

The background of the top right section is a blue sky with a white network overlay of dots and lines. A telecommunications tower with several satellite dishes is visible on the right side of the image.

## **U.S.-Thailand 6 GHz Spectrum Virtual Workshop**

# **Presenters' Biographies and Qualifications**

February 17 – 18, 2022



**Minister Counselor for  
Commercial Affairs and  
ASEAN Regional Senior  
Commercial Officer**

**U.S. Embassy Bangkok**

## **John D. Breidenstine**

A career Senior Foreign Service Officer, John Breidenstine began his assignment as Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs and ASEAN Regional Senior Commercial Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok in August 2019. Before his current assignment, John served as the Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs and Senior Commercial Officer for Europe at the U.S. Mission to the European Union (2015- 2019); Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs in London (2011-15); U.S. Consul General in Hermosillo, Mexico (2008-11); Regional Director for Europe and Eurasia (2006-08); and, Commercial Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City (2003-06). Prior to a 2002 reconstruction-related assignment at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, John's postings included: Ankara, Turkey (1997- 2002); Tashkent, Uzbekistan (1994-97); Kuwait City, Kuwait (1991-93) and Munich, Germany (1990-91). Before joining the Foreign Service in 1990, John studied international relations at the University of Miami (1987-88) and at the Free University of Berlin (1988-89) and worked as an Account Executive for International Paper in New York City and Atlanta (1984-87). A 1984 graduate of Davidson College in North Carolina, John is married to Judith Valdes of Mazatlán, Mexico. They have three children – Victor Manuel, SofiaGrace and JohnDavid.



**Senior Director,  
Technology and Spectrum  
Policy**

**Cisco Systems**

## **Mary Brown**

Mary L. Brown is Senior Director for Technology and Spectrum Policy in Cisco's Washington DC Government Affairs office where she covers a wide range of public policy issues. She leads Cisco's global public policy agenda for wireless technologies and spectrum policy.

During her career, she has worked as a consultant, as in-house regulatory counsel for a major carrier, and for approximately 10 years as a staff lawyer and manager at the Federal Communications Commission. She has been with Cisco for 16 years. In addition to telecommunications issues, she has substantial experience in Internet law and policy.

Ms. Brown holds a J.D. with honors from the Syracuse College of Law, and a Master of Science in Telecommunications from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



**Regional Director for the  
Indo-Pacific**

**U.S. Trade and  
Development Agency**

## **Verinda Fike**

Verinda Fike serves as the Regional Director for the Indo-Pacific for the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), where she is responsible for developing the agency's strategy, infrastructure project preparation activities, and innovative public-private partnerships throughout the region.

Ms. Fike has traveled and worked in over 50 countries and has managed projects in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. Ms. Fike began her career at USTDA in 2010, and previously served as Country Manager for Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and for East Asia. Prior to joining USTDA, Ms. Fike consulted U.S. private sector and USAID overseas missions on creating effective public-private partnerships in developing and emerging economies. She also spent three years in China managing patient relations and marketing for several women's health clinics in cooperation with Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Ms. Fike holds a Master of Science in Foreign Service and a Master of Public Policy from Georgetown University, as well as a B.A. from the University of Colorado in International Affairs and Mandarin Chinese.



**Deputy Economic  
Counselor**

**U.S. Embassy Bangkok**

## **Noah Geesaman**

Noah Geesaman is the Deputy Economic Counselor at U.S. Embassy Bangkok. Prior to assuming his role in Thailand, Noah served diplomatic assignments at the U.S. embassies in Vientiane (Lao PDR), Suva (Fiji), Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), and New Delhi (India). He has also served in Washington DC in the State Department's Economic Bureau as a Trade Policy Analyst and in the East Asia and Pacific Bureau as a Thailand specialist. He holds a Master's in International Economic Policy from American University and a Bachelor's in Business Management and Japanese Studies from the University of Utah.



