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      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Ladies and Gentlemen we would like
to request you to approach your seats. It is time or about
the time to start the session in 60 seconds.
   Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, this is last call to take your
seats. And would like request you for your tension. Dear
WSIS stakeholder the, welcome to the WSIS Forum 2017. My name
is Jaroslaw Ponder and I have the pleasure to guide you
through the opening ceremony of the WSIS Forum 2017.
   Please let me welcome all distinguished high level
representatives of the UN system of the international
organization, Civil Society, private sector, and the other
stakeholders.
   Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, let's start with the message from
the UN Secretariat general, Anthony Guterres on the occasion
of the WSIS Forum. And I invite you to enjoy the video.
      >> ANTHONY GUTERRES: Welcome to this Forum.
Information and communications technology can advance Human
Rights sustainable development and peace. The pillars of the
UN activity. Welcome to this Forum. Information and
communications technology can advance Human Rights,
sustainable development and peace. The pillars of UN

activity. With mobile phones farmers, Monday to the prieses and refugees can let their families know they are safe and this is why the United Nations is working to un leash the power of information and communications technology for fut tur. We want to -- and this Forum can forge partnerships with governments, private sector, civil society and technical communities and academia. Together we can make the most of information and communications technology to realize the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and keep its promise for the life and dignity for all. Thank you.

   (Applause.)

      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And now it is my great pleasure and honor to invite ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao and to deliver his speech

   (Applause.)

      >> HOULIN ZHAO: Mr. Secretary-General, Mr. Mokesa, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Mr. Greg, assist ant Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. Deborah Greenfield, Mr. Deputy Secretary-General of WMO, my dear colleagues from UN agencies, Excellencies, Ministers Ambassadors, my dear elected colleagues of ITU, Delegates, WSIS stakeholders, Ladies and Gentlemen good morning. On behalf of the organization Committee it is a tremendous pleasure to welcome all WSIS stakeholders here on site and all those following remotely to the WSIS Forum 2017.

   I'm grateful to United Nations Secretary-General Anthony Guterres for his reaffirmed importance of ICTs in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The overall theme of the Forum this year is information and knowledge societies for the SDGs. The objective is to ensure that WSIS goals enable a strong international framework for a trusted connected world and for achieving it the SDGs. This week we are here with fresh ideas, renewed energy and determination to work together to identify key priorities in the implementation of ICTs for sustainable development. WSIS is now clearly the world's leading ICTs for development event. This year we welcome more than 2000 stakeholders from 150 countries request more than 80 Ministers, deputies and regulars. And we have many heads of NGOs and industries. The increased participation in the WSIS Forum is a testament to the commitment and dedication of exciting, existing stakeholders as well as a green interest of new partners. I am pleased to work deputies of the UN family, the commitment of UN agencies set out by UN General Assembly in 2015 to integrate ICTs in to their approach to implement the SDGs essential.

   Today, for example, ILO deputy Director-General Deborah

Greenfield will update us on the progress of the global initiative on jobs for use. ITU is proud to be one of the founding members of this initiative. Our development sector has been working very closely with ILO to ensure that the global initiative provides use around the world with the critical digital skills. Other UN agencies will announce new initiatives during this Forum. Ladies and Gentlemen the open consultation process is a unique feature of the WSIS Forum. The collaboration effort has resulted in a content, rich agenda with more than 150 sessions during this event. This year we are introducing a few innovations. Hackathon focussing on e-Health, a new virtual reality track, photo contest, TED talks and innovation check and exciting exhibition space that encourages networking.

  Most of you are familiar with the High-Level Track. This year high level policy sessions will feature more than 120 speakers including Ministers, deputies and heads of regulatory authorities. We appreciate and count on the participation of those important member s of the WSIS stakeholder community.

  18 WSIS prizes will be awarded later today to honor and recognize the important work done on the ground. The winners went through rigorous direction process that saw WSIS stakeholders cast more than 1 million votes. The WSIS stakeholder stock taking process continues to give us real stories of on the ground implementation and how ICTs are transforming the lives of countless people around the world.

  The underlying platform which engages a community of over 300 participation entities remains a unique platform for ICT, for SDG projects. In today's world statistics are more important than ever. The partnership are measuring ICT for development is a key component of the WSIS process. That's why I want to invite you to the 15th edition of the world ICT indicators symposium to be held from 14 to 16th November 2017 in Tunisia.

  Distinguished Delegates, WSIS stakeholders, WSIS Forum relies entirely on voluntary contribution. I would like to take a moment to thank the partners who are generously contributing to making this year's WSIS Forum a success. Our strategic partner, the World's Global Telecom who is on its way to become the new techno member of ITU. We have its company here. Our partner for specific activities, Japan, Switzerland and IEEE. Our contributing partners Poland, Rwanda, ICANN, ISOC, the Internet Society and (inaudible) and our supporting partners including the Philippines, IT, PMAI, team India, and Swiss engineering. Thank you very much for our sponsors. We are very grateful for your support. Of

course, I encourage others to contribute in the future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, all your inputs will form the official outcomes of the WSIS Forum, that will be available already this Friday. This will be an important reference point for the future implementation of WSIS as well as important contribution to the upcoming UN High-Level Political Forum which will be held very soon. Welcome to the WSIS Forum 2017. Thank you.

(Applause.)

