



Message from His Excellency General Surayud Chulanont (Ret.) Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

I am most delighted that the Kingdom of Thailand has been honoured with hosting the fourth year the International Conference on eLearning for a Knowledge-Based Society is being held in Thailand. I welcome the presence of educators and Information Technology professionals who have gathered in Bangkok to share their research and ideas. I am certain that out of the papers that are presented and the discussions that take place, many fruitful ideas will emerge that will contribute to the education of present and future generations.

We in Thailand are committed to maximizing educational opportunities for our citizens, and technological advances will play a critical role in our realization of that commitment. Indeed, eLearning will play an increasingly important role in all education. But I believe it will play an especially critical role in countries such as Thailand, where it is very important to create education equity between urban and rural areas which in the past have often been educationally underserved and where rapid economic and social change makes lifelong learning not only desirable but indeed a necessity.

I am very excited by the opportunities that technology will open up for our nations and the ways in which it will expand the potential for self-fulfillment of our people. No longer is education only a matter for young people. Through eLearning, it is becoming an ongoing and ever-expanding process. And the benefits to be realized by this expansion are obvious. Workers will have the skills not only to perform their jobs effectively, but to take part in the continual development of new economic opportunities. At the same time, our political life will draw critical strength from an increasingly well-educated and informed citizenry.

This Conference thus has wide-ranging implications for the world of tomorrow. I therefore would like to thank our sponsoring organizations and all the members of the Organising Committee, led by Prof.Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman, for their hard work. I would also like to thank all the participants for their significant contributions to the Conference's success.

General  (Ret.)

(Surayud Chulanont)
Prime Minister