**HA Junhong**

**Director of the Spectrum  
Policy Division, Radio  
Policy Bureau**

**Korea Ministry of  
Science and ICT**



**Chargé d'Affaires**

**U.S. Embassy Bangkok**

## **Michael Heath**

Michael Heath is the Chargé d' Affaires a.i. of the U.S. Mission in Thailand and a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor. He was previously acting Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Canberra, Australia (2016-2019) and Consul General in Chiang Mai, Thailand (2013-2016). Previously, he worked on the U.S.-China Strategic & Economic Dialogue at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. He has also served in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and completed domestic tours in the Department of State's Bureau of African Affairs and the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, where he was Senior Country Officer for Indonesia. Originally from Los Angeles, he also grew up in the United Kingdom and Belgium before returning to California, where he received his B.A. in International Relations from Stanford University. He and his wife Michelle have two children. He enjoys playing tennis and being a part-time member of the U.S. Embassy soccer team.



## Cary Ingram

Mr. Cary Ingram is a Senior International Trade Specialist with the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration (ITA). Mr. Ingram serves as a senior advisor on international trade and economic policy concerning the information and communications technology (ICT) industry. Cary manages trade and economic policy development with a specific focus on telecommunications technology, quantum communications, and other emerging technologies and applications in the ICT industry. He is the lead analyst for ITA on advanced wireless communications technology, and manages bureau strategy development in support of the White House National Strategy to Secure 5G.

Prior to his work at the Department of Commerce, Mr. Ingram worked in corporate strategy development for multi-national companies in the consumer goods, bio-technology, and financial services industries. Mr. Ingram also served as a consultant to the United Nations Office of the Secretary General on promoting corporate social responsibility and sustainable business practices.

**Senior International Trade  
Specialist**

**International Trade  
Administration |  
U.S. Department of Commerce**



**Principal Wireless  
Architect**

**Cisco Asia-Pacific, Japan  
and Greater China**

## **Mark Krischer**

Mark has over 25 years of experience across Mobility and Security technologies, and joined Cisco in 2001 as part of the Radiata acquisition where he was Director of Software Engineering.

As part of Cisco's Wireless Networking Business Unit, Mark led the Sydney Software Engineering group, and was responsible for the design and development for such technologies as EAP-FAST (IETF RFC 4851) and Management Frame Protection (802.11w).

Prior to his involvement in Wireless, Mark focused on Intrusion Detection and the application of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) to secure networking protocols and services at BBN Technologies.

Through his engineering work, Mark holds 18 patents in wireless and security.



## **Brandon Megorden**

Brandon Megorden is the Regional Manager for Asia at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), a U.S. government agency that promotes technical and commercial partnerships between the United States and emerging market economies. Based at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, Brandon is responsible for directing business development and coordinating with public and private sector stakeholders to implement USTDA projects and programs in the Asia-Pacific region with focus on major infrastructure sectors, including energy, ICT, transportation, healthcare and agribusiness. Brandon is an active member of USTDA's Renewable Energy and Smart Cities sector teams, and Climate Change Working Group that guides the agency's international response to climate change. Brandon formerly served as a manager with USTDA's Sub-Saharan Africa region leading program activities across East and Central Africa.

**Regional Manager for Asia**

**U.S. Trade and  
Development Agency**

**U.S. Embassy Bangkok**



**Putchapong Nodthaisong**

**Secretary-General**

**Office of the National  
Digital Economy and  
Society Commission  
(ONDE)**



**Public Policy Director**

**Meta Platforms**

## **Alan Norman**

Alan Norman joined Meta's connectivity policy team in 2016 and actively supports Meta's Spectrum and Connectivity initiatives. Alan is a long-time advocate for improved broadband and internet access, shared infrastructure, and spectrum for next generation technologies. Recently Alan has been engaged on spectrum for AR/VR, Wi-Fi, UWB and 5G with a focus on enabling the Metaverse.

