

Keynote Speech

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Assalamu'alaikum wr. wb.

The representative of the international government division of the Ministry of International Affairs and Communication of the government of Japan, Mrs. Kiyoko Koizumi;

The representative from the ASEAN Secretariat, Mrs. Mima Sefrina;

The representative of the Directorate General of Pos and Telecommunication of the government of Indonesia, Ms. Farida Dwi Cahyarini;

Distinguished Delegates, Invitees, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me first to thank the lady sitting in front of us for their support to the implementation of the project, because without their support of the Government of Japan and ASEAN Secretariat and also the continual support of the Directorate General Pos and Telecommunication, this project will not be implemented until now.

We have, I believe we have initiated, discussed this project already about 2 years ago. And I thank God that it has started early this year to make sure that all of the ASEAN members countries get benefits from it.

When we discussed the idea first with the Directorate General Pos and Telecommunication, on the possible assessment of the technology, I think when we, at that time, we decide that we not just look at the technology side of the implementation of the USO technology in various ASEAN countries, but we'd like to have the policy side, goals and content of the technology, so when we drafted the main purpose of the project is to enforce the commitment of the ASEAN member countries to implement the USO and develop the communication sectors. And we'd like to put that purpose in the context of the current, the present, and the future of telecommunication liberalization, especially to promote the common understanding about its importance and mostly to extend the benefit of the technology and the policy of the regional integration and help to identify some of the policies that needs to be discussed further in the framework of ASEAN.

In the context of the project implementation, there are three specific objectives that you are probably already aware of:

The first is to select or to identify the appropriate technology for deploying the telecommunication services in participating ASEAN member states and the

reason to adopt such a technology. We think that it is very important for us to recognize to identify and to know the reason why such country or a certain country adopt such kind of technology and I think this knowledge will be very beneficial to other member countries that would like to implement those technology. So, the learning chore then is quicker for use to understand.

The second, on the technical administrative and cost requirements of the USO implementation. Again this issue is very important because we all know that even that technologies are there, even the policies are very conducive for implementing the USO, when we look on the ground problem that it is obviously some technical administration that cause issues related to that kind of implementation. And therefore, while we study, we'd like to investigate, the requirement, the problem, and the gaps that might happen in the implementation of the USO.

And thirdly, this I believe that this would be the biggest contribution to this study, to the ASEAN is to provide the recommendation for the architecture technology implementation as well as the strategies and policies that need to be brought about maybe during the TELSOM. In order to make sure that those objectives are met, the project has decided to divide the activities into four sub-activities which then lead to a certain working paper.

First, is the paper of the key issues on the implementation of the USO in ASEAN member states and also with the focus on several ASEAN countries.

And the second paper that we hope we could produce by the end of the project is to summarize the importance of USO or ICT dissemination but with special context of regional integration. And when we started this project, we keep reminding ourselves that this project is not a project for a country, a project for a specific condition, but the project to further enhance the regional integration, which is again, the spirit of the ASEAN.

Thirdly, third paper, we consider and we also have a hypothesis that already there are resources, that already some abundant knowledge about the implementation of the USO of each respective member countries. That's why we value this output of the research world to be part of the knowledge that would be generated and disseminated through this project. And therefore, one of the important paper that we would like to deliver the project is the combination or synthesis of research work already undertaken within the ASEAN region, and also in relation to that what happen in the other countries that can be used as good practice example that can be used for Indonesia and also for ASEAN member states.

And the fourth paper we hope to be delivered by the end of their project is coming from the field survey we've already undertaken, which are the highlight of the information gaps that may exist within the ASEAN region. The project started in January 2007 and it was quite a full discussion in the beginning and during the kick-off meeting at the DG Postel and we were very happy that DG Postel has already provided us with certain guidance and also for that time the representatives from the ASEAN secretariat has already identified some directions that we need to follow for the implementation of the project.

The project is also benefited by the participation of the task force members and I believe some of the task members, if not all, present today and we are very glad that you could also come to Yogyakarta, the hometown of Gadjah Mada University, the largest and oldest university in Indonesia, I hope that you have some time to look around while you are here. I know that the workshop is very tight, until tomorrow evening, and I know some of you have

already booked a flight on Sunday morning, well I do really hope that you could enjoy the beauty of the city, the cultural city of Indonesia.

We have submitted the inception report, and what we have discovered us that when we presented during the meeting in SJ2 ITU workshop and the meeting in Bandung March 2007, special TELSOM in Langkawi, the USO forum in Phnom Penh and the TELSOM joined group meeting in Cambodia, there are already some remarks and comments we received during the official meeting and the informal discussion where the research team members especially Mr. Arif Wismadi and Mr. Lukito Edi Nugroho and we would like to bring that information back to this forum, back to this workshop so that they could share the comment they received during the workshop and the meetings that I mentioned earlier.

I don't want to do a key note speech actually because during the workshop session, today and tomorrow, there will be a very interesting findings from the countries that I believe we will have group sessions to have back issues, first about the technology side, and the second, on the policy side. I hope that we could combine, at the end of this workshop, both issues together so that the technology could be implemented or applied in a certain policy environment that has been developed by each member states.

We have also a session tomorrow. Mrs. Kiyoko Koizumi herself would like to make a presentation about the options for technology solution in rural area and I think again, another possible contribution of the paper to *tau*-project. *The Next Generation Networks for Area* that has been developed by Mr. Dr. Armein Langi, the lecturer from Bandung institute of technology. Well, I think his research in Bandung University will provide current technology practice in the country although it has not been implemented in the wider region.

To conclude this speech, I'd like to, again, congratulate all of us of being here and I also want to thank personally on the behalf of the organization, on behalf of PUSTRAL, and on behalf of Gadjah Mada University for all of you who have come far away from Japan, and for other ASEAN countries.

Hope that we could have fruitful and very useful discussion during the workshop today and tomorrow and with this I'd conclude my speech.

Thank you very much.

Wassalamu'alaikum wr.wb.