



Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

US-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL COCKTAIL RECEPTION
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PARAÑAQUE ROOM, MAKATI SHANGRILA HOTEL

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
SECRETARY RAMON P. SALES
CHAIRMAN, CICT

CEOS AND EXECUTIVES OF THE US-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

GOOD EVENING

MR. MICHAEL GARRISON, THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTRODUCTION.

I AM HONORED FOR BEING INVITED TO THIS COCKTAIL RECEPTION OF THE U.S.-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL TO GIVE THIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS. THIS GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE MUTUALLY ACQUAINTED WITH EACH OTHER.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE US-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL IS THE “TRUSTED VOICE OF THE AMERICAN PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE 10-COUNTRY ASEAN MARKET. I HAVE LOOKED OVER YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER FOR 2006, AND I’VE COUNTED AROUND 116 MEMBERS IN THE CHAIRMAN’S COUNCIL AND CORPORATE MEMBERS. TWO OF THESE CORPORATIONS I HAVE WORKED FOR IN THE PAST (CITIBANK AND IBM), AND 50 OF THESE CORPORATION I HAVE DEALT WITH EITHER IN MY CAPACITY AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR AS AN EXECUTIVE OF THE CORPORATIONS THAT I WORKED FOR IN MY CAREER. FOR THIS REASON, I KNOW I AM AMONG FRIENDS.

THIS COMING MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2006, THE 11TH ICT PROFESSIONALS’ CONGRESS IS BEING HELD AT CROWNE PLAZA, ORTIGAS AVENUE, PASIG CITY, HOSTED BY BOTH CICT AND THE PHILIPPINE COMPUTER SOCIETY. AN ACTIVITY OF THIS EVENT IS A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT ICT ROADMAP. THIS ROADMAP, DEVELOPED BY CICT WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM EMERGE (ECONOMIC MOBILIZATION THROUGH EFFICIENT REFORMS AND GOVERNANCE ENHANCEMENT), WILL UPDATE THE ITECC ROADMAP OF 2003.

THE REST OF THIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS WILL BE A PREVIEW ON THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THIS ROADMAP. THE FIRST GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS **“CICT IS COMMITTED TO REALIZING THE GOAL OF A “PEOPLE-CENTERED, INCLUSIVE AND DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED INFORMATION SOCIETY, WHERE EVERYONE CAN CREATE, ACCESS, UTILIZE AND SHARE INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE, ENABLING INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLES TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IN PROMOTING THEIR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND**

IMPROVING THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.” IN OTHER WORDS, ALL CITIZENS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO BASIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INFORMATION, AND QUALITY EDUCATION THROUGH THE USE OF APPROPRIATE AND AFFORDABLE ICT TECHNOLOGIES. IT SHOULD BE THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIMARY CONCERN TO ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE CONNECTIVITY IS AVAILABLE IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT AND PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THE SECOND GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS: **“CICT BELIEVES THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIMARY ROLE IN ICT DEVELOPMENT IS TO PROVIDE AN ENABLING POLICY, LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT WHERE NECESSARY.”** AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR ICT DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES GOOD GOVERNANCE AT ALL LEVELS, AND A SUPPORTIVE, TRANSPARENT AND PRO-COMPETITIVE POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK. MOREOVER, GOVERNMENT MUST ACT AS A CATALYST AND ITS INVOLVEMENT SHOULD BE PREDICTABLE, DEVELOPMENTAL, TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT. REGULATION, WHERE NECESSARY, SHOULD PROMOTE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD AND SHOULD NOT HINDER COMPANIES FROM COMPETING IN FREE AND FAIR MARKETS.

CICT RECOGNIZES THAT IT SHOULD PLAY THE ROLE OF THE “ENABLER” BECAUSE MARKET FORCES ALONE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF AN INCLUSIVE INFORMATION SOCIETY. HAVING PREVIOUSLY LIBERALIZED THE ICT INDUSTRY, WHICH RESULTED IN LOWER BARRIERS TO ENTRY, NUMEROUS PLAYERS SINGLY OR IN PARTNERSHIPS CAN ROLL-OUT THE NATION'S ICT INFRASTRUCTURE. CICT CAN NOT PLAY THIS ROLE DUE TO THE LIMITATIONS OF OUR COUNTRY'S FINANCIAL CONDITION.

THE THIRD GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS **“CICT IS DEVOTED TO A ‘MULTISTAKEHOLDER APPROACH’ TO ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT.”** THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY, CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER PARTNERS HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, AS WELL AS, A RESPONSIBILITY TO FULFILL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE INFORMATION SOCIETY. TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS AND SUSTAINABILITY OF ICT INITIATIVES, STAKEHOLDERS' PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE FROM END TO END, FROM CONCEPTUALIZATION, TO PLANNING, AND TO IMPLEMENTATION.

THE PRIMARY ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS TO PROVIDE INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL, AND OTHER NECESSARY RESOURCES. INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS TO DEVELOP THE ICT SECTOR WILL HAVE A HIGHER CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND SUSTAINABILITY IF THESE CONTINUE TO BE MARKET-LED, RATHER THAN GOVERNMENT-LED.

