



## **APTLD and PICISOC Form Strategic Partnership, Promote Outreach and Awareness-Raising in the Pacific**

The Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD) and the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) have formally launched a partnership by signing a MoU at the opening of APTLD's 77<sup>th</sup> Members Meeting and AGM in Melbourne, Australia.

The MoU was signed on February 20, 2020, with the aim of building a strategic partnership to explore possible areas of cooperation in the field of outreach and engagement of, and building capacity for ccTLD managers across the Pacific Countries and Territories.

The agreement will promote collaboration and exchange of good practices between APTLD and PICISOC in the interest of the internet-user community in the Pacific and establish the framework for cooperative activities for the Signatories' benefit.

Leonid Todorov, APTLD General Manager said, 'This partnership will establish cooperation in promoting capacity, especially in the field of ccTLD management by sharing expertise and knowledge for training courses and seminars; exchange information and experience in championing the Internet and Internet resources in the local community'.

He further said 'PICISOC has been a key player in the Pacific region and we believe this partnership will allow us to collaborate in holding public activities, both offline and online, aiming at education and awareness raising among the At-Large community and ccTLD managers in the Pacific.'

'We are excited to partner with APTLD,' said Anju Mangal, Vice Chair of PICISOC Board. 'This partnership will unlock full potential for our members and ccTLD managers and together we will be able to efficiently run outreach activities and capacity building programmes for our stakeholders across the Pacific.'

Ms Cherie Lagakali of PICISOC board said, 'APTLD and PICISOC will work in tandem to address their members' needs and bring together expertise and skills in Internet and technology development'.

As an indication of commitment to the partnership, PICISOC in collaboration with APTLD will team up with other key partners such as InternetNZ, an APTLD's founding member, to facilitate the APTLD meeting in Fiji in September 2021.

As they move into this new partnership, APTLD and PICISOC will aim to support their members by facilitating dissemination, impact, promote the collaboration, and ultimately sharing of knowledge and good practices and innovative organizational-specific solutions.

The joint efforts will support the continued expansion of APTLD and PICISOC across the Pacific

#### **About APTLD and PICISOC**

- **Asia Pacific Top Level Domain (APTLD) – Founded in 1998 as a non-profit entity and incorporated in Malaysia, APTLD (Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association) is an organization for ccTLD (country-code Top Level Domain) registries in the Asia Pacific region.**
- **Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) - The Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society is a chapter that represents the interests of users in the Oceania Pacific region. It focuses on local issues and developments in the Pacific region, and seeks to provide impartial advice to governments and the public on Internet-related matters that are relevant to Pacific Island people.**

For more information, please contact Mr. Leonid Todorov, General Manager, APTLD - [L.todorov@aptld.org](mailto:L.todorov@aptld.org) or Ms. Anju Mangal Vice Chair of PICISOC Board, [anjuvulamangal@gmail.com](mailto:anjuvulamangal@gmail.com)