

## In Brief

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# Cyber Security Agenda for Information Societies Adopted

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) focused on cybersecurity at its 2013 conference held in Geneva. ITU Secretary General Hamadoun Toure cited annual losses of over 100 billion being caused by cybercrime stated “in the security business, trust is key, and if you do not start to build a culture of trust, there will be no way that the cyber world can ever become truly safe and secure.”

Global initiatives within the framework of ITU’s Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) such as Child Online Protection (COP) and the International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyberthreats were reviewed. COP partners confirmed the commitment in the private sector and among civil society leaders to work together with governments and agreed on developing future activities and projects.

Within the framework of the ITU Impact initiative, the Ministry of Communications of Ghana entered into an agreement with ITU on the establishment of a national Computer Incident Response Team, strengthening its ability to prevent and mitigate cybersecurity incidents. The project will provide Ghana with the necessary capacity and technical capabilities to build a national point of contact to respond in an effective manner to cybercrimes and cyberattacks.

# Asean E-Government Action Plan Announced

The Ten (10) ASEAN member countries have agreed to develop a regional e-Government plan related es-

pecially to logistics and free movement of labor. The objective is to connect and integrate government e-services of member countries paving the way for future enhancement in the same direction.

At a workshop on Developing ASEAN e-Government Strategic Action Plan, members of the meeting agreed to the framework that would prioritize five key areas which are: (1) government provision plan to indicate vision, mission and milestones, (2) online service component to identify 15 key services and applications related to logistics and free movement of labor. The key areas involve e-services that would address registration processes, permits and licenses process, revenue generating and social returns, (3) telecommunications infrastructure development that would include technology used and cost of accessing internet services and cyber security, (4) laws and regulations, (5) ICT workforce development.

“This action plan will frame and shape member country paving the way to enhance logistics and free movement of labor among the region in preparation for the integration of data from different e-services provided by different countries,” stated Thailand’s Minister of ICT Chaichan Peungkiatpaote.

# Thailand ICT Master Plan to 2013 for Implementation

Thailand’s Tenth Economic and Social Development Plan stresses “sustaining strong economic performance by enhancing productivity through innovation buttressed by higher rates of private investment, is an objective for the Thai economy and reflected in the country’s Tenth Economic and Social Development Plan. This objective needs to be made central and urgent if Thailand is to join the ranks of the high income countries within the next two decades. A hand-

ful of economies in East Asia including the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, China and Singapore have already made the transition to high levels of per-capita income. For Thailand to emulate some of the more successful economies in the region, it must embrace the challenge of achieving rapid growth led by gains in productivity.

Between 1977 and 2004, the increase in the total factor of productivity (TFP) contributed about one percentage point in Thailand's aggregate growth. The

source of much of this was and remains the transfer of workers from low productivity in rural areas to value added jobs. There is potential for raising the skill level of the workforce, but further progress will depend on raising skill level of workers and this involves improvement in primary and secondary education. Thailand has joined the ranks of middle-income countries and most the gains in productivity will have to come from within manufacturing and service sectors.