>> JAROSLAW PONDER: Secretary-General, thank you very much for the opening speech and dear Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the moment when I have the pleasure to introduce our speaker, Mr. Akif Gilalov, Chairman of the world's global telecom. Welcome and the floor is yours.

>> AKIF GILALOV: Very good morning, to you. To all of you here. Good morning, once again. Greetings to you all. I am delighted and honored to be here with you today. I'm delighted to inform you also that our company has started to roll out a global ambitious project. We are intending to creating a platform and we are planning on being useful to hundreds of millions of people. Mainly Persons with Disabilities. I'm convinced that socially focused large scale projects and telecommunications and online services is a way to ensuring maximum accessibility to the digital world. And regardless of where people live, their financial capacity and social status.

Here I would like to give the opportunity to speak to my colleague, cat ter Rena. She is one of the people who first of all, is the target of our project. We all know the slogan of many famous organizations with us. So I would like to give the floor to Katarina to make a statement.

(Applause.)

>> Katarina: Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is KatarinaJ. Walker. I came here from Chicago, United States and I'm so honored to be speaking in front of you today. I will take this opportunity to thank you and the United Nations to -- for making such a huge impact to contribute resources and time to improve lives of people with disabilities.

We all know that disability comes in any shape or form. But we also know that disability doesn't have borders, race, countries, or cultures. We are all United Nations, people with limited physical abilities. And if I ask you one question, what unites people like me all over the world, what would your answer be? I know the answer. The answer is pain. We all suffer physical pain to some degree. But it is an

emotional pain that matters the most. The pain that we are no longer contribute to our communities, the pain that we are -- we are feel like we don't belong anymore but we do want to belong. The pain that we can't continue our social lives like we have before. After my injury I became a motivational speaker and advocate for disabled rights. I have followers through my website and my Youtube channel all over the world. And the only way we can communicate is online. Unfortunately not everyone, not in every country has as an access to be online when they need it. Like Helen Keller in 19th Century once said together alone we can do so little but together we can do so much. For us to understand how important it is for us to be able to speak to one another. It is so length for our healing progress to be able to meet other people. This is my hope for disabled communities of the world and, of course, the best way to facilitate this for us is through telecommunications. I'm very honored to be representing World Global Telecom here in Geneva and to bring their groundbreaking technology to your attention.

   I know that your time is precious but I also know in consideration of disabled people in your respective countries you will take my words to heart. Your disabled citizens should not suffer alone. And together we can give them the technology and tools to improve their lives. Now world global telecom will show a short video presentation of their project that we are creating the world's first global communication platform for disabled people and volunteers with a conventional name beep. This will solve a large number of issues that disabled communities face around the world. Here is the video for your attention. Thank you.

   (Applause.)
      >> World's Global Telecom presents project beep, the first ever global communication platform aiming to satisfy the needs of 15% of our planet's human population. People with disabilities. Designed to support support daily communication, information exchange and the use of interactive services. Project beeps aims to create a new generation that brings together millions of people, those with disabilities and volunteers. It will provide them with new tools for communication and mutual support. And the app will be localized in all major languages and available on all popular Smartphones. The key elements of beep platform is social network, messenger, systems, city navigator, marketplace, travel support service. All these services will be integrated with a common interface. Beep will have a uniform system of

con convenient settings to make the app useable by people with all kinds of functional limitations and the service will feature a simplified authorization feature, relying on face recognition, voice recognition on fingerprint scanning. Have a closer look at what beep consists of. Social network, the social network will include a dating services and services to look for friends, people with similar interests and people willing to provide health. Our goal is to encourage and maximize digital communication between people with limited abilities, volunteers and other Internet users. Succeed and become popular a social network must have all the latest features and never stop developing them. It integrates all cutting edge technologies such as, for example, be my eyes. In this example you see how a blind man can choose goods in a store as he receives prompts through a video link from a volunteer to is at home I int greating such technologies in to a social network we hope to make them more accessible and more attractive with many people. Success of such projects will depend to a great extent on the quality of telecommunication services enriching people in different parts of the world.

   Messenger, on top of the traditional functions of calls and messages the messenger will often such functionalities as built online and speech-to-text translation, particular emphasis will be placed on quality of video calls and able to display various types of information during calls and we expect this technology to be a breeding ground for active role of education and training and tell le medicine services. Assistance, a call for assistance button, the assistant implements an emergency call function that alerts family, friends, volunteers, a contact center operator or an emergency service. We also plan to incorporate ar rapid response from expert service, engaging experts from a wide range of fields. The service should save time when searching for information or solving a specific problem. It may be someone from a different city. But in any case a person who will give professional advice from help in selection of goods of getting daily lives problems resolved. City navigator will help build and recommend optimized roots using various interactive maps, dozens of such maps are available for virtually any city and each such map is useful but today these maps are disconnected from each other. We will be glad to develop and introduce a standard for an integrated navigation map. We plan to tie a number number of additional transportation service to the big navigationion map, a top prior width would be a social taxi service for disabled people.

