



H.E. Mr Lyonpo Nandalal RAI

Minister, Ministry of Information
& Communications

Excellencies, distinguish delegates,
ladies and gentlemen;

I extend my heartiest felicitation and greetings from the Royal Government and the people of Bhutan to the distinguished delegates of the Plenipotentiary 2010.

It is my singular pleasure to attend this conference and I feel honoured to be here amongst great leaders, intellectuals and experts from across the globe. Further, I would like to thank and congratulate the organizers, local authorities and the Government of Mexico for facilitating and hosting of this mega event.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen;

Bhutan is a small tranquil Kingdom in the midst of the majestic Himalayas with population of less than a million. Bhutan's socio-economic development is guided by the principles and philosophy of Gross National

Happiness. Realizing and being aware that materialism and consumerism was leading to excessive greed and deterioration of the basic human values the 4th King of Bhutan HM Jigme Singye Wangchuk in 1974 pronounced GNH as a true indicator of a Nation's well being rather than the conventional GDP. We have, after extensive research and studies, identified nine domains and 72 indicators to ascertain happiness index. These indicators and variables is a modest effort to quantify the intangible by the tangible. GNH being THE central theme is founded on four pillars: 1. Equitable and sustainable socio-economic development. 2. Preservation of Environment 3. Promotion and Preservation of Culture, 4. Good Governance

To assist this task the Government has recognized and identified ICT as the key player in strengthening the four pillars of to keep the Bhutanese generations connected and bonded by shared National Consciousness to preserve of our unique national identity in this Global Village.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen;

"Good Governance" is being achieved by a move from governance to e-governance that will have the agility and transparency to provide an enabling environment for a happy state. To this end we are establishing the National Broadband Network and accomplishing Mobile Universal Connectivity by June 2011, keeping in mind the MDGs. To add value to the Universal Connectivity, online G2C, G2B and G2G services application are being put in place through a network of Community Centers.

"Equitable and sustainable socio economic development" efforts are directed to create demand for IT and IT enabled services such as Data center and high end BPOs. The stable political system, the green and

