Philippines IT Policy: An Emerging TIGER

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The Construction and Development of China’s IT Industry

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Abstract
The world economy today has been transformed into informationization from industrialization, and the social and economic development have relied more on IT. Informationization is the common choice for countries to develop their economy and the degree of informationization has become an important benchmark to evaluate the modernization in a country.

Following the process of transformation from industrialization to informationization in newly industrialized countries, and based on the national capacity of economic development and informationization demand, the Chinese government has combined industrialization with informationization to be the strategy for economic development. This means pursuing informationization along with the development of industrialization, and promoting industrialization with the development of informationization rather than giving priority to developing housing, transportation, and agriculture.

Specific policies for developing IT industry in China are based on the following: (1) building “three golden engineering” as representative of infrastructure to develop the national economy on informationization, (2) applying IT to build a new economic environment and reforming the traditional industries to promote IT industry, (3) developing software and information services, and (4) emphasizing training of IT talents.

Philippine IT Policy: An Emerging TIGER

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Abstract
In the coming millennium, the exponential growth of IT will leave behind those who could not or would not meet its demands. The Philippines, at present, has to face the harsh reality: it is at best inadequate, technology-wise, to deal with the rapid pace of IT development. Realizing this, the National Information Technology Plan (NTIP) 2000 was adopted by President Ramos to address the need for “a comprehensive and integrated IT national policy framework” in line with the administration’s “Philippines 2000” economic development program. NTIP 2000 is designed specifically for people empowerment and socioeconomic development, and emphasizes IT use and IT production as strategies in business, education, the home, public service.

The NTIP 2000 focuses on five components based on Key Results Areas expected to be workable by 1998. The components form the acronym TIGER: Telecommunications, Industry, Government, Education and Research. The discussion focuses on the deregulation of the Telecommunications industry, the role of the private sectors in accelerating the development of the national IT infrastructure, and the impact of a newly competitive telecommunications field (against the former monopolistic environment) on the development of IT.