   Marketplace, at the Foundation of this service is a shop

window that makes it easy to find any goods or companies offer special conditions but providing their services to disabled people but the objective is make faster and more economical shopping experiences and it is well-known that many specific medications and medical goods will be found in overseas stores. It is our task to make goods equally accessible to disabled people from any country. Travel support service, here we plan to integrate all offers targeting people with disabilities. We will provide real tools that make travel for comfortable and safer and less expensive and such competence should be based on accessible international telecommunications for disabled people. To many people in this category, traveling in comfort looks like a dream that never comes true. Let's join our efforts to turn this dream in to a reality. We want the beep service to be able to be used by any disabled person who has a Smartphone. We are convinced that such an audience necessitates building global scale service to implement a project such as this we will need vast amounts of resources, enthusiasm and most certainly overall support from who can help. We would like to thank the top management of the international telecommunication union for their help and support. Our company's growl is to obtain a unique complete telephone code and to creates affordable international socially oriented communication platform. On it is this space that technologically advanced modern communication project such as beep can be implemented and offered to a huge audience of people whose lives depend on being able to use up to date mobile communications, Internet and dej tal services. We shall greatly appreciate your sponsors comments and suggestions all contact information can be found on the world's global telecom website at www.wgt.social. Thank you for your attention.

    (Applause.)

      >> Katarina: Thank you very much. This will change lives of a lot of people around the world. The World's Global Telecom is ready to fully support the development of this project from practical implementation as well as coordinate the use of resources for potential technological support. Toim plement this global project will require an extensive supply of resources and enthusiasm and the full support of all who can provide assistance. One of the key components of the success of this project will be the convenience of traditional telecommunication service that will connect people with some form of disability and volunteers around the world. Quality and affordable Smartphone communication supplemented with the special applications for disabled people worldwide, this is a

Foundation on which this is possible to bring together all of the advanced IT developments and therefore to move quickly to creation of the global communication platform. In closing I would like to leave you with a quote, we make a living by what we get. But we make lives by what we give. Ladies and Gentlemen, let's make lives for those with disabilities around the world by giving them this communication tool with giving them a chance not only to live but to contribute to grow and to thrive. Thank you very much.
   (Applause.)
      >> AKIF GILALOV: Thank you.
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. Thank you very much Mr. Akif Gilalov. Thank you very much Katraina for this world global vision which will be further discussed during this Forum the accessibility is one of the key components of the WSIS Forum.
   Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, now it is my great pleasure to invite Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi Secretary-General of UNCTAD to deliver the opening speech.
      >> MUKHISA KITUYI: Thank you very much. The Secretary-General of ITU hosts the final leaders of international organizations, honorable Ministers, leaders of international enterprises, Civil Society, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen on behalf of UNCTAD I wish to express our appreciation and bid you welcome to the WSIS 2017 Forum. In my remarks I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the leadership of the World's Global Telecom, about identifying innovative ways through which we can contribute to improving livelihoods and enhancing inclusion and reaching out to the vulnerable. I think the conference between exponential growth of ICT, and sustainable Development Agenda is looking for concrete examples like the deep initiatives where we say here is something we can delve in to, how can we build on it. We at UNCTAD after association with others in the past decade, assure transformative power of ICT of information technology are at that point where we are asking what are the concrete measures that we shall take that cannot only show that phenomenal Poe power of innovation but contribute the Sustainable Development Goals.
   As some of you now together with the International Trade Center UNCTAD has been charged with a responsibility of the WSIS action line C7 on e-business. How can we identify challenges, subject concrete actions to discipline the possibilities of electronic business requirement to contribute to inclusive prosperity. The remarks I want to make now is some concrete examples of initiatives we have been taking,

invitation to partnerships which I hope that in your partnership dialogue and in looking at what others are doing and in preparing teams for the competition for the WSIS awards we find best champion practices and collaborate and strengthen them as a way of bridging the divide between the potential and realization of ICTs contributions to inclusive prosperity. Indeed already from the WSIS Forum last year we were all agreed that one of the biggest challenges, the main challenge in ICT and the development sustainable development is a challenge of connectivity, the challenge of the readiness of countries and enterprises, and the possibilities of creating a global ecosystem that leverages what is possible to realize better lives for those who are being left behind. How can we contribute to bridge the gap. One of the main areas where the gap is most glaring it is investment. A world investment report 2017 was published last week. And in this report apart from showing how digital multi-nationals are writing how society produces consumes, and trades services and goods it shows how inadequate attention is being paid to addressing the investment shortfall in the globe -- in ICT for development. For example, out of more than 100 cases examined on national digital development strategies less than one quarter have concrete attention to bridging the investment gap that is so glaring in utilizing the digital opportunities in national developments and we hope that in the discussions you can find some concrete ways in which you can contribute to this. We at UNCTAD have two. One, at the UNCTAD conference in nooi row by in July last year, many of members of this Summit together also 30 private sectors entities that are major players in electronic Congress that are forming part of what is called business for e-trade development and together with Civil Society these initiative 6 to identify and mobilize political and technical supports to addressing technical and financial shortfalls in digital inclusion, in exploiting the possibilities that exist on an electronic platforms around the world, and in demonstrating how we can impact Sustainable Development Goal achievement through our actions. At the UNCTAD e-commerce week in Geneva more than 1,000 Delegates participated, witnessed the launching of the online platform for the e-trade for all initiative and we are glad to encourage this and find ways to contribute in concrete way to delivering on possibility of inclusion of livelihood improvement for the rural agricultural women for the small fisheries communities, for young entrepreneurs that access to capital resources. Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to urge you that at this Forum this year we find concrete steps forward

not just to mention how important innovations and ICT technology is important but how we can do commitments for measurable results of a coming year. And this is one other area where I want to finish off with. Our commitment to an initiative within the high level -- the high level Committee on programs of the United Nations headed by ILO on how to create jobs for us. We commit ourselves to exploring at best these initiatives that are coled by ILO, ITC, ITU, on measurable steps to be taken and reporting back at the next Forum and learning from the experience that are shared to remain relevant because of the cause of sustainability and creation of gainful employment which is challenge for many Developing Countries today. Want to commit UNCTAD to continued membership of this group but wish you fruitful deliberations this bright week in Geneva. Thank you for your kind attention.

