



## **CyberPress Forum on Telecoms**

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***Guest of Honor and Speaker  
Secretary Ramon P. Sales  
Chairman, CICT***

[SALUTATIONS]

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF CYBERPRESS, THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO YOUR FORUM.

THE DAWNING OF NEXT GENERATION 2.5G AND 3G NETWORKS HAS OPENED THE DOOR TO THE DELIVERY OF WIRELESS MULTIMEDIA SERVICES. THESE NEW NETWORKS PRESENT AN ENORMOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR USERS AND MOBILE OPERATORS, AS WELL AS CONTENT PROVIDERS, TO ACCESS AND TO DELIVER WIRELESS MULTIMEDIA SERVICES.

NGN TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION NEW REALITIES IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY CHARACTERIZED BY THE NEED TO CONVERGE AND OPTIMIZE THE OPERATING NETWORKS AND EXTRAORDINARY EXPANSION OF DIGITAL TRAFFIC (E.G. INCREASING DEMAND FOR NEW MULTIMEDIA SERVICES, INCREASING DEMAND FOR MOBILITY, ETC.).

THESE REALITIES ARE ISSUES OF GROWTH AND TRANSITION THAT SPAWN THE NEED FOR A NEXT GENERATION INTERNET PROTOCOL WHICH CAN SUPPORT THE GLOBAL *INTERNETWORKS* AND PROVIDE A PRACTICAL WAY TO MIGRATE THE CURRENT LARGE INSTALLED BASE OF IPV4 SYSTEMS TO AN IPNG OR THE IPV6.

OVER THE YEARS, MARKET DEMANDS HAVE DRIVEN NGN STANDARDS TO BE FIRMED UP RESULTING TO A NUMBER OF OPERATORS ARTICULATING PLANS FOR THEIR TRANSITION TO IP-BASED NETWORKS. SINCE THE REALIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF NGN IS AN EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS AND NOT ALL NETWORKS WILL START FROM THE SAME POINT, IT IS NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF, AND INTEROPERABILITY WITH EXISTING NETWORKS WHILE ENABLING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CAPABILITIES.

TRANSITION TO NGN AND TO NEW INTERNET PROTOCOL TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE STANDARD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS OF QOS, INTEROPERABILITY, SECURITY, MOBILITY, SERVICE CAPABILITIES AND ARCHITECTURE.

THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (CICT) UNDERSTANDS THE CHALLENGES FACED BY MOBILE OPERATORS AS

THEY OFFER DATA SERVICES. CICT FULLY RECOGNIZES THE NEEDS AS WELL AS THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE NEXT GENERATION NETWORKS.

TO HELP THE ICT INDUSTRY RESPOND TO THE CHALLENGES, MEET THE BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF EMERGING ENVIRONMENT IN NGN, THE CICT IS UNDERGOING REVIEW OF THE PHILIPPINE INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE. LIKEWISE, THERE IS SO MUCH THAT HAS HAPPENED THAT MAY PROVE SIGNIFICANT TO NGN.

AS EARLY AS 2001 THE DRAFT CONVERGENCE BILL WAS DEVELOPED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS STAFF OF THE DOTC IN CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRY PLAYERS AND POLICY MAKERS. THIS WAS TO ENSURE THAT THE NEEDS OF CONVERGING NETWORKS ARE SATISFIED, THEIR INCREASING DEMAND FOR SERVICES AND MOBILITY, PARTICULARLY THE STANDARD SERVICE REQUIREMENTS OF USERS, OPERATORS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS ARE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. THE PRESENT CONGRESS HAS TO ENACT THE PROPOSED BILL ON CONVERGENCE SO AS NOT TO PUT THESE EFFORTS INTO NAUGHT.

AT THE THRESHOLD OF KEY PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF THE ARROYO ADMINISTRATION IS *“TO ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO THE COUNTRYSIDE TO MAKE THE PHILIPPINES MORE GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE AND FOR OUR CITIZENS TO HAVE ACCESS TO*

*KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION.*" THIS IS EMBODIED IN THE 2004-2010 MEDIUM TERM PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

CICT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU) HAS DEVELOPED THE PHILIPPINE BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT PLAN STRATEGY, WHOSE EXPECTED OUTCOMES WERE PRIMARILY TO SET INDICATIVE TARGETS FOR A ROADMAP MEANT FOR BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM READILY PROVIDES A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO MIGRATION TO IP-BASED ENVIRONMENT.

IN THE LATTER PART OF 2005, THE EVOLUTION OF PHILIPPINE NETWORKS TO A CONVERGENT MULTIMEDIA NETWORK, A PRECURSOR TO NGN, BEGAN WHEN THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) ISSUED RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT WOULD GOVERN THE ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF 3G RADIO FREQUENCY BANDS AND LICENSES TO MOBILE OPERATORS. KEY PLAYERS OF MOBILE INDUSTRY HAVE SIGNED UP FOR 3G LICENSES, INDICATING THAT THE FUTURE OF MULTIMEDIA SERVICES BEING PROVIDED IN A SINGLE NETWORK IS VERY BRIGHT.

A COMMON VOIP PLATFORM FOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IS IN THE PIPELINE. WITH THE COOPERATION OF CONCERNED AGENCIES AND SUPPORT FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS, IT WILL ENABLE OUR

CITIZENS TO AVAIL OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND GOODS UNDER AN ALL-IP ENVIRONMENT.

WHILE CONSIDERING A COMMON VOIP PLATFORM, CICT CONTINUES TO UNDERTAKE A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE IPV6 AND DETERMINE IF SAID PROTOCOL MEETS TODAY'S REQUIREMENTS AND MATCHES THE REQUIREMENTS OF EMERGING MARKETS.

FINALLY, AS THE DESIGNATED CHAMPION OF THE CYBERSERVICES SUPERREGION, I WILL PUSH FOR THE ADOPTION BY THE CARRIERS OF NGN AND IPV6. OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES ESTABLISHING POLICIES ON NGN AND INPV6, REVISITING TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND EVALUATING THE PROVISION OF INCENTIVES FOR THE EARLY ADOPTION OF IPV6.

THERE ARE AS LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS AS THERE ARE COUNTLESS CHALLENGES ATTRIBUTED TO NGNS AND NEXT GENERATION PROTOCOL. MUCH HAS YET TO BE DONE, A LOT HAS YET TO BE EXPLORED, INCLUDING OUR READINESS TO EMBRACE THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT IN ICT. I ENCOURAGE YOU, AS MEMBERS OF MEDIA, TO HELP CICT IN CREATING AWARENESS ON NGN, HOW IT WORKS AND HOW IT CAN BENEFIT US.

THANK YOU.