

NBTC - Policy Statement (WSIS+10 High-Level Event)

His Excellency Atef Helmy, Minister of Communications & Information Technology of Egypt

Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré, Secretary General of ITU

Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

Good Morning

To achieve the goals set out in the *Millennium Development* and *Sustainable Development Goals*, Thailand would like to underline the importance of communication infrastructures as a basis for a people-centered, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society.

In this regard, Thailand has several achievements to contribute to *WSIS Action Lines*. For example, in order to improve connectivity and access to communications services, we have completed some major infrastructure developments. These include;

- The 3G auction on 2.1 GHz in 2012 which enabled the migration of 2G to 3G service,
- The transition from analog to digital TV early this year in which we planned to switch-off the analog system no later than 2018, and
- We also make the preparations for 4G auctions on 1800 and 900 MHz which will be carried out one after another later this year.

We believe these infrastructure developments will yield efficiency and productivity in ICT sector itself and increase competitiveness of the country as a whole.

Other achievements also include;

- Initiating “*Digital Community Thailand 2020*” Plan to enable seamless connectivity in every segment and to bridge digital divide; and
- Empowering people and formulating collaboration with both national and international organizations to combat online privacy and security threats in order to gain optimal benefits of digital society.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

Regarding to the political unrest in Thailand early this year, I am pleased to inform you that the current situation is very much improved. The political reform roadmap is in process, the first step is

to set up an interim government and the national legislative assembly respectively. The National Council for Peace and Order respects the right to have global Internet access without undue interference. In this connection, we would like to ensure that all regulatory activities in the field of communications sector in Thailand will continue and that communications service will still play a vital role in Thailand. Moreover, as of this moment, the diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and other countries remain unchanged, meanwhile, we are looking forward to coordinating or collaborating with others in order to enhance information society. Therefore, please be informed that foreign investors are more than welcome to participate in the coming 1800 MHz spectrum auction which will take place in Bangkok in August this year.

Finally, thanks again Mr. Chairman I am very pleased and honored to have a chance to speak on behalf of Thailand in this prestigious event today.

Thank you