Alan holds a BS in Mathematical Sciences from Stanford University and an MS in Management from Stanford's Graduate School of Business where he was a Sloan Fellow.



**Director of Corporate  
Affairs**

**Intel Microelectronics  
(Thailand) Ltd.**

## **Worapat Patram**

Mr. Worapat Patram is currently a Director of Government Affairs. His responsibility is to drive policy developments as well as government relations in the region. He works extensively with various government agencies in the region on the development of ICT related policies, particularly on telecommunication, cybersecurity, and privacy policies.

Before joining Intel, Mr. Patram was a Director of Regulatory and Technology Development, Office of Commissioners' Affairs, National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NTC) in Thailand. His responsibilities included research and policy development to foster growth of the telecommunication industry.

Worapat received both of his Master and Bachelor Degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering with the emphasis in digital signal processing and communication from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, USA.



**Permanent Secretary**

**Thailand Ministry of  
Digital Economy and  
Society (MDES)**

## **Ajarin Pattanapanchai**

Ms. Ajarin Pattanapanchai was appointed as Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Digital Economy and Society on 1 October 2017. Prior to taking this executive position at the Ministry, she had spent her career at Office of the Board of Investment (BOI) since 1984. During that period, she was involved in many high profile projects development in petroleum & petrochemical sector, chemical sector, energy and alternative energy sector. She was also in charge of formulating investment promotion policy for many target sectors including policy to promote hi-tech industries such as aerospace, medical devices, biotechnology, and R&D in the country. Her major positions in BOI include Director of Planning and Development Division, Director of Chemical Division, Director of Services and Public Utilities Division, Director of Management Information System Division, Senior Executives Investment Advisor, and lastly Deputy Secretary General of BOI.

Ms. Ajarin Pattanapanchai holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand and a Master of Business Administration, Youngstown State University, Ohio U.S.A.



**Public Policy Manager for  
Connectivity and Access  
in Asia**

**Meta**

## **Renuka Rajaratnam**

Renuka Rajaratnam is a Public Policy Manager for Connectivity and Access in Asia at Meta. She covers policy issues on spectrum, infrastructure sharing, net neutrality and online communication services across the region and is the connectivity policy lead for Southeast Asia. Prior to joining Facebook, she worked at Access Partnership, a government relations advisory firm. There, she supported clients in advancing their policy interests around spectrum allocation and management, connectivity, cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, and digital payments. During her career, Renuka has worked on public sector and economic development strategy projects at the Boston Consulting Group and The Economist Intelligence Unit, where she supported and led engagements for Asian governments, corporations, and multilateral organizations. She also spent a few years in the Singapore Government, Enterprise Singapore, supporting Singapore's external trade and outward investment growth. Renuka has represented Singapore at an ASEAN secretariat meeting and has spoken at regional conferences on major trends in economic activity and digital policy in Asia. Renuka holds a MSc in Financial Economics from Cardiff University and an honors degree in Economics from Nanyang Technological University.



**Acting Chief of the Office  
of Engineering and  
Technology**

**Federal Communications  
Commission (FCC)**

## **Ronald T. Repasi**

Mr. Repasi is Acting Chief of the Federal Communications Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology. OET is the Commission's primary resource for engineering expertise and it provides technical support to the Chair, Commissioners, and the FCC's Bureaus and Offices. He has nearly 30 years of experience in managing the nation's radiofrequency spectrum resource with extensive experience in licensed wireless operations, satellite network communications, and unlicensed technologies. Mr. Repasi joined OET in 2003 and served as Office's Deputy Chief since 2007. He was the Commission's Liaison to the Inter-department Radio Advisory Committee for several years. He now serves as the agency's representative on the Technical Panel established by the Spectrum Pipeline Act of 2015 to evaluate new and innovative approaches to increase the spectrum supply for non-federal operations while supporting equitable federal access to the nation's valuable radiofrequency spectrum resource. Prior to joining OET, Mr. Repasi spent more than a decade in the Commission's International Bureau where he helped secure global spectrum allocations for fixed and mobile satellite services at two ITU World Radiocommunications Conferences. He developed service rules for satellite operations, including provisions for shared satellite and terrestrial spectrum use. Mr. Repasi holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from The George Washington University.



