

**The Speech of Secretary IT to the Opening Plenary Session  
of World Telecommunications Policy Forum (WTPF) 2009,  
Lisbon, Portugal**

The Honorable Secretary General ITU, Mr. Hamadoun Toure

The Directors of the Bureaus of the ITU

My Fellow Policy makers, Dignitaries and

ICT business leaders a very good morning

I am so happy to be in the company of such a diverse group of individuals who in their respective capacities have effected and who continue to affect this massive information, communications and knowledge revolution around the globe. Due to the participatory efforts of the global community, we have come to this stage where all nations developed and developing have access to ideas, information and knowledge. The continuous quest for innovation and technological advances with global reach and cross border impact, has also thrown us the challenge of proportionate, optimal and dynamic policy response on country, regional and global levels. This is where the role of organizations like ITU is so very crucial in bringing together nations for discourse like the one we have gathered here for.