



## ITEA Symposium 2004

### Opening address

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- Good afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen.
  
- First of all, let me inform you that Mr. Rafael Sagrario, Director General for the Development of Information Society, who was going to address you in the opening speech of the Symposium, unfortunately has been detained in Madrid due to some urgent and important matters and has not been able to come to Sevilla, as he had planned. I am his Deputy and Mr. Sagrario has asked me to substitute him.
  
- On behalf of the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce I welcome you to the 5<sup>th</sup> ITEA Symposium in Sevilla.
  
- I would like to thank the organizers and the ITEA Board for choosing Spain and Sevilla to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Symposium. I imagine that one of the factors in that decision has been the active role played by Spanish Entities (whether they be large Enterprises, SMEs or Research Institutes and Universities) in the ITEA Programme, displayed by their participation in 29 projects since the launching of ITEA.
  
- From the point of view of the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce, we have expressed on many occasions our commitment with the ITEA Programme, especially, but not only, allocating funds for the labeled projects, funds that are increasing every year. I hope that this trend will continue in 2005 and



beyond, accordingly with the commitment of the Spanish Government of doubling the funds for R+D in the period 2004-2007.

- In our opinion, there are many reasons to consider that the ITEA Programme is an initiative of outstanding value to improve the competitiveness of the ICT Sector in Europe. I would like to mention only three of them.
  1. Innovation at the center of policies addressed to improve the competitiveness of the ICT Sector, ITEA deals with such innovation. Furthermore, this innovation is focused in a field that has a great potential for growth: software intensive systems on embedded and distributed platforms.
  2. ITEA is based on partnership at European level. We all know that partnership is a must to reach the critical size needed to compete and lead worldwide. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the industries and academic institutions involved in the ITEA Programme for the example given along the period 1999-2004, which has made possible the organization of different interests around common goals and common standards, driven by society demands.
  3. Finally, in this context of cooperation, I should mention the role of ITEA Programme as a major contributor to R&D public policies. The ITEA Roadmap is a reference document widely used in Europe by regional, national and community authorities to set up their strategies and programmes, in the confidence that the Roadmap presents a clear vision of future needs in the field of software intensive systems.



- Let me conclude, expressing once again our warmest welcome to all participants in the Symposium. I wish you a pleasant stay in Sevilla and a successful meeting, in order to identify those “Emerging trends” mentioned in the motto of the Symposium, as well as to define objectives for projects and new possibilities of collaboration. We have a very hard task ahead of us in order to reach the ambitious goals for 2010 established in the Lisbon and Barcelona Summits.
- Thank you very much for your attention.

Sevilla, 7 de octubre de 2004