Malcolm Johnson, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I am Zhaoji Lin, vice chairman of ITU-T study group 17, and it is my pleasure to welcome you to this one-and-a-half days ITU security workshop **this afternoon and tomorrow** which addresses the **ICT Security Standardization Challenges for Developing Countries**. I’m very pleased to see many known faces but also many new participants.

I’m also pleased to announce that this workshop provides **teleconferencing facilities** to allow remote participation. All the presentations are available on our workshop web page. ITU provides free **wireless LAN access** to our documents. You can find **food and snacks** on the 15th floor of the tower, in the Montbrillant restaurant, and there is a **coffee machine** in the lobby area. **Toilets** are in the back of the lobby area.

Also I’d like to kindly remind each session chairman that speakers of your session are suggested to be here or well connected 15 minutes before the session.

Four years ago, in 2010, we met here for our **previous ITU security workshop** which looked into “**Addressing security challenges on a global scale**". A lot has changed since then. Over the years, the overall importance of the ICT security standardization effort, and the amount spent on it, has grown. ICT security standardization continues to play an essential role in the ICT ecosystem and is **mission critical** in today’s and tomorrow’s challenging cyberspace environment. This environment not only **faces the opportunities** of promising new technologies but also **deserves security and safety protection against** the ever increasing security risks, security threats, and **protection against** cyber criminals. Over the last years, we have witnessed entirely new concepts and visionary approaches in ICT which is now ubiquitously **penetrating** our all daily lives in a pervasive manner, in particular:

* the mobile Internet;
* the smart grid;
* the smart-cities;
* the intelligent transportation systems;
* and e-health systems.

Today the critical role of ICT in socio-economic activities cannot be over-emphasized. Disruption of the ICT infrastructure can therefore result in disastrous consequences for governments and businesses as well as in citizens’ social well-being. The need to ensure ICT robustness against cyber-attacks remains a key challenge at the national as well as at the global level.

Protection of ICT infrastructures often requires to have adequate trust and security infrastructures in place; such as for storing and managing keys and credentials, but also **identities of persons and things** need to be **managed and be uniformly recognized**. This is an ongoing challenge in identity management standardization. Trust is becoming a key element which needs to be formalized and standardized in order for the interconnecting systems to gain the necessary confidence to engage in secured electronic communication.

The fast changing ICT ecosystem also has direct impacts to security standardization. The general diffusion of ICT within horizontal and vertical sectors makes it necessary for the actors and players to collaborate and to cooperate with their expertise on joint developments of security standards for their mutual benefit. I’m very glad that this workshop brings together a number of representatives from SDOs, forums and consortia to engage in an information sharing dialogue. We should take the opportunity to arrange for future collaboration on security standards and to improve our cooperation with our partners.

Ladies and gentlemen,

we can clearly acknowledge that ICT is now being massively taken up in the **developed** as well as in the **developing** countries, interconnecting billions of people and machines.

However, the development and deployment of ICT infrastructure, in particular for developing countries, still is facing great challenges. Just too often, developing countries are lacking sufficient expertise in the understanding and handling of modern technologies, and are seeking assistance how to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries. One of the **objectives of this workshop** is to provide concrete advice and best practices of international and regional ICT security standards such that standardization competence can be enhanced.

Therefore, this workshop has chosen as the main theme to address the **challenges of the ICT security standardization for developing countries** and how ITU and SDOs deal with these challenges and assist in **bridging the standardization gap**.

Study Group 17’s mandate is to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs. In carrying out its responsibilities, Study Group 17 is **conscious** of the security standardization challenges of developing countries.

One of Study Group 17’s actions is the planning and organizing of this security workshop under the leadership of Mr. Mohamed Elhaj.

Let me highlight some of the forthcoming sessions. The first day of the workshop focuses on development of the ICT infrastructure, on new security threats of such development, and on user’s security requirements and the needed security capabilities.

The tomorrow we will deepen today’s topics and present tools such as the accomplishments and the implementation of security standards. A focus area of this workshop is the topic of ICT security and its role in protection of critical infrastructures; especially in developing countries. We also will hear about best practices and experiences in the area of cloud computing security and in the implementation of a national identity management programme to ensure trust services.

A highlight of this workshop will be our roundtable panel on security standardization challenges, where I’m glad to welcome representatives of international and regional security standardization bodies, who will inform us on their security standardization activities.

Tomorrow evening at the end of the workshop, we will wrap-up and draw conclusions in the closing session.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Having said this, let me conclude with my remarks and let me wish you all a successful workshop.

The next speaker is the TSB Director, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, and it’s my pleasure to give him the floor for his key note speech.

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