

Office of the NBTC Hosts the NBTC Symposium 2025 Under the Theme “Bridging Today & Tomorrow, Connecting People – Inspiring Futures”

Bangkok, 9 October 2025 – Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) hosted the NBTC Symposium 2025 at Dusit Thani Bangkok under the theme “Bridging Today & Tomorrow, Connecting People – Inspiring Futures.” The Symposium was held during 9–10 October 2025 and organized by the International Issues and Engagement Bureau under the Academic Cluster of Office of the NBTC.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Mr. Torpong Selanon, NBTC Commissioner, together with Mr. Trairat Viriyasirikul, Deputy Secretary-General and Acting Secretary-General of the NBTC. The event also highlighted a special keynote delivered by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sompop Purivigraipong, NBTC Commissioner, while Professor Emeritus Dr. Pirongrong Ramasoota, NBTC Commissioner, graciously attended the Symposium.

The Symposium gathered ambassadors and members of the diplomatic corps, representatives from United Nations agencies, government officials, private sector executives, academics, foreign chambers of commerce in Thailand, and NBTC executives and staff. The event served as a high-level platform for knowledge and vision exchange among policymakers and executives from leading public and private organizations both domestic and international. Discussions covered topics ranging from green telecom infrastructure and cybersecurity resilience to next-generation satellite communications (IMT-NTN) and Thailand’s emerging space economy, with the aim of building sustainable policy frameworks and enhancing national competitiveness on the global stage.

The Symposium was conducted in a hybrid format, accommodating both onsite and online participation, with live captioning provided to promote inclusive access to knowledge for all citizens.

1. United Nations Highlights Global Cooperation on Emerging Technologies

The Symposium was honored by a special video address from Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, Under-Secretary-General and Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies, United Nations Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies, under the topic “Navigating the Converging Future: Global Visions & Shared Challenges.”

Mr. Gill shared the UN’s perspective on navigating the rapid transformation of digital technologies, particularly AI governance and ethics, emphasizing the need for international cooperation to ensure inclusive and responsible digital progress.

2. Executive Keynote: Building the Infrastructure of the Future

In the executive keynote session titled “Building the Infrastructure of the Future: How NextWave and Digital Technologies are Revolutionizing Industries?” leading executives from Thailand’s energy, financial, and telecom sectors shared their visions: **Mr. Smith Banomyong, Senior Executive Vice President of Gulf Development**, stressed the critical role of clean and reliable energy as the backbone of Thailand’s digital economy. **Mr. Kaweewut Temphuwapat, Chief Innovation Officer of SCB X and CEO of SCB 10X**, outlined the financial sector’s transformation through AI toward the “First Banking” vision. **Mr. Chakkrit Urairat, Chief Regulatory and Government Affairs Officer of True Corporation**, underscored the need for national AI infrastructure to ensure digital equality. **Mr. Saran Phaloprakarn, Head of Mobile and Consumer Product Business Unit, AIS**, highlighted telecom networks as critical digital infrastructure supporting diverse future services.

3. Panel Discussions

Transforming Telecom for Sustainability: The Role of Mobile Operators in Driving Green Technology and an Eco-Friendly Future - Panelists included **Dr. Wongkot Vijacksungsithi, Senior Executive VP, Digital and Solutions of NT**, **Mr. Wasit Wattanasap, Head of Nationwide Operations and Support Business Unit of AIS**, and **Mr. Navneet Nayan, Head of Network Strategy of True Corporation**, moderated by **Ms. Theetanun Rattanasanyanuphap, Executive Director of Policy Assessment Bureau of Office of the NBTC**. The discussion focused on how Thai telecom operators are advancing sustainability through ESG and Green Technology, aligning with the UN SDGs and fostering an environmentally responsible telecom sector.

Critical Infrastructure & Digital Resilience: Securing What Matters Most - Panelists included **Miss Aurora Unnanuntana, Senior Director of Bank of Thailand**, **Mr. Pitch Muenrak, Head of Public Policy of Amazon Web Services (Thailand)**, and **Mr. Waruth Voraprachaya, Head of Digital Operations of B.Grimm Power**, moderated by **Mr. Pratompong Srinuan, Executive Director of Telecommunication Policy and Resources Management Bureau of Office of the NBTC**. The session addressed resilience in financial, energy, and communication infrastructure, sharing insights on cyber threats, natural disasters, and collaborative strategies to safeguard national digital stability.