(Applause.)

>> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much Secretary-General for your message. And now it is the time to invite our sister agency, Mr. Frank La Rue assistant direct general of Knowledge Societies Division, communication and information sector, UNESCO our organizing partner.

>> FRANK LA RUE: Thank you very much. I would like to thank Secretary-General Zhao for this activity as well as all the colleagues from ITU. All the other UN agencies here present with us, Distinguished Delegates from Governments, corporations and very especially friends from Civil Society Organizations. For UNESCO it is a very special occasion every year when we have the WSIS Summit. UNESCO is one of the founding organizations of the WSIS Forum because its fundamental mandate is to develop the sharing of communication and sharing of knowledge. It is building peace through sharing the knowledge of all societies and the identity and cultural perspective of all societies. And in that sense the development of ICTs is a crucial element of this forms of communication and this sharing knowledge.

But this is what we always emphasize the at the same time for us the importance is the technological side, the connectivity and the development of the new technologies but also the substantive information, the content is equally relevant because we are trying to share knowledge as individuals but also to build knowledge societies. And this is the crucial phenomenon. Today with the SDGs having been approved as the new agenda and new framework for all UN action until the year 2030 we believe that communication and information is the fundamental element for all 17 SDGs. There

is SDG16 which establishes the basis for developed society means it has to be in peace, it has to be inclusive access to justice and transparency and guarantee public access to information. This is our effort. And this is what we have partnered with ITU and other colleague organizations to enhance the work of the WSIS every year. We believe there is new challenges. Just last week we were here again with Secretary-General Zhao and ITU colleagues on Artificial Intelligence and we were looking at the technology will produce jobs that will disappear. And this is why we insisted that UNESCO formulates the possibility of developing technology which is good. But at the same time developing social policies of employment and different alternatives to prevent the effects of these technologies as well. These are the crucial reflections we would like to have today.

   The High-Level Political Forum this year in July in New York will be focusing on SDG 1 and SDG 1 eradication of poverty around the world is very important. This is the fundamental element of all development. Eradication of poverty also needs the irrad indication of corruption. Because corruption is one of the many kauss of poverty around the world. Corruption means transparency and citizen participation and strengthening Civil Society and this citizen participation in Civil Society means access to information again. So we believe that access to information and transparency laws and access to information laws are crucial to make these technologies and to ICTs to eradicate poverty. This is the connection we make. And this is why we believe the guaranteeing this public access to information and guaranteeing different forms of communication guaranteeing access and the use of ICTs is important for people with disabilities like myself or people with other problems of extreme poverty or rural distance in communications and lack of infrastructure. We believe that it is important to have all these programs. We are now this year doing a world conference on open educational resources as well. Because we have to revamp the whole educational system to be able to reach the goals that we're establishing and to be able to look at education for every single child no matter how far away he lives or how rural or distant his family may be. Finally let me finish we give tremendous importance of gender equity in cultural diversity. In all these years for all the ICTs and Internet platforms were the big equalizer because it would give us an opportunity to speak and communicate and to share ideas and to debate. But the reality is that we have seen that the gender gap between men and women have dramatically grown worse. This cannot be. This is

another element of reflection. As well as the rise of through Internet and ICTs of hate speech and diss krim na tore elements. We believe that we should go back to the origins of this communication Internet ICTs all forms of communication do have to be the big equalizer. Do have to give us equal access to have a voice whether we are women or men. Whether we are from any ethical cultural or religious majority or minority and this is important in the world. Today we can only make the SDGs possible if we guarantee this public access to all but access with content. Thank you very much.
     (Applause.)
     >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much for this statement. And now it is my great pleasure to invite the deputy direct of ILO to deliver the speech, Deborah Greenfield.
     >> DEBORAH GREENFIELD: Secretary-General Zhao, der colleagues from the UN system, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning. I'm delighted to join you here at this influential World Summit on the information society Forum. I'm here on behalf of Mr. Guy rider the ILO Director-General. Mr. Rider sends warm regards and regrets that he can't be here today but we are in the middle of our annual international labor conference with almost 6,000 Delegates and this has kept him away from the Summit. I apologize in advance that I, too, will have to leave right after my remarks that I have been able to find this time to come and join you this morning.
   Ladies and Gentlemen, 70 million young people around the world are unemployed. More than 150 million young men and women work but they still live in poverty. This is because they are underemployed, they work in the informal economy, or they face other obstacles and other vulnerabilities to full, safe and decent employment.
   And this reality should form part of the backdrop of our discussion about the opportunities that a development oriented information society offers for employment that creates decent jobs for youth.
   As we begin this important Forum today we also need to recognize that investing in youth pays off. It can serve as a catalyst for inclusive growth and a prosperous Digital Economy. But jobs are not enough. The number of youth who work but who continue to live in poverty shows that we have to also create quality jobs, decent jobs for young women and men. We also have to keep pace with rapid technological developments that are creating new demands on labor markets and the skills that we need to full those demands. We need to

develop innovative solutions as we have already heard today at a similarly fast pace. With this in mind the International Labor Organization on behalf of more than 20 UN agencies, funds and programs launched the global initiative on decent jobs for youth in February of last year.