## **Saneh Saiwong**

Mr. Saneh Saiwong is currently responsible for overall supervision and implementation of policy and strategy development activities for spectrum and satellite management in Thailand. He carries out and manages spectrum/satellite policy and planning, spectrum engineering, and international and national spectrum/satellite coordination.

He has been regular participant in ITU conferences and meetings, notably WRC and relevant ITU-R Study Groups/Working Parties. He is also active in regional groups and forums such as APT and ASEAN on matters relating to spectrum management and in bilateral coordination schemes, covering both terrestrial and satellite issues.

Prior to joining NBTC, he worked with a private company engaging in satellite communications and later joined government agencies for which his roles and responsibilities encompassed a wide range of standardization, monitoring, licensing and policy and strategy development.

He received his Master Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA in 1996 and Bachelor Degree in Telecommunications Engineering from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), Thailand in 1993.

**Principal Engineering  
Expert**

**Office of the National  
Broadcasting and  
Telecommunications  
Commission (NBTC),  
Thailand**



**President**

**Dynamic Spectrum  
Alliance**

## **Dr. Martha Liliana Suarez Peñaloza**

Dr. Martha Suarez is President of the Dynamic Spectrum Alliance and has over 15 years of experience in the telecommunications industry. In her current role at the DSA she advocates for laws and regulations that will lead to more efficient and effective spectrum utilization, which is essential to addressing key worldwide social and economic challenges. She spent over three years as General Director of the National Spectrum Agency in Colombia, having originally joined the ANE in 2013. Before that, she was awarded with a Marie Curie Fellowship and worked at the Instytut Technologii Elektronowej ITE in Poland for the Partnership for Cognitive Radio Par4CR European Project. Suarez is an electronics engineer, with a master degree in high frequency communication systems and is Doctor in electronics from the University Paris-Est.



**Chief of the International  
Bureau**

**Federal Communications  
Commission (FCC)**

## **Thomas Sullivan**

Thomas Sullivan is a career member of the Senior Executive Service and has served as Chief of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) International Bureau since 2017. The International Bureau represents the FCC in international conferences and meetings and also oversees the licensing and policy activities for international telecommunications services and satellite services.

Mr. Sullivan served on numerous international spectrum and ICT policy delegations including the ITU WTDC-17, the ITU Global Symposium of Regulators from 2017-2020, and the ITU WRC-19.

He joined the FCC in 1991 after receiving his master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Michigan where he also received his bachelor's degree in Economics and Political Science.



**Director of Product  
Marketing | Technology  
Strategy for the Wireless  
Communications and  
Connectivity Division**

**Broadcom**

## **Christopher Szymanski**

Christopher Szymanski is Director of Product Marketing | Technology Strategy for the Wireless Communications and Connectivity Division at Broadcom Inc., where he is responsible for leading Broadcom's efforts on the adoption of 6 GHz Wi-Fi, strategic marketing, standards development, and regulatory affairs. As Broadcom's representative, Mr. Szymanski serves as on the Wi-Fi Alliance and Dynamic Spectrum Alliance Board of Directors.

Before joining Broadcom, Mr. Szymanski worked for a semiconductor foundry in Shanghai, China. He also served as a congressional aide focused on policies related to economic competitiveness, telecommunications, foreign relations, national security, and trade.

Mr. Szymanski received his Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the Washington University Olin School of Business.



