

COUNTRY REPORT OF **ANGOLA** TO THE V GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS ASSOTIATION FOR THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT's) – IPAIT V

HELSINKI, JANUARY 15 –17, 2006

YOUR EXCELLENCY CHAIRPERSON OF THE V GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS ASSOCIATION FOR THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES - IPAIT V;

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Firstly, I would like on behalf of the Angolan Delegation to salute all participants to this fifth (5th) General Assembly of the International Parliamentary Association for the Information Technologies.

As you recall, Angola was admitted as a member of IPAIT, in the second (2nd) General Assembly which was held from 17 to 19 May, 2004 in Bangkok. Since then, the experience acquired with our participation in this organization is revealing to be a very positive one, because it is contributing for the enhancement of our vision on the complex world of the e Information Technologies. Therefore, I am proud to present you the picture of the evolution of the ICT's in Angola since the forth (4th) General Assembly, which took place in Rabat, from 21st to 24th June 2006.

THE GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN ANGOLA

Angola, as a developing country, is aware of the need of the digital inclusion for the progress and integration of its population. Angola is doing all its efforts to minimize the technological gap between the different regions. We therefore think, that ICT are crucial for a sustainable development in Angola taking into consideration the strong transformational impact at socio economic level that they are having in the all world.

For this reason, in four years of peace, we noticed significant steps in the mainstreaming of ICT's, in a such way that although the constraints inherent of a country in reconstruction, the implementation of digital politics was possible, this allowed the number of CITIZENS that are using ICT to grow to 3%, in relation to 0,4% in 2002, from a total of almost 14 millions of the inhabitants of the Angolan population. This growth is being accelerated mainly in the last two years. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you, that since the IV Assembly in Brasília, the digitalized net of telecommunication was extended to all country benefiting more than one million of persons and in five of the eighteen provinces the use of internet was vulgarised through the portal "internet@facil" available to all phone users without a server. With this decision, we think that 1/3 of the total users of fixed telephones will utilize this technological advantages.

In the same vein, the data available confirm the connection to the cell net, approximately three and half milions against the two from the previous year. We recognise that we still have a long way to go, because the scarcity of resources does not allow us to achieve in a short term the internationally accepted figure.

But this situation does not desmoralize us, in opposite it drives us on as Angolan Parliamentarians, in partnership with our governmement to draft strategic and selectiv programs which contribute to overcome of the technological inaquality and in becoming full participants of the modern world.

Therefore, we would like to provide you with more detailed information which you can find in our small brochure which will be distributed to you by the organization, later on.

Thank you,