4. Special Keynote on IMT-NTN and Future Communications

Assoc. Prof. Sompop Purivigraipong, Ph.D., NBTC Commissioner, delivered a keynote titled “Envisioning the Future of IMT-NTN Landscape.” He highlighted Thailand’s role in the global shift toward 6G and Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN), emphasizing the need to

bridge the connectivity gap for unserved populations. He underscored NBTC's ongoing efforts in developing GSO/NGSO satellite regulatory frameworks and NTN studies, with strategic focuses on Data-Centric, Spectrum-Centric, Regulatory-Centric, AI-Centric, and People-Centric development to enhance citizens' quality of life.

Mr. Eiji Ishida, Director of International Digital Infrastructure Promotion Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan, presented "Envisioning the Future of IMT-NTN Landscape in Japan – Supporting the Beyond 5 G Era from Space." He shared Japan's national strategy on space communications, describing space as humanity's "fifth frontier" and a key enabler for national security, economy, and society. The multi-layered network approach — integrating terrestrial and satellite systems — supports advanced R&D such as quantum communications, LEO satellites, and Direct-to-Cell systems to eliminate coverage gaps. Japan also addresses space weather resilience through NICT's forecasting and alerting mechanisms to protect critical digital infrastructure.

Mr. Eric Edora, Associate General Counsel, Regulatory Affairs, TELUS (Canada), presented "Allowing Direct-to-Device (D2D) Communications: Canada's Policy and Regulatory Pathway." He explained Canada's Supplemental Mobile Coverage by Satellite (SMCS) framework, which enables D2D communication to bridge gaps in sparsely populated regions, enhance public safety, and promote sustainable connectivity.

5. Panel: From Sky to Street – The New Era of IMT-NTN Enabled Global Communications

Mr. Saneh Saiwong, Principal Engineer Expert of Office of the NBTC, joined global satellite providers to explore the future of Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN), moderated by **Mr. Chatchai Kongaut, Director of Spectrum Allocation Policy and Infrastructure Development Division of Office of the NBTC.** Mr. Saneh likened NBTC's regulatory mission to "assembling a jigsaw puzzle" to ensure seamless integration between space, air, and terrestrial systems. **Mr. Cristian Gomez, VP, Government & Regulatory Affairs, APAC, Viasat,** highlighted the need for multi-orbit coordination and pre-emptive regulation to prevent monopolization. **Mr. Bala Balamurali, VP, Southeast & East Asia, Eutelsat OneWeb,** stressed the complementary roles of NTN and terrestrial networks. **Mr. Peter Huang, GM, International Business Development, Galaxy Space,** presented innovations to enhance satellite service coverage and reliability.

6. Presentations on "Space Economy on the Rise – Global Lessons from the Frontier"

Speakers included **Mr. Takehiro Nakamura, Director, International Relations and Research Department of JAXA Bangkok Office,** **Ms. Liu Huan, Senior Engineer, Radio Research of CAICT,** and **Mr. Hernan Merino Choque, Deputy Director General,**

Department of Program Management and Data Service of APSCO. They shared global perspectives and case studies on the rapidly growing space economy, covering national strategies, regional cooperation, and policy frameworks from Japan, China, and multilateral organizations — suggesting Thailand’s strategic planning for its own space economy development.

7. Panel: Thailand’s Space Economy & Satellite Development

Moderated by **Mr. Suebsak Suebpakdee** Commissioner and Secretary General, **The Telecommunications Association of Thailand under the Royal Patronage**, the session gathered experts from government and private sectors to explore ways to strengthen Thailand’s space ecosystem: **Dr. Phornphan Tannukit, Executive Director, National Space Affairs Division, The National Board of Digital Economy and Society Office (BDE)**, discussed Thailand’s current and planned satellites and stressed the importance of maximizing national satellite resources and human capacity development. **Mr. Patompob Suwansiri, CEO of Thaicom**, emphasized that developing the space economy requires not only investment but also government policies that foster fair competition and innovation, balancing technology imports and domestic development. **Mr. Samathorn Teankingkaeo, COO of muSpace**, highlighted global LEO satellite growth and the opportunities for Thailand through investment in reusable rockets, mass production, and miniaturization technologies. **Dr. Pakorn Apaphant, Executive Director of GISTDA**, underscored the need for “Team Thailand” collaboration across sectors, covering satellite development, space object surveillance, international cooperation, and the feasibility of establishing a Spaceport. **Dr. Wiphu Rujopakarn, Executive Director of NARIT**, discussed the importance of classifying technologies into Tech, Hi-Tech, Deep-Tech, and Frontier-Tech for targeted support and human capital development, linking astronomy research to next-generation satellite optical communication technologies. The NBTC Symposium 2025 was organized by the International Issues and Engagement Bureau under the Academic Cluster of the Office of the NBTC.
