Chairman's Opening Address

Peter Knight

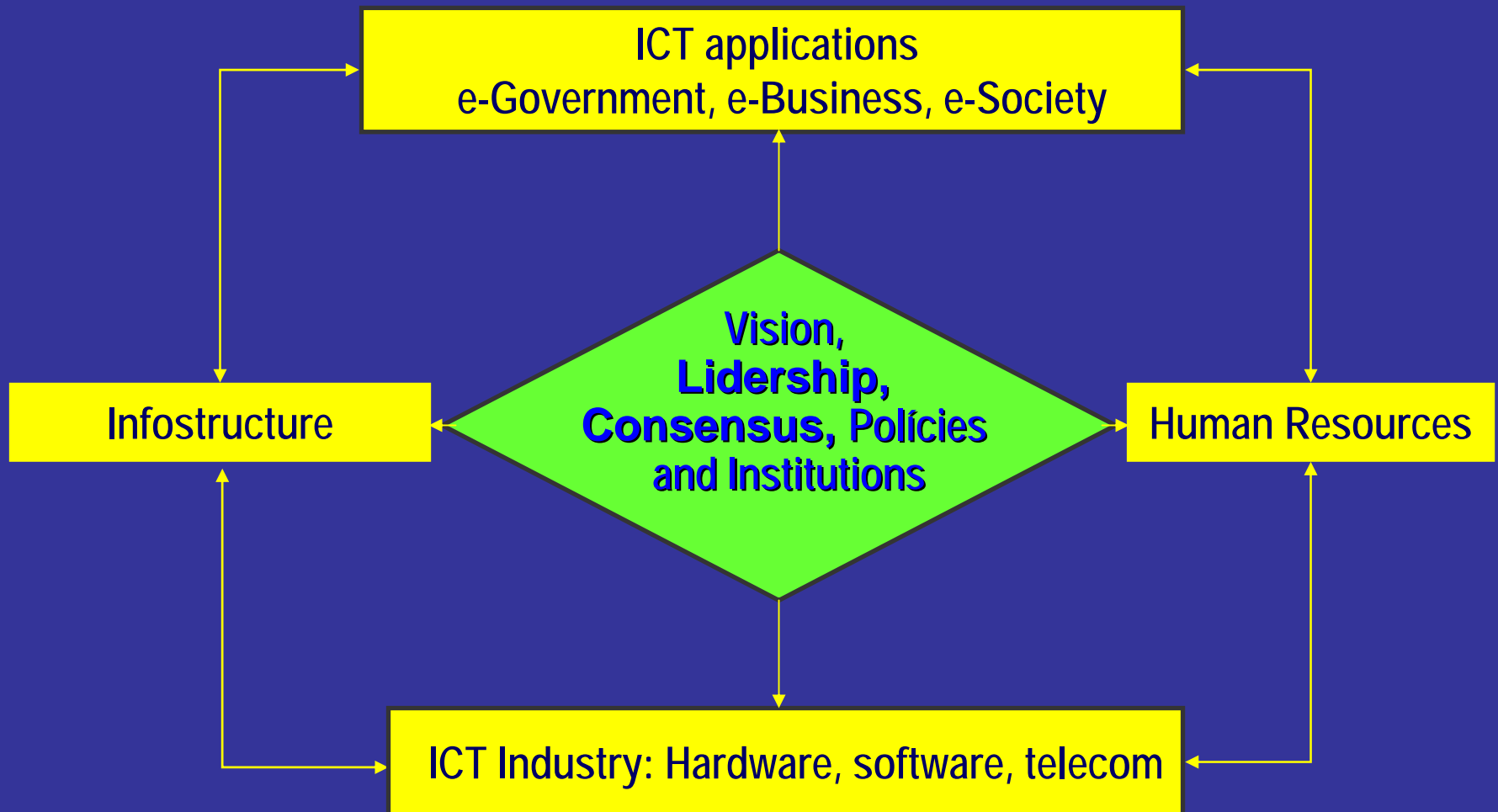### Coordenador do Projeto *e-Brasil*

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Presidente da Telemática e Desenvolvimento Ltda.

peter.knight@e-brasil.org.br

The Context and the Challenge

- **The ICT Revolution – falling costs for creating, storing and transmiting data, information, knowledge and wisdom**

- **Digital convergence – new opportunities, new challenges**

- **Technolgy evolves more rapidly than regulation, organization, and policies/political frameworks can adapt to take advantage of technology to benefit people**

- **A challenge for you: how can we take advantage of these technologies and the digital content they make it possible to create and transmit interacting with recipients, to solve global problems: peace, sustainable development, poverty erradication**

E-Development Vision (credit: Nagy Hanna)

ICT applications
e-Government, e-Business, e-Society

Vision, Lidership, Consensus, Polícies and Institutions

Infostructure

Human Resources

ICT Industry: Hardware, software, telecom

Questions to serve as backdrop to our discussion (1)

Content generation

- What are successful models for digital content generation in local languages which focus on the needs of micro and small enterprises, education, and public health?

- Could the model of reverse auction applied to the issue of licenses for providing telecommunications services (lowest subsidy wins) with public (national and international) funding be applied to certain kinds of digital content?

- Could the experience of enterprises like e-Bay be tapped and perhaps combined with the approach of Grameen Bank and other phone, for example

Questions to serve as backdrop to our discussion (2)

The infrastructure gap:

- What are the most successful examples for developing universal coverage of telecommunications services (Universal Service Funds, etc.). Can they be applied to the development of broadband coverage?

- How can new technologies (WiMax, Wi-Fi, PLC, Mesh technologies) be combined with backhaul via fiber, microwave, satellite to achieve universal coverage at affordable prices (to the public sector and/or the consumer)?

- Can access to medium-band Internet access as a kind of public illumination be financed from public sources, at the same time opening up new commercial markets for broader-band service? What institutional arrangements would work best? Is the analogy with public illumination and highways

Questions to serve as backdrop to our discussion (3)

The Regulatory framework

– **Technologies have converged, and regulation lags – what are the most successful examples of unified regulatory frameworks and agencies – and what are the barriers to spreading these models?**

Privacy and Security

– **What are the best technologies and institutional arrangements for providing appropriate levels of security for sensitive information in a converged digital environment?**

Questions to serve as backdrop to our discussion (4)

The Regulatory framework

- Technologies have converged, and regulation lags – what are the most successful examples of unified regulatory frameworks and agencies – and what are the barriers to spreading these models?

Privacy and Security

- What are the best technologies and institutional arrangements for providing appropriate levels of security for sensitive information in a converged digital environment?

Questions to serve as backdrop to our discussion (4)

The literacy gap

– **Today, ICT with its wireless reach, access to colossal amounts of data, and multimedia abilities can communicate many things much more effectively than the written word. The anywhere/anytime access to information that today's wireless broadband communications make possible and the incredibly powerful portable devices we now have can, together, usefully put anyone in touch with a greater percentage of humanity's knowledge than ever before possible. But is it possible to develop an effective, affordable, way of harnessing this information and communicating it in a non-written format – images and sound – to help overcome this literacy gap? How can the ICT community organize to meet this challenge? The**

Linguistic gap

– **What are the prospects for automatic translation to help bridge the linguistic divides to moving information and knowledge freely across the globe?**

Thank you!

peter.knight@e-brasil.org.br

www.e-brasil.org.br