

Dinner-Reception Welcome Remarks

By Deputy Minister of Commerce (H.E. Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara)

CLMVT Forum 2018: CLMVT Taking-Off Through Technology

Thursday 16 August 2018 at 18.30 Hrs.

Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Center, Central World

Ministers of Commerce, Industry, Digital Economy and Society,

Science and Technology, Transport and Communications,

Tourism and Sports, and Culture of CLMVT,

Distinguished Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. On behalf of the Ministry of Commerce of Thailand and co-organizing agencies, I would like to again express our warm welcome and sincere appreciation for your participation in the CLMVT Forum 2018.

2. I hope that you have a great time so far. And please let us know if there is anything we can do to help make your time in Thailand and this forum even more pleasant.

3. Our CLMVT region has been privileged with the locational advantage and rich endowment of economic and natural resources. Our close ties among people have created a long-shared history, cultural heritage and local wisdom that set us apart from the rest of the world. We have hence successfully emerged as a region packed with outstanding economic growth, countless unrealed potential and exciting opportunities. So outstanding that all eyes are on us now.

4. Against the backdrop of more tightly-connected, complex and volatile global economy, the CLMVT countries must unite efforts to maintain the growth momentum. The unprecedented advancement in technology, though disruptive, can be the powerful transformative lever that enable the CLMVT region to take-off and become an economic force to be reckoned with.

5. I am pleased to learn from the CLMVT Forum Secretariat that today forum has yielded fruitful discussion. Your exchange of visions and ideas - on how to utilize technologies to enhance connectivity, and foster trade and investment through proper digital platform and ecosystem - would surely help us shape the regional strategy and practical steps for CLMVT.

6. I hope that for tomorrow you will continue to actively engage in the last day of this forum as the discussion topics are no less important. In order for CLMVT to competitively and inclusively thrive, we need to prepare and equip our growing youthful population, SMEs, startups and creative talents with entrepreneurial ingenuity and technological capability. I am certain that the sharing and partnership among CLMVT public, private and academic minds as well as non-CLMVT and international partners would guide us to the resilient path towards stability, security and prosperity in this technological era.

7. On a final note, I encourage you to enjoy good food and beautiful performance carefully prepared for you this evening. I wish you all a relaxing time among old and new friends. Thank you.
