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Eduardo Sojo Garza Aldape

Opening remarks for the inaugural ceremony of the 11th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium,

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for joining us today.

I greet with honor the distinguish colleagues that share with me this presidium:

- **Dr. Hamadoun Touré**, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union;
- **Mr. Gabriel Contreras Saldivar**, President, Federal Institute of Telecommunications, Mexico;
- **Mr. José Ignacio Peralta Sánchez**, Undersecretary of Communications, Mexico;

And also, to everyone else who are here today, in this important gathering.

First, I would like to thank the organizers of this Eleventh World Telecommunication and ICT event, for inviting me to take part in this opening session.

I'm here on behalf of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico, INEGI; a unique Institution in the international statistical community for two reasons: the first one being that in the same Institution we have two very important responsibilities: statistics and geography, and in a world where everything is being georeferenced, this special feature gives us a huge advantage; second, because we are a Constitutionally Autonomous Entity, which also gives us credibility since the society knows we will present the information on the day and time that we committed.

Equally important is that we have the mandate to coordinate the National System of Statistical and Geographical Information. All countries have many information producers;

in Mexico, is the same, but we perform as a system. During this Symposium we will have the opportunity to share how we are working.

For us, this event has enormous relevance for several reasons: first because we live in the information era. To have the information available, to systematize it, to use it, has always been important, but today, more than ever. Today we want to measure everything, compare it, georeference it, and the ability to access information, to process it, to extract its value, its closely correlated with the advancement of information technology and telecommunications in the countries and societies. It is in this context, that the Information Technology and Communication indicators are especially important, to know where we are as a country, how we have progressed, how we stand compared to the rest of the world.

This forum is also important as it allows us the sharing of experiences, and in the world of the generation and dissemination of statistical and geographical information, it is not only recommended to copy the best practices, I would say, it should be mandatory to copy the best practices.

This meeting is important for its thematic, for the discussion of indicators and objectives, to which we must follow up in the Post-2015 Agenda, for example the so-called Data Revolution.

We consider the Symposium also relevant in the context of the very important matter of coordination of statistical activities worldwide. Mexico chairs the Group of Friends of the Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission, which has the main objective of improving the coordination in the information flow among the member countries and specialized agencies of the United Nations. This Group was established as a consequence of the necessity expressed and emphasized by the Statistical Commission of the importance of having an effective coordination between the statistical programs of the International Agencies.

In this context, we have been proposing several aspects that are also relevant for this Symposium....

The following further proposals for immediate and mid-term action are made to the members of the UN statistical system:

- a) Create transparency of existing roles and mechanisms analyse statistical processes (e.g. by using Generic Statistical Business Process Model) to identify possibilities and needs for coordination;
- b) Review, and where needed, improve the systematic sharing of information on work programs and activities, in particular in the area of technical cooperation;
- c) Adopt a pledge and commitment for coordination;
- d) Adopt of best practices for data sharing and dissemination (implementation of .SDMX as statistical standard);
- e) Develop a metadata repository of international and regional organizations (catalogue of providers and their data provision agreements);
- f) Adopt common elements of a data quality assurance frame

Finally, I would say that the telecommunication sector is a particularly complex sector because of its dynamism, what was cutting edge yesterday, will be obsolete tomorrow, so it requires the active involvement of all the participants in the sector of having a permanent discussion and review of the various aspects that interact within this sector and, due this, this Symposium becomes more important.

For all these, I hope there will be a fruitful discussion, a sharing of our views on this crucial subject and, ultimately, that we all enjoy this unique opportunity of an enhancing exchange of ideas.

Thank you very much.