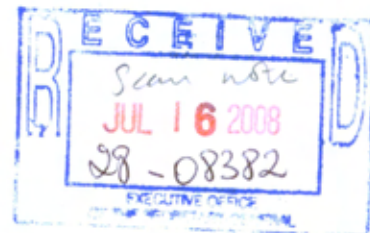


DESA

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Note to the Chef de Cabinet

Annual Meetings of UNDESA-GAID and the
Global Forum on Access and Connectivity

The Annual Meetings of UNDESA-GAID and the Global Forum were successfully convened in May 2008 in Kuala Lumpur. Please convey to the Secretary-General the attached Note to the File on these two meetings for his information.

The meetings underscored the important role UNDESA-GAID has played in mainstreaming ICT into the United Nations Development Agenda since its was launched. In particular, UNDESA-GAID plays a catalytic role in ensuring strong follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). There was agreement that UNDESA-GAID should promote a favourable enabling environment for investment in ICT, and explore the role of ICT in emerging issues, including climate change and the global food security crisis.

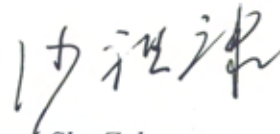
沙祖康

Sha Zukang
15 July 2008

Note to the File

Annual Meetings of UNDESA-GAID and the Global Forum on Access and Connectivity

1. The annual meetings of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UNDESA-GAID) were held on 18 May 2008, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Malaysia. Around 150 members from governments, private sector and civil society attended the meetings. The event was followed by a two-day *Global Forum on Access and Connectivity: Innovative Funding for ICT and Development* on 19-20 May 2008, which was attended by over 500 participants from around the world.
2. At the annual meetings of UNDESA-GAID, chaired by the Chairman, Mr. Craig Barrett of Intel Corporation, there was broad recognition among members of the positive and dynamic roles played by UNDESA-GAID in mainstreaming ICT into the United Nations Development Agenda. There was general agreement that UNDESA-GAID, in a short span of two years, has established a strong brand and has added value by using its convening power to bring together key stakeholders to address ICT for development issues, engage in policy dialogues and build valuable partnerships. Its stakeholder and regional networks enhanced its reach and are helping to address region-specific and thematic issues.
3. Members recognized that UNDESA-GAID should continue to provide multi-stakeholder inputs to policy dialogue in the General Assembly, ECOSOC and Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). It should also continue to play an important role to keep the attention on the follow up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Members also agreed that UNDESA-GAID should explore the potential roles of ICT in emerging issues, such as climate change, food crises, and disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness. It should help promote a favourable enabling environment for ICT investments through appropriate regulatory regimes, promoting public-private partnerships. UNDESA-GAID is now developing a more focused and integrated two-year programme of work, following the decisions and recommendations of the annual meetings.
4. The two-day Global Forum organized by UNDESA-GAID focused on the issues of access and connectivity in Asia-Pacific, Small Island States and least developed countries, and on innovative funding mechanisms for ICT for development in support of the achievement of the MDGs. The outcome of the Forum will be published and serve as an input to the Five-Year Review Conference on Financing for Development at Doha in November.



Sha Zukang
Under-Secretary-General
7 July 2008

Asim Sharma/NY/UNO
21/07/2008 06:22 PM

To Nikolai Zaitsev/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc Ingrid Hayden/NY/UNO@UNHQ
bcc
Subject Note from USG/DESA to CdC dated 15 July 2008

Dear Nikolai,

Please refer to the note dated 15 July 2008 on the subject of Annual Meetings of UNDESA-GAID and the Global Forum on Access and Connectivity. Please be advised that its contents have been noted.

Best regards,

Asim Sharma
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
United Nations Secretariat
Room S-3830C
New York, New York

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AS → ~~IM~~ → ~~VA~~
AS → MA
Pl. record in Corlog
that it was acknowledged
Thanks AS, 17/7