   And I'm pleased to say with some of those founding UN entities, including ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD, ITC and WMO. The global initiative is the first ever comprehensive UN effort for the promotion of youth employment that relies on active collaboration with Governments, social partners, Civil Society, the private sector, and multilateral organizations as well as academics, parliamentarians and the media. Endorsed by the UN's chief executives board the global initiative on decent jobs for youth has a simple but ambitious goal. To join efforts to tackle the youth unemployment challenge and assist countries in meeting a crucial goal of the 2030 Agenda.

   We want to scale up action at the country level and increase impact through effective innovative and evidence-based interventions. The global initiative will focus on a number of issues. Digital skills, quality apprenticeships, green jobs for young people, supporting young people in the rural economy, facilitating the transition from the informal to the formal economy for young people. And youth entrepreneurship. And equally important goal is to target youth with disadvantages. For example, those workers ages 15 to 17 who work in hazardous occupations, or those in fragile situations affected by conflict, instability, and natural disasters. As well as young people who have physical or other disabilities but as we heard so movingly today want to contribute and whose contributions we need. In this context and under the Egis of this global initiative the ILO and ITU is proud to launch the campaign digital skills for dij talt jobs. Unlocking economic opportunities and decent work and remember that the Digital Economy extends way beyond the ICT sector. The Digital Economy merely become all sectors of the real economy. And we need to keep that in mind as we work on expanding access to digital tools to use.

   Ladies and Gentlemen, we invite all of you to join us as we set out to mobilize investments to equip youth with digital skills and to close the digital divide not only within countries, but across countries and regions. And across a developed emerging and developing world. Realize the potential of the growing Digital Economy as an engine of good jobs creation for youth and for promoting gender equality and other rights. Promote an enabling environment where young women and men can translate their entrepreneurial spirit in to

viable and sustainable spirit in the economy. We aim to reach 5 million young women and men by 2030 through digital skills development. I invooit you to engage with us actively and directly as we launch our campaign and carry forth the global initiative on decent jobs for youth. Together we can make a difference for young people and we can deliver on the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. I wish you an exciting and productive conference. Thank you.

    (Applause.)

        >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And now it is my great pleasure to introduce Bishar Abdirahman Hussein the Secretary-General of the UPU. The floor is yours.

        >> BISHAR ABDIRAHMAN HUSSEIN: Honorable Ministers, Secretary-General, Ladies and Gentlemen good morning. I would like to take this opportunity to really associate myself and my organization with this very important Forum. Excellencies, at the universal of Posula we are focused on using extensive postal network to deliver the citizens of the world value through a vital link that is trusted, reliable and affordable.

    As the closest link to population in developed and remote parts of the world the post is diversifying products and services by use of mod dern technology and to pro -- improving the living standards of the global citizens. Our guiding tenants of innovation inclusion and integration present very well with a delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. In fact, the very nature of being able to offer service everywhere on this planet, sometimes beyond the strict profit motives, we are in a better position than most industries to empower economically weak and marginal communities to realize their potentials and enable them to participate in national developments.

    We are working with the Governments and their operators to achieve digital transformation of the post to enable them to deliver inclusive electronic commercial and financial inclusion that are key components to achieving goals 5, No. 8 and 9 and 17 of the sustainable development goals. We are proud to say for each of the 17 goals the post can contribute significantly in their attainment. Our inclusive agenda in the economic and financial sphere, for example, enables achievements of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. This is achieved through sustained financial inclusion and small scale trade and access to chip in money. This inclusiveness apart from empowerment of communities provide sustainable growth and productive employment opportunities. Mainly addressing empowerment and inclusion, the UPU in collaboration with various Governments and postal

organizations have come up with products by what is called easy export or export of field, Ecom Africa and dot post project. The latter is a secure Top-Level Domain Internet activities that empowers the postal financial services. This is one of the largest growth areas of the postal business. The same provides secure transsection platform for medium and small and micro enterprises, export products in affordable manner. Our current primary focus is on the development of an electronic commerce, financial services and diversification of products through inno, I vaegs and this addresses empowerment of communities to basic economic services including trade achievable and affordable. Through the road of our latest products, Econ Africa we are focusing on connecting the African continent built as the weakest link to enter country and as well as continental and traditional trade and this is it focus to benefit small traders women and youth. Diversifying on products to cope with the trends and needs of the modern society. We have engaged African Governments to help develop these virtual trading platforms that we believe will not only empower their communities but also contribute immensely to the national and economic developments. Modern technology Ladies and Gentlemen which at first seemed to be the death nel of the post has emerged to be the solution to sustainability and profitability. It is through the modern technology that the post is able to innovate and come up with new products and services that help the needs of the population. These are the products that are key drivers of attainment of various goals of thes United Nations. Just to conclude, technology is key. It transforms our lives. It has made the world a small global village. The virtual communication through telecoms, network, through ICTs, through Internet, the world has become a global village. But certainly what do do you with without technology once you can communicate? You have to have the physical connectivity of this and this is a role that the global postal network plays to deliver the pockets the business, the financial services to the most remotest places on this planet where no other service can be provided. And therefore this brings me our collaborative effort with an ITU and all the panel, the United Nations agencies sitting here together with Governments and the private sector to be able to provide those I mean the 7 billion people on this planet access and there is no other organization that consider this without any fear of contradiction that knocks on the doors of every single home on this planet other than the postal network and that's the power that the post can bring to this organization in collaboration

