

## New Year Greeting



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As one year draws to a close and a new one begins, I am reminded of the excitement that we stirred up at last year's Rio Olympics. In just three more years, it will be Tokyo's turn to host the games. The fact that it is now possible for people all over the world to watch live video of the Olympic and Paralympic games and share it in high quality is partly due to the previous standardization efforts centered around the ITU (International Telecommunication Union). Today, the ITU is also involved in discussions relating to diverse fields such as 5G and IoT that are expected to bring about significant social innovations.

In July last year, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) held its 16th APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-16) in Tokyo. This event was attended by many high-level delegates from the Asia-Pacific region, and made a large contribution towards the sharing and resolution of telecommunication issues in this region. ITU-AJ was given the honor of taking part in the running of this event.

This year, ITU-AJ will continue looking out for important trends in the ITU and APT, and disseminating these trends to everyone through workshops, technical journals, and other such means.

Last year, WTSA-16 (World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly) was held by the ITU-T

(Standardization) Sector, while in October this year WTDC-17 (World Telecommunication Development Conference) will be held in Buenos Aires (Argentina) by the ITU-D (Development) Sector. These events are important meetings leading up to next year's ITU PP-18 (Plenipotentiary Conference). This year, ITU-AJ will therefore be turning its attention to the development of information in preparation for WTDC-17 and PP-18.

Fostering skilled personnel who can play an active role in standardization and other efforts in the international arena is a major challenge for Japan. Two years ago, we commenced a "Performative Seminar", where we employed foreign actors to recreate the proceedings of international conferences in role-play exercises aimed at improving the negotiating skills of our international staff. The event was a popular hit among all the participants from our member companies. This year, we hope to come up with training scenarios that are even more useful.

Through activities such as these, ITU-AJ is helping to raise Japan's international profile while carrying out our public duties including the commendation of distinguished achievements. I hope you will be able to continue giving us your support during 2017, and that this new year brings success and happiness to each and every one of you.



### Performative Seminar

13 July 2016

