“Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals”
Several Concurrent Initiatives

* Commencement of efforts to elaborate Sustainable Development Goals
* Preparation of a post-2015 development framework
* High priority for accelerating the MDGs
* Implementing the Rio+20 Outcomes
* ECOSOC Strengthening process
Focus of Discussions

* To identify the key messages from the previous sessions of this meeting that could be transmitted to the ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review in July

* To identify specific regional challenges and priorities for the AMR theme
AMR preparations

* National Voluntary Presentations (NVP) to assess progress in national development objectives
  [Bulgaria, France, Thailand, and Vietnam]

* AMR regional preparatory meetings:
  Western Asia - Amman, Jordan (November, 2012)
  Africa - Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania (March)
  Asia/Pacific – Bangkok, Thailand (March)
  Europe – Geneva (April)
  Latin America and the Caribbean (date and venue to be determined)
AMR Preparations

- Preparation of SG Report on AMR Theme
- Preparation of SG Report on ECOSOC and the Post-2015 development framework
- Main messages will feed into these reports
Main Messages

* Economic growth and social development are positively impacted by investments in science and technology and particularly information technology. STI offer solutions and options for overcoming development challenges.

* S&T approaches can be used for averting climate change impacts. Consider preparing an inventory of greenhouse gas emitting sources and link these to a S&T roadmap.

* Local and traditional knowledge is crucial to be included in the development of S&T policies, building on existing cultural values. Quality local content also crucial for Internet broadband.

* Modern infrastructure essential to realizing the benefits of science, technology and innovation. Financing is a key element in this regard. New business models are needed to capitalize on available opportunities.

* Greater urgency attached to the challenges created by a growing global middle class and the pursuit of unsustainable consumption and production patterns. Global population growth may be a less urgent concern.
Main Messages

* There is need to distinguish between high and low technology and their use and application to particular contexts.

* ICT and broadband access empower science, technology and innovation. Public-private partnerships should enable progress in both realms.

* Strong policy and regulatory frameworks are needed; development of a culture of innovation should be encouraged through education.

* National development strategies, including broadband and spectrum allocation policies, should be elaborated to incorporate these principles.

* Literacy plays a critical role in Internet use and penetration of broadband access, in addition to the issue of infrastructure.

* In many developing countries, the cost of mobile technology and broadband access is still high; broadband penetration is still relatively low. The use of options such as Universal Service Funds, are often effective in overcoming these limitations.
THANK YOU
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