**Minister**

**Thailand Ministry of  
Digital Economy and  
Society (MDES)**

# Chaiwut Thanakamanusorn

## Education

- Master Degree in Engineering Program, The University of Southern California. United States of America
- Master Degree in Economics Program, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Bachelor Degree in Engineering Program, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

## Work Experience

- 2021 – Present: Minister of Digital Economy and Society
- 2019 – Present: Member of the House of Representatives
- 2018: Executive Director, Palang Pracharath Party
- 2009 – 2018: Executive Vice President, Gulf Energy Development Public Company Limited
- 2014: Senator, Sing Buri Province



**Vice President of  
Technical Standards**

**Qualcomm Technologies**

## **Rolf de Vegt**

After earning a Masters Degree from Twente University in the Netherlands, Mr. de Vegt entered a career in Management Consulting in the High Tech and Telecommunications Industries. In 2001, he Co-Founded Airgo Networks Inc. a start-up company based in Palo Alto CA, which pioneered the commercialization of MIMO technology in WLAN systems. This company was acquired by Qualcomm in 2006.

He is currently a Vice President of Technical Standards in the connectivity semiconductor business unit of Qualcomm and has been an active participant in the Wi-Fi Alliance and WLAN industry since 2001.

He serves as the Treasurer on the Board of Wi-Fi Alliance and he is the lead for Qualcomm's participation in IEEE802.11 standardization.

# Trairat Viriyasirikul



**Acting Secretary General**

**Office of The National  
Broadcasting and  
Telecommunications  
Commission (NBTC),  
Thailand**

Mr. Trairat Viriyasirikul is currently the Acting Secretary General of the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC), Thailand and the Deputy Secretary General of Strategic and Internal Affairs. Before assuming the present position, he had extensive experience in related fields, such as telecommunications policy, broadcasting affairs as well as strategy and budgeting.

Under his leadership at the Office of the NBTC, Mr. Viriyasirikul has involved a key role as Head of the Thai regulator delegation at various major international forums e.g. World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly (WTSA-2008) in the Republic of South Africa, 10th ASEAN TELMIN in Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2017 TELSOM-ATRC Leader's Retreat in Malaysia and 23rd ASEAN Telecommunications Regulatory Authority Council (ATRC) in the Philippines.

Mr. Viriyasirikul holds a bachelor of arts degree from Assumption University of Thailand (ABAC) and a master of science in Leadership and Management from the University of La Verne, California, USA. Moreover, alongside with his career, he has taken several training courses, such as graduate diploma in Public Law and Management, King Prajadhipok's Institute, Thailand; certificate on PURC/World Bank 25th International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy, Public Utility Research Center (PURC), University of Florida, USA; training program on Reform and Regulation of Network Service Industry, London School of Economic and Political Science, the UK; certificate on Completion of Anti-Trust, Intellectual Property and Telecommunications Law at the UC Berkley, USA; and certificate on completion of NTC Law and Economics Training Programme, King's College London, the UK.



**Principal Wireless System  
Architect**

**Intel**

## **Hassan Yaghoobi**

Hassan Yaghoobi is a Principal Wireless System Architect at Intel Next Generation and Standards (NGS) division. Hassan has been with Intel for more than 20 years focusing on product standardization, technology/ecosystem enablement, technical regulatory, system architecture and design of broadband communications products with emphasis in System, PHY, RF and OTA Performance. Hassan has been leading various standardization committees and projects in CTIA, IEEE 802, WFA, 3GPP, ETSI, WiGig Alliance, WiMAX Forum, and CableLabs. He is currently chairing WFA AFC Task Group, CTIA CWG Group, CTIA MUSG and IEEE 802.11 ITU Ad Hoc Group. Hassan's current focus area is regulatory requirements of unlicensed spectrum including 6GHz band in US, Europe and worldwide.

Hassan was born and grew up in Tehran, Iran. He has Ph.D. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from University of Maryland specializing in Digital Communications, Digital Signal Processing and Nonlinear Systems and Control Theory and a B.S. degree from Sharif University of Technology in Tehran, Iran.