CONCERNED LGUS, SCHOOLS AND OTHER COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS/GROUPS, MUST BE DIRECTLY CONSULTED, AND THEIR SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS DETERMINED. FURTHERMORE, THEY SHOULD HAVE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF ICT FACILITIES WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREA OF JURISDICTION.

THE FOURTH GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS **“CICT SEES ICT IS A TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.”** THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVE IS NOT ONLY TO

DEVELOP THE ICT SECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY, BUT ALSO TO ENSURE THE WIDESPREAD PROPAGATION, AS WELL AS, USE OF ICT IN ALL ASPECTS OF FILIPINO LIFE. PLANS AND PROGRAMS TO USE ICT FOR DEVELOPMENTAL PURPOSES SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING ATTRIBUTES:

- ACCESSIBILITY: ONLINE ACCESS TO SERVICES MUST BE EXTENDED TO ALL CITIZENS AND MUST CATER TO THE NEEDS OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS.
- AVAILABILITY: ICT SERVICES TO ALL CITIZENS ANYTIME. IT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE 24 X 7 X 366, AT HOME, AT THE OFFICE, IN SCHOOLS, IN LIBRARIES AND OTHER CONVENIENT PUBLIC LOCATIONS.
- SECURE AND ACCOUNTABLE: STANDARDS SHOULD BE SET FOR RESOLVING SECURITY, PRIVACY, NON-REPUDIATION, AND AUTHENTICATION ISSUES TO ENGENDER TRUST IN THE USE OF ICT SERVICES.
- INTEROPERABILITY: ONLINE SERVICES SHOULD BE ABLE TO LINK SEAMLESSLY TO EXISTING BACK-END SYSTEMS AND ACROSS DIFFERENT AGENCIES AND PLATFORMS.
- SUSTAINABLE: IT SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE TRANSACTION BASED, COST EFFECTIVE, REVENUE GENERATING AND SELF-FINANCING.

THE FIFTH GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS **“CICT WILL PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT DIGITAL CONTENT THAT IS RELEVANT AND MEANINGFUL TO FILIPINOS.”**

THE GOAL IS TO MAKE AVAILABLE ONLINE THE PHILIPPINES' STOCK OF CONTENT AND PROVIDE ALL CITIZENS WITH EASY ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION THAT IS IMPORTANT TO THEIR LIVES.

DIGITAL CONTENT IS BROADLY DEFINED AS ENCOMPASSING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, NATIONAL HERITAGE COLLECTIONS, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, RESEARCH DATABASES, LITERATURE, HISTORY AND ENTERTAINMENT, AND RESOURCES IN VARIOUS PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES – PARTICULARLY THE 8 MAJOR PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES.

THE SIXTH GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS **“CICT ENDEAVORS TO CREATE A SAFE, TRUSTWORTHY ONLINE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL FILIPINOS.”**

WE SHALL TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO GUARD AGAINST ABUSIVE USES OF ICT, SUCH AS ILLEGAL AND OTHER ACTS LIKE ALL FORMS OF CHILD ABUSE, INCLUDING PEDOPHILIA AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, AND TRAFFICKING IN, AND EXPLOITATION OF, HUMAN BEINGS. WHILE WE WILL TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE SECURITY AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES, WE SHALL ALSO ENSURE THAT THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY, FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND EXPRESSION OF INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE RESPECTED.

THE SEVENTH AND LAST GUIDING PRINCIPLE, **“CICT NEEDS TO TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO A STRONG ORGANIZATION TO FACILITATE ICT DEVELOPMENT AND ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRY.”**

WE MUST BUILD A “LEAN AND MEAN”, AS WELL AS, AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION OUT OF THE VARIOUS UNITS THAT NOW COMPRISE CICT. WE WILL IMPLEMENT THE RATIONALIZATION PROGRAM OF GOVERNMENT, NOT ONLY IN FORM, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY IN SUBSTANCE. CICT STAFF SHALL UNDERGO RETOOLING AND RETRAINING SO THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO PROPERLY CONDUCT RESEARCHES, TO FORMULATE POLICY, TO PLAN PROGRAMS, AND TO MANAGE PROJECTS EFFECTIVELY THROUGH PMO. IT IS ENVISIONED THAT MAJORITY OF FUTURE CICT PROJECTS WOULD BE OUTSOURCED TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

TO CONCLUDE, WE BEGIN WITH GUIDING PRINCIPLES, BECAUSE THESE PRINCIPLES WILL ALLOW US TO CRAFT THE “ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE” OF GOVERNMENT ICT. SO THAT YOU MAY VIEW US IN PROPER CONTEXT, WE ARE IN THE “IT GOVERNANCE” PART OF OUR JOURNEY. IT GOVERNANCE TO US CONSISTS OF AT LEAST FOUR PROCESSES, WHICH ARE: 1) STRATEGIC PLANNING; 2) ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE; 3) BUSINESS CASE DISCIPLINE; AND 4) PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT. IT IS SAD TO SAY THAT FOR NOW, WE ONLY HAVE THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS IN PLACE. WE ARE JUST AT THE STARTING POINT OF THE ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE PROCESS.

I MAY HAVE TAXED YOUR PATIENCE, BUT THANK YOU FOR LISTENING SO KINDLY.