WELCOMING REMARKS BY J.BAT-ERDENE, CHAIRMAN OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND POST AUTHORITY OF MONGOLIA AT “ITU ASIA, PACIFIC REGIONAL MULTI STAKEHOLDERS FORUM ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION”

July 08, 2011

Your Excellency, Mr. Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General of International telecommunication union,

Your Excellency, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of National emergency commission Mr. M. Enkhbold,

Distinguished guests and delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am pleased to inform you that Information, communication technologies and post authority of Mongolia (ICTPA) is organizing “ITU Asia, pacific regional multi stakeholders forum on emergency communication” in cooperation with International Telecommunication union (ITU), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the government of Australia through the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Communications regulatory commission (CRC) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Mongolia, as a member country, has been participating actively in the ITU activities for the last five decades. Today we see the genuine result of this collaboration by hosting international forum that discusses the challenge of not only single nation but region and moreover international level.

In the last years, the occurrence of disasters caused by hazards of natural origin, human related activities and other factors have been increased. In average 226 million people are affected by these disasters every year. The major rationale to organize this forum is to prevent the country, human life and wealth; mitigate the disaster with low losses, provide possibilities to apply the ICT applications and devices.
The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction approved by the United Nations in 2000 has highlighted the importance of sectoral collaboration in decreasing the disaster risk. The second ICT meeting of UNESCAP held in Bangkok in 2010 has highlighted the “development of broadband network in developing countries, urgent need to apply ICT in order to reduce disaster risk”.

The Parliament of Mongolia has approved the “The state policy and program on disaster protection” on May 13, 2011 within the framework of the “Hyogo Framework for Action to build the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster” from 2005 to 2015 that was declared at conference in Japanese city Kobe. Furthermore, the Government of Mongolia has approved and started the implementation of the “Early warning system” project.

The national seminar “The role of information and communication technologies in decreasing disaster risk in Mongolia” was organized in cooperation with ICTPA, CRC, National Emergency Management Agency of Mongolia, National agency of metrology, hydrology and environment monitoring and other relevant bodies. Professionals, scientists, and researchers have presented 20 presentations and participants have issued a recommendation.

We all know that Mongolia has small population with vast territory; the majority of the herders are inhibited with low density.

On the other hand, zud is the natural disaster with the highest occurrence due to the climate environment especially in the winter season partially or wholly covering the country.

The prevention and decrease the disaster risk is our permanent challenge and everybody agrees that ICTs is the most feasible solution to our problem.

Because of the landscape and population density; the population, territory and service coverage of the rural area of Mongolia varies from ITU rural residential model indicators. Therefore, in the case of Mongolia we have to appreciate the local differences when setting up the rural communication especially emergency communication.
The government of Mongolia is committed to have a communication satellite and remote sensing satellite and this decision is feasible solution. By launching satellite, the early warning can be applied to emerging natural disasters and public dissemination of emergency information.

Without a doubt, the topic of this forum will be the expansion and development of regional cooperation, methods to mitigate the disaster with low risk.

On the behalf of the ICTPA and Myself, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation toward Mr. Houlin ZHAO deputy secretary-general of ITU, Mr. M.Enkhbold Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of National emergency commission, Ms. Eun-Ju KIM, head of ITU regional director of Asia Pacific, Mr. Xuan ZENGPEI head of ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and foreign quests and delegates and with success to the forum.

I wish the prosperity to our cooperation.

Thank you for your attention.