5. Quotes on ICT and Climate Change

5.1 Quotes

Steve Howard, CEO, The Climate Group, said: "PCs, mobile phones, and the web have transformed the way we all live and do business. Global warming and soaring energy prices mean that rethinking how every home and business uses technology to cut unnecessary costs and carbon is critical to our environment and economy. Supported by innovative government policy, ICT can unlock the clean green industrial revolution we need to tackle climate change and usher in a new era of low carbon prosperity." (GeSI, 2008)

Luis Neves, Chair, GeSI, said: "The ICT industry is a key driver of low carbon growth and can lead transformation towards a low carbon economy and society. The ICT sector must act quickly to demonstrate what is possible, require clear messages from policy makers about targets and continue to radically innovate to reduce emissions."(GeSI, 2008)

Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director, UN Environment Programme (UNEP), said: "This rigorous assessment underlines that the world can realise a green economy and make the transition to a low carbon economy. It also underlines the crucial importance of the international community reaching a deal on a new climate agreement at the climate convention meeting in Copenhagen in 2009. This partnership between GeSI, convened under UNEP, The Climate Group and McKinsey gives us yet another platform for action and yet another compelling reason for reasoned optimism."(GeSI, 2008)

Dave Faulkner, chairperson of a new Focus Group of ITU examining the impact of ICT on climate change, said, "It is crucial that the ICT industry both acknowledges and seeks to reduce its role in climate change. Communications technologies can play a vital role in reducing carbon emissions worldwide. Developing global standards for reducing the energy requirements of networks and equipment will help make ICT an even more powerful tool for businesses to use in managing their greenhouse gas emissions and meeting their climate change targets."

When AeA calls for urgent EU action to reduce CO2 emissions through ICT,

Mike Desens, IBM Systems and Technology Group Vice President for System Design, said: "When it comes to talking 'green' - some people talk energy efficiency, some talk about saving the planet. IBM believes the two efforts are complimentary. The innovative application of IT technologies can radically transform and improve the productivity of energy utilization while achieving continued improvements in global standards of living. The AeA report offers constructive recommendations to facilitate the introduction and use of energy efficient IT technologies within the EU."

"With the many energy efficiency innovations being deployed in our products and services offerings and through our semiconductor process and design leadership, IBM is enabling innovative, leading edge energy efficiency solutions for IBM and its clients in industry and government to respond to the challenges of Climate Change." (AeA)

Pat Gelsinger, Intel Senior Vice President and General Manager of Intel's Digital Enterprise Group, said: "Computers have helped us make huge strides toward a more efficient world today, with reduced travel, more productivity, online transactions and more. But with today's latest energy-efficient technologies, we can do even more."

"The proliferation of ICT technologies is happening just at the same time that the EU faces a need to do more to improve the energy efficiency of its economy and to address the burgeoning challenge of climate change. This coincidence of timing is fortunate since ICT technologies have the ability to make a significant contribution to addressing climate change. What is needed, and what is highlighted in the report, is explicit government policies to promote faster adoption of new ICT technologies, and the adoption of supportive public policies that ensure those technologies contribute positively." (AeA)

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