with our IT sister organization. So with those remarks I want
to wish the members and Delegates here a very fruitful
discussion and you can count on my support. Thank you very
much, sir.
   (Applause.)
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much
Secretary-General. And now it is my great pleasure to invite
Arancha Gonzalez of the International Trade Center.
      >> ARANCHA GONZALEZ: Just last week at the European
development days the International Trade Center had the
pleasure of bringing three Delegations of young entrepreneurs
from Rwanda, from Senegal, from Morocco to Brussels to
essentially showcase how they are selling their products and
services online. So then this discussion is about better
using digital technologies to bring their goods and services
closer to bigger markets. For them it is about using digital
innovation to leap frog. For them it is about connecting the
unconnected. Let me bring you their names. We have Anna,
Anna is the founder of Ledsequa a Rwanda startup selling bio
degradable coffee capsules. They are expresso compatible and
the beauty of these capsules is that they represent greater
value added for hundreds of women producing amazing Elabaca
coffee in Rwanda. We have Dumar a young entrepreneur who has
set up a logistics company in the car to manage the
distribution of online traded products. For him e-commerce
means new business in the services sector. We also had Senib,
a young Moroccan selling Argan oil and cosmetics, providing an
income for hundreds of farms in the southern region of
Morocco. Every time he sells his products online the farmers
get a decent income for their labor. E-commerce which is more
than 12% of international trade is working as an enabler of
growth of jobs, and of poverty reduction. UN global goal No.
17, trade. Trade as a means not as an end in itself.
Combined with goal 9 access to digital technologies, help us
end extreme poverty by 2030. But all of this cannot just
happen organically. We need an intelligent combination of
infrastructures, policies and let's not forget the third
ingredient hands on support for entrepreneurs for companies
and small and medium enterprises on the ground. I will deal
on infrastructure. You know the figures. More than 4 billion
people in Developing Countries still remain on join and less
7% sit sense use the Internet. So more and faster is the name
of the game on infrastructure. But this is not enough. We
also need a smart policies and this is why we are pleased to
be a founding member of UNCTAD's e-trade for all which is
doing amazing job at helping countries develop conducive

policies to support e-commerce and this is also why we are associated the ILO on the global initiatives for decent jobs for youth. Again good policies for good results. But we also need to address connectivity at the firm level. According to surveys we have done of thousands of small and medium enterprises, most firms are ten times less likely to use e-mail to communicate with buyers and suppliers than large firms. SMEs are eight times less likely to have a business website than large firms. And in Developing Countries they are largely absent from e-commerce channels. And this matters because jobs in the world growth in the world are being driven by small and medium enterprises. E-commerce is increasing in the domestic market of many Developing Countries, but it is at the expense of SMEs and local production. By failing to promote access to e-commerce small firms are slowly being crowded out by larger often foreign platforms. There is a need to build indigenous cultures of e-commerce and bring local SME also on to this e-commerce highway. And we should not forget the gender gap in connectivity. Women own and let firms and far less likely to engage in e-commerce. They are 12 less likely to 12% less likely to use e-mail than men managed firms and this is an important proxy for Internet usage. So back to where I started. In the International Trade Center we first listen to SMEs to understand their needs. On that basis we have developed a set of tools, tools along the value chain that address the bottlenecks that have been identified for SMEs that have gone digital. Help them build local amaze ing e-comerz platforms that have helped try online trade first. It includes building online catalogs and online payment systems and international payment system that is. Advice on logistics and much more. This we are delivering with partners because this is the only way to reach the millions that remain unconnected with valuable partners like VHL and like Kalibaba and the list goes on. And they are scaleable and easily direct. My message is more needs to be done at the micro level. Let me conclude in December the trade Ministers will be aid tending the World Trade Organization conference in Buenoes Aires. Make sure they hear your voice. Make sure they Act at the trade policy level to help connect the unconnected. Thank you very much and I wish you a great conference.
     (Applause.)
       >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And now I would like to invite Dr. Elania, Deputy Secretary-General of WMO.
       >> Elani. It is a great pleasure to be here. I'm

