




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 24th South East Asia Regional Computer Conference (SEARCC). The topic of the many dimensions of knowledge-based society is a critical one for Thailand, the nations of the region, and indeed all the nations of the world. The specific components of the Conference, covering almost every aspect of human life or eEverything, provide a clear indication of the depth of cultural and social change that is associated with this societal shift from commodities towards knowledge.

We are truly entering into a new and exciting world. No longer will the political and economic status of nations depend solely on resources or on prior levels of development. In a knowledge-based society, political and economic status will be increasingly based on the ability of a nation's and a region's people to think creatively and rigorously. To be sure, there is no monopoly on these mental powers around the world. What it does mean is that we have to focus, more than ever, on our people. Specialists in the region, including in Thailand, have an important opportunity to participate in a shift that goes far beyond the technological sphere. And I do believe that your work will also help usher in a new era of human satisfaction. For as life is transformed, human potential also increases. So, I would urge that the contribution to human happiness is always borne in mind when creating future hardware and software designs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsoring organizations and all the members of the Organising Committee, led by Prof.Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman, for their efforts over many months. I would also like to thank all the participants of the Conference, whose work will contribute to making a new world that I am confident will be a better one.

General  (Ret.)
(Surayud Chulanont)
Prime Minister