

JOINT STATEMENT

between

**THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS, AUSTRALIA**

and

**THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

concerning

**COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Australia and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology of the Kingdom of Thailand, have reached the following understandings:

Telecommunications and information technology are key sectors in both Australia and Thailand, crucial to the development of both economies. Both countries are committed to developing competitive telecommunications sectors in order to increase trade and investment and to stimulate growth in telecommunications access and services.

The Australian Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology of the Kingdom of Thailand see mutual benefit in strengthening friendship and cooperation between their two countries through cooperation in the fields of telecommunications and information technology and in collaboration with other government agencies in the telecommunications and information technology sectors.

Under this Joint Statement, co-operation in matters of mutual interest will be able to take place through the exchange of ideas, information, personnel, skills and experience and collaborative activities that will be of benefit to both sides. Particular areas of co-operation include:

- a. exchanging information on telecommunications policy and regulatory matters and on the application of information technology;
- b. exchanging knowledge about participation in the activities of specialised international organisations;
- c. cooperating on implementation of the APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group Mutual Recognition Arrangement; and
- d. exchanging information about anti-spam policies and strategies, security issues and other identified areas of interest to both sides.

The cooperative activities carried out under this Joint Statement will be subject to the availability of funds and resources of each side.

This Joint Statement becomes effective on the date of signing.

Signed at Canberra on the 5th day of July 2004.

.....
DARYL WILLIAMS

Minister for Communications,
Information Technology and the Arts,
Australia

.....
SURAPONG SUEBWONGLEE

Minister of Information and
Communication Technology, the
Kingdom of Thailand