



# PLENIPOTENTIARY 2010

GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

S I D E - E V E N T S E S S I O N



## ROADBLOCKS TO BROADBAND INCLUSION FOR ALL

**Tuesday, October 12**

**16:30-18:00**

**Session SE.1 — room G**

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While “build it and they will come” has proved spectacularly successful in advanced broadband economies like Singapore and South Korea, there remain significant barriers to the concept of “broadband inclusion for all” in developed and developing countries alike.

Against this background, we have in fact reached a moment of history in global telecommunications. Simultaneous and forward-looking policy initiatives are occurring from Brussels to New Delhi and from Washington to Kigali that aim at harnessing the power of broadband for digital development. This offers the opportunity to forge a common vision of broadband inclusion for all as we approach the watershed ITU radio and regulatory conferences scheduled for 2012 that will wrestle with implications of converged digital networks for all.

In the context of global digital development certain key questions are finally being addressed by all relevant stakeholders, and particularly through the Broadband Commission for Digital Development that recently delivered its Final Report to the UN Secretary General:

- How can public and private sectors in partnership provide the impetus to new broadband networks?
- Why has it been so difficult to get across the message of the widespread, self-replicating and self-sustaining economic and social stimulus derived from broadband investments?
- How can governments and new public/private partnerships stimulate broadband demand – particularly in sectors like health, education, energy, enterprise and environment, which need it most?
- Why has the business community and private sector so far failed to connect and engage fully with the Millennium Development Goals?
- What role can be played by civil society in terms of engaging with the ICT sector and the development of local content and critical development applications?