

The Draft statement for the Fifth World Telecommunication/ICT Forum

Thank you, <Mr. Chairman.>

Thailand appreciates the ITU and the members who contributed many months of hard work to the development of the Report and Draft Opinions reflecting today's views on telecommunication and ICT policies. As a small nation in Southeast Asia, we have monitored with keen interest the technological advances and changes in public policies over the years. We thank the ITU for organizing this global forum and giving all ITU members the opportunity to voice their opinions concerning the current state of telecommunication and ICT policies.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you Thailand's ongoing efforts to encourage Thai citizens to take full advantage of ICT in their daily lives. We have identified 10 key areas where the government plans initiatives. They include:

- (1) Broadband Network Development
- (2) Next-generation Mobile Network (3G)
- (3) Free WiFi in Public Areas
- (4) Common Government Network Infrastructure

- (5) Prevention, Suppression, and Surveillance of Information and Technology Threats
- (6) Secure Electronic Transactions Development
- (7) Thailand e-Government Interoperability Framework Development
- (8) Disaster Warning System Performance and Weather Forecast Efficiency to Enhance National Preparedness
- (9) Computer and Statistical Systems for Government Information Exchanges and Integration
- (10) Development of Social Equality through ICT

In addition, Thailand has put forward a three-year action plan to promote and achieve the successful implementation of IPv6 in Thailand by 2015, with the aim that all Thai government agencies will be required to deploy IPv6. To achieve such a target, an IPv6 resource center will soon be set up for IPv6-related consultation, training, and assessment.

Regarding the development of the Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), Thailand also attaches importance to the establishment of national Internet Exchange Points as they can potentially reduce operating costs, improve the quality of service,

and result in more affordable Internet services to users. In Thailand, after the Telecommunication Business Act 2001 entered into force and telecommunication services were liberalized, the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) announced the rules for governing telecommunication business licensing and procedures for granting licenses. So far, a significant number of licenses have been issued to ISPs in the country, making local Internet exchanges more efficient and creating greater price competition in the market.

Finally, Thailand would like to express our support of the multi-stakeholderism Internet Governance model. We applaud the initiation to encourage greater participation from developing countries in the discussion of Internet governance and ICT policies. The aforementioned approaches will allow Internet governance to become more productive, multi-focused and democratic. Subsequent cooperation among all stakeholders will encourage them to attend international fora to jointly develop policy initiatives framed within the context of their country benefits and interests. However, decision-making in multi-stakeholder governance should take into account different worldwide cultures, traditions and local community practices. This consideration,

among others, would contribute to unique long-term and desirable solutions.
