Obstacles hindering international cooperation among cities (focusing on Mashhad case study)

Speaker: Dr. Mohammad Rahim Rahnama (Mashhad, Iran)

Abstract:

1. A summary of Mashhad's status and its geographical, tourist, national and international situation.
2. The role of obstacles resulting from processes governing the preparation, passing and execution of basic urban plans in weakening international ties among cities.
3. Administrative structure of municipalities and its role in weakening international ties among cities.
4. Laws and regulations and their effect on establishing international ties among cities.

How e-Commerce Enhance the Development of New Economy

Speaker: Mr. Ng Cheung Shing (Hong Kong)

Abstract:

- Corporations are facing increasing competition to bring products to market as quickly as possible. In order to reduce inventory and to improve the bottom line, companies are reconceiving their business processes to improve production cycle time, inventory turns, and responsiveness to customer demands. Here comes electronic commerce - a totally new way to reduce business constraints and improve operation efficiency.
- E-business is the business conducted over networks using open, non-proprietary communication mechanisms.

Business over the Internet is a common form of e-business.

- With predicted revenue in excess of US$100 billion at the end of 2001, Internet is no longer a platform for fun and leisure. The web is becoming a serious platform to transform one's business into new market - one without boundaries.

Never a single force emboldens our transformation more than the Internet. It has emerged as an application of every day life, accessible from everywhere without geographic constraints. Virtually, every business can benefit from the Internet to reduce cost, improve operation efficiency and capture new markets.

- For those seeking the benefits of electronic commerce, the Internet represents enormous opportunities as well as new challenges. Like any other good business practices, e-business requires and understanding of different types of business models, their strength and weakness, so that successful business development over the net can be sustained.

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