one, followed by Gala Reception

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

18:00: Gala Reception

Gala Reception

Venue: Sky Lounge, Level 6, NU Sentral
Open to all delegates, join us for an evening of**drinks, food and networking**in a relaxed setting overlooking Kuala Lumpur.

Agenda: Thursday 15 October 2026

08:45: Registration and networking

09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Isolde Goggin, President, International Institute of Communications

09:45: eCommerce as a driver of innovation and digital inclusion

• Competition and regulatory considerations, consumer protection, data privacy and online safety

Moderator:
Clare Bloomfield, Chief Policy Officer, Asia Video Industry Association (AVIA)
Speakers:
Darren Ong, Head of Public Policy, Global Selling & Digital Services, SEA/TW/KR, Amazon
Firdaus Bin Fadzil, Head of Public Policy, Malaysia & Brunei, TikTok
Sherry Tan, Chief eCommerce, Ada

10:45: Spotlight session: Who benefits from Net Neutrality? An India Case Study

MediaNama's paper,*India After Net Neutrality Protections*will be summarised, along with an explanation of current debates around Net Neutrality in India. Who has gained from India's Net Neutrality Protections, and what impact has it had on India's Internet landscape?
Nikhil Pahwa, Founder and Editor, MediaNama

11:00: Networking break

11:30: Driving the creative economy – key pillars supporting innovation across the entire digital content ecosystem

• Protecting local content funding, production and discoverability in AI-mediated and platform-driven media markets
• Public service broadcasting – what role in contemporary society?
• If we were designing broadcasting regulation from scratch for the digital age, how would we secure a level playing field between broadcasters, global platforms and other emerging services?

Moderator:
Lara Levet, Tech Policy Manager, Global Affairs, Netflix
Speakers:
Scott Shortliffe, Vice-President, Broadcasting, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)
Cristina Nicolotti Squires, Group Director, Broadcasting and Media, Ofcom, UK
Nargiza Numanova, Head, Secretary-General's Office, Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)
Premesh Chandran, Deputy Chair, Malaysian Media Council; co-founder, Malaysiakini
Clive Kenny, Manager, Frontier Economics

12:45: Spotlight session: Prominence: the importance of measuring what gets discovered

• How prominence shapes what audiences discover across Connected TV, and why measuring it matters
• What current prominence data tells us about visibility, placement and the value of being found: a comparison between key global markets
• How AI, voice and changing discovery behaviours are beginning to challenge traditional definitions of prominence
• Why regulators can start by measuring what is measurable today, from CTV to app

stores, while developing approaches that can evolve alongside content discovery

Francesca Pezzoli, VP Marketing, Looper Insights

13:00: Networking lunch

14:15: Towards 6G – separating reality from hype

- Is it a solution-looking-for-a-problem, or is there genuine commercial justification?
- Implications for spectrum allocation, supply chains, competition, surveillance and privacy
- What are realistic timelines and for which use cases?

Moderator:
Nina Cummins, Director and Global Head of Connectivity Policy Strategy, Meta; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Speakers:
Thabisa Faye, Councillor, Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)
Jonathan Turley, Director of Government and Policy Advocacy for Southeast Asia, Ericsson
Jared Carlson, Deputy Chief, Office of International Affairs, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

15:15: AI implementation, governance and accountability

- What principles might ensure the vibrant adoption of AI while staying flexible enough to make adjustments as true risks and rewards of AI deployment become clear?

Moderator:
Isolde Goggin, President, International Institute of Communications
Speakers include:
Meghna Bal, Director, Esya Centre
Mohd Alhafidz Yahya, Director, AI Innovation, National AI Office (NAIO), Malaysia
Jonathan Turley, Director of Government and Policy Advocacy for Southeast Asia, Ericsson
Philip Marnick, General Director, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Adilah Junid, Digital Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

16:30: Closing remarks

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

16:45: Close