



Candidature for
ITU Council Member (Region E)
2018 - 2022

A hand points to a map of Thailand on a world map. The ITU logo is also present.

If re-elected to the ITU Council, Thailand affirms our deliberations and pledges to continue to work closely with the Member States, the ITU, and the international community to leverage ICT and telecommunication for the benefit of all.

Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

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A graphic with the Thai flag and a city skyline.

Thailand's Commitment

Thailand attaches great importance to all stakeholders including private sector and civil society. It is indispensable to promote **greater international cooperation and partnerships** among Member States, the ITU and its partners, and all relevant stakeholders. As a medium-level developing country with overall good relations with countries worldwide, Thailand stands ready to act as a **"Bridge for Partnerships"** between the developed and developing countries, as well as between countries that are technologically advanced and countries that are aspiring to be one, to close the digital divide and fulfill the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and Connect 2020 Agenda.

As such, Thailand is determined to push ahead its Digital Economy Agenda promoting the adoption of digital technology in every aspect of development, whilst attempting to further strengthen cooperation with all relevant international organizations and stakeholders on a journey toward inclusive, reliable, and sustainable growth which sets out a bold step in successfully moving the Global Agendas forward together.

A hand in a suit sleeve shaking hands with a hand made of a blue circuit board.



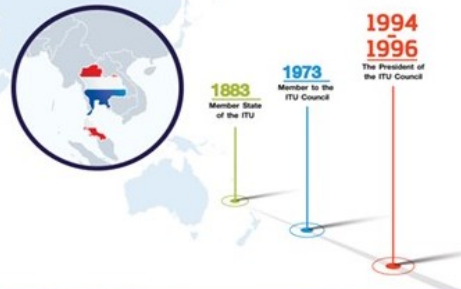
Candidature for ITU Council Member (Region E) 2018 - 2022

The Kingdom of Thailand has presented its candidature for re-election to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council for Region E (Asia and Australasia) for the term 2018-2022, the elections to be held during the forthcoming ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 29 October to 16 November 2018.

THAILAND

Thailand takes great pride in sharing our long history with the ITU. We have been an active **Member State of the ITU** since 1883 and have been serving as a **Member to the ITU Council** since 1973. We also had the honor of serving as the **President of the ITU Council** during October 1994 - June 1996.

Our long history of commitment to the ITU has guided us to pursue **narrowing the "digital divide"** and promote the use of ICT to improve people's quality of life, especially in terms of education and health. Thailand is **committed to further promoting** the existing and upcoming initiatives of the ITU and making every effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Thailand Digital Economy and Society Development Plan

Corresponding to the Global Agenda, we have been actively implementing Thailand Digital Economy and Society Development Plan, a key mechanism driving Thailand 4.0 aiming at transforming our country into digital economy where people can create and take full advantage of digital technology.

The Plan is shaped by six strategies :

1. Develop countrywide high-efficiency digital infrastructure
2. Drive the economy with digital technology
3. Build an equitable and inclusive society through digital technology
4. Transform the public sector into a digital government
5. Develop workforce for the age of digital economy and society
6. Build trust and confidence in the use of digital economy

With these constructive schemes, we have put top priority on ensuring inclusiveness of access to broadband infrastructure, and on carrying out the Smart City initiative where obstructing regulations and laws have been revised to increase the flexibility of business and investments by foreigners driving the public-private partnership and collaboration towards innovation, services, and new applications. This contributes to inclusive digital ecosystem developing a rural area into a vibrant Smart City in terms of Smart Economy and Smart Living Community.



Roles of Thailand in ITU

In Asia and the Pacific region, Thailand has hosted and supported the works of the **ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific since 1992** by reaching out to help Member States achieve their development priorities and needs. This includes implementing the Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) for 2014-2018.

Our Centre of Excellence, one of the ITU's initiatives in the area of human resources development, has proven to be an important mechanism for knowledge-sharing and capacity building, particularly in the area of "Policy and Regulation" and "Broadband Access".

Thailand had hosted numerous events, both regional and international levels such as **ITU TELECOM WORLD 2016** in Bangkok, the **Third Meeting of Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Preparatory Group for WTDC-17** and the **First Meeting of APT Preparatory Group for Plenipotentiary Conference 2018** in Bangkok in 2017.

