

Welcome Address by Mr MH Au, Director-General of Telecommunications
At the Youth Forum Welcome Session at ITU TELECOM WORLD 2006
3 December 2006, Hong Kong

Chairlady, Deputy Secretary-General Blois, Vice-Minister Jiang, honourable guests and dear young fellows,

I have great pleasure and honour to be here with you, young leaders of our future, on this exciting occasion. I can feel the energy you have brought with you on this first day of the WORLD Youth Forum. Hong Kong welcomes you all. I assure every one of you will have the best “away from home” experience in this vibrant city, in addition to the inspiring exchanges and challenges ahead in the Forum.

I would like to be here not just to give you a warm welcome but also to listen to the voices of our young leaders on their future vision of the ICT sector, the community and the world. I am privileged to have another chance to interact with you in one of the Forum sessions.

Dear young fellows, I believe that you are as eager as I am to explore, with other fellows coming from all over the globe, the ICT world of innovation, competition and globalization, and to discuss the opportunities and challenges ahead. I look forward to the birth of the Youth Declaration out of your synergy.

To make the most out of your stay in this vibrant city, the host city will also be taking you to discover the best of Hong Kong through an array of special tours after the forum sessions every evening. I think that you just had a nice start yesterday with the company of our local Young Ambassadors. I trust that together with our host city delegates, Amy and Antony, our ambassadors will definitely offer you a most memorable visit to Hong Kong.

Let's immerse ourselves in the week of life-changing and exciting Youth Forum Programme. Thank you very much.