extremely proud to be here once again with both partners with ITU not only having with e-environment action line but working and walking hand in hand almost 150 years. We are similar old agencies. So the Sustainable Development Goals not only in United Nations system but I hope also international community and in the countries is becoming a central piece for all our work. None of the sectors which we represent with ITU, not climateolgoy not ITU is dedicated Sustainable Development Goal. But both of us are critical enablers for accomplishment of any of those. So we really matter for any of SDGs for any sector, for efforts Governments and communities are taking. Just let's take one or two examples. This year World Economic Forum identified weather extremes and natural hazards are the highest risks. Highest risks in terms of economic loss and in terms of hoou man loss. More than 70% of people die because of weather extremes and because of natural hazards and more than 80% of economic loss also associated with this phenomenon and the risk is only going to grove because the climate change results in more intense and more frequent natural hazards. The World Economic Forum also provided statistics that only in 2016 last year 175 billion U.S. dollars of economic loss are due to natural hazards. So we need to be even more responsive and provide more actionable accessible and authorizetive higher information, climate logical services, hydrological services to everyone and we would not succeed without the ICT. In our place it is not possible. From the very, very beginning of the value chain up to the last mile we use ICT all over. Just example to say that the meter ol low gee, is top ten users United Kingdom office computer uses ll 7 qual drill yon iterations per second. Generates 5penta bytes of information. We are exchanging in realtime hundreds of thousands of messages from all across the world with observations, and operating meet logical satellites that also generate a lot of information. This is all high tech side of meet ol low gee, we can even save more lives and we have succeeded a lot over the last decade. We would make people more safe and more resilient if we get the last mile. To get the warnings and alerts to people everywhere. We had a gender conference in ICT sector ITU told us that millions of women in the world still do not have mobile phones and that's the means of communication how we actually distribute this information. Now it is extremely important that ICT continues to be an enabler and I think the world is changing to e-world already. For us it is critically important that we work with ICT and with all sectors and all Governments and social society and business as good partners to get this warnings down to the

people so they can be safe. I wish you great success and we can continue in helping facilitating some of the actions here in the environment. Thank you very much.

   (Applause.)

      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And now it is my great pleasure to invite Mr. Peter Major Vice-Chair on United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development. The floor is yours.

      >> PETER MAJOR: Thank you. Mr. Secretary-General of the ITU, hello leaders of the international organizations, honorable Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues friends it is a real honor for me to greet you on behalf of the UNCD, Commission on Science and Technology for Development, on the occasion of the WSIS 2017 (UN CTSD) it is great to greet all the organizers, ITU, UNESCO, UCTAD, regional organizations, stakeholders, last but not least the sponsors who made this event possible. Reading the program of the WSIS 2017 it is clear to me that even richer it is more innovative than it was in the previous years. So I'm very optimistic that after the speeches we have heard today which were not only triumphant and optimistic but to really -- they are addressing the issues that we are facing with this WSIS Forum, we will be a real contributor to the solutions of the problems we are facing now.

   The CSTD are -- has been established in 1992. Its first mandate on science to give advice to 2006 the CSTDmandate system wide review on the information society, the UN system. The CSTD reviews and assists the progress in the international regional levels, shares the best practices, promotes dialogues and forces partnerships. And finally CS TD through Secretariat prepares the report of Secretary-General on progress made and the follow-up of the -- to the World Summit on the information society. The Secretariat is being provided by UNCTAD and I'm very grateful to UNCTAD to the work they are doing. According to the mandate of the CSTD prepares draft Resolution. One about science and technology and the other one is the assessment of the progress made on Vilnius, this is the Vilnius Resolution. Usually the discussion on this Resolution is a very peaceful one. It takes up about two or three days and going in to late in night. So those of you who have attend the these discussions have very good memories of the late discussions. During the last session, this May that was the 20th session of the commission the Resolution recognizes the value and principle of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the WSIS process since its inception. And that clearly recognized in

the 2030 Agenda and notes that many activities that support the objectives of the WSIS and Sustainable Development Goals are being implemented by Governments, international organizations, the private sector, Civil Society, academic and technological areas. I have to mention that two multi-stakeholder Working Group of the CSTD. You might have heard on the work on improvements through the Internet Governance Forum. Approved by ECOSOC and noted by the General Assembly and I am pleased to report to you that the maturity of this recommendations have been already implemented. The second Working Group is the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation. The Enhanced Cooperation is a term which comes from the Tunis Agenda. And the -- in the first phase the Working Group had several meetings and its work has been recognized also by ECOSOC and the UNGA but the work is to be continued and it is being continued right now. So we try to find some agreements on the ways how Governments can get involved in the Internet governance issues not related to the day-to-day operational activities.

   The WSIS+10 document mentions CSTD ten times. We are talking about the 14 page document that mentions the commission ten times. I'm not going to e numb rate all of them. I want to highlight one or two which requests the CSTDwithin its mandate and all action line facilitators within their respective mandates and existing resources to work with all stakeholders to regularly identify and promote specific detailed actions to support the enabling environment.

   The other what I want to mention is the role of the CSTD through the ECOSOC which take in to account the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and in this regard CSTD is invited to the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development to consider the actual reports of the CSTD. We encourage the members of the United Nations group on the information society to contribute to the reports. Ladies and Gentlemen, I hope that I managed to give you some insight in to the work of the CSTD in general and related to the WSIS in particular. Let me take the opportunity to wish you a very successful WSIS Forum.

   (Applause.)

      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And dear Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the time for the voice of the civil society representatives. Madam Anriette Esterhuysen, director of global advocacy and political strategy.

      >> ANRIETTE ESTERHUYSEN: Thank you for this opportunity. Welcome to our Secretary-General, all the colleagues from the ITU who work so hard to make this happen, and the other

agencies represented here and the WSIS Forum and then everyone in the room. All stakeholders.

  My organization APC was established in 1990 for the international network of Civil Society organizations who work to use ICTs for social justice and development. We work with the UN from 1992 the earth Summit was our first process. And we were part of the WSIS. A process that actually broke the mold of UN worked with Civil Society and this very room Member State has to put up with representatives from non-Governmental stakeholders, giving input after every session and I think this shaped a way in which we have worked in this community that has been very powerful and very influential. I want to just read a few words from the Civil Society declaration that was presented at the end of the 2003 Summit, the first phase of the WSIS. It was a declaration that was called shaping information societies for human needs. And I want to read these words because I think they still really express why so many Civil Society entities are investing in this process. We are committed to building information and communication societies that are people centered inclusive and equitable societies in which everyone can freely create access share and disseminate information and knowledge so that individuals, communities and peoples are empowered to improve their quality of life and to achieve their full potential. Societies that pursue the objectives of the sustainable development democracy and gender equality for the attainment of a more peaceful just legal tare yan and thus sustainable world.

  These words might sound very aspirational but I think it is really important as we go forward with this WSIS process that we don't lose sight of that aspirational component of our work. That we don't lose sight of the Geneva declaration and of the WSIS principles. So let me end on a few points about the value, the risks and the opportunities of this process. I think the value has been that it is both this community. I think having a two phased Summit was significant and a group of pemel around the world who have worked together in this new multi-stakeholder manner and to deal with issues of divides, social and technical digital divides. We have relationships with institutions. I think the UN institutions we have ITU, UNESCO, we have CSTD and all others have been more inclusive as a result. But there are also risks and I think the ris somebodying that we stagnate. That we stay the same group of Actors in the room. So we don't bring in new and more diverse organizations individuals from all stakeholder groups who are affected by what happens in the world of Internet and technology and there is also a risk that we tend to come

together to promote what we do. To promote our work which is
excellent because we learn from one another but we also need
to come together to tackle problems and develop solutions for
them collectively. So we need to be aware of that. I think
we also need to consider the Action Lines from the perspective
of how the world has changed and how technology and its
impacts have changed. Our panel this morning talked about the
impact on jobs. There are new challenges. The world of ICTs
and dijization do not have positive consequences. They also
have some challenging and possibly harmful consequences that
we need to check. We need to consider the issue of trust.
The fact that there is in many parts of the world less trust
in the Internet now than there was five years ago.
Particularly with the potential of e-commerce that we heard
about. There is -- the digital divide as defined in the
Geneva declaration and Tunis Agenda has changed. It is going
to be a security divide. I think to move on to that, I think
these challenges might seem intimidating but the opportunity
for us we have this community and we have this process and we
have our rituals and we have our WSIS Forums and we have the
Internet govern Forum and all the international processes
where people can come together. I think the challenge is
going to be to use that. To use it creatively. And I think
most of all to use it inclusively. And the WSIS principles
were very powerful. The principles of participation the
multi-stakeholder approach and of people centered development
and mu Human Rights and I want to end with a call. We need to
uphold those principles not just in Geneva. Not just when we
have an IGF and when UNESCO convenes its community of
partners. Every government representative in this room needs
to assess whether they are applying those principles of
inclusive open, participative policy making where society can
speak and express their concerns. Are you applying those
those effectively at home. That's both the opportunity and
that's the challenge and so I will leave with you a call to go
home and to be open and inclusive and participative.
    (Applause.)
        >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much. And now let's
move to the statement of the private sector, represented by
the Vice-Chair of the international Chamber of Commerce,
commission on Digital Economy, the director of technology
policy at Microsoft Dr. Carolyn Nguyen.
        >> CAROLYN NGUYEN: Good morning. Secretary-General
Zhao, Excellencies Distinguished Delegates and Ladies and
Gentlemen from all the vary stakeholders in the room. Thank
you very much for the opportunity to the private sector to

participate in this morning's activities and statements. As a
final speaker I would like to pull together many of the points
that have been made by my distinguished copanelists in to a
wholistic policy framework that is required for the level of
investment as is mentioned priestly that can truly realize
sustainable but also inclusive development that is created
within a trusted environment. Again building on the themes
that many of my copanelists have made before. This framework
however draws on the practice experience and best practices
that businesses gain from deploying technologies globally.
Yesterday the international chamber of commercial Digital
Economy commission launched a paper on ICT policy and
sustainable economic development that describes the elements
of this framework of this wholistic framework in more details.
A few copies are available in the room and I will be
devooibing that for in my statement. We live in aamazing time
when technology is changing almost every aspect of our lives
at breath taking speed. As a business that operates in almost
every country in the world we are the Microsoft see firsthand
the impact that technology has on advancing health care,
education, quality of life, and empowering people around the
world so that they can create better opportunities for
everyone inclusively. I will make three points in my remarks.
First technology as is mentioned by others is essential
Foundation to the realization of SDGs and economic
development. However technology alone is not sufficient.
Business needs to partner with local Government and other
community organizations other stakeholders to enable changes
that are impactful but also sustainable economically and
relevant to those communities around the world. A wholistic
policy framework is necessary to enable the level of
investment necessary for such economic transformation. Let me
go through some of those examples. With Microsoft's
affordable access initiative around the world that includes
grants for local companies what we are doing is to enable and
work and build a knowledge society one community at a time.
We work with rural and remote communities to first understand
what are the challenges that are facing that community and
then work together with local organizations which we then find
and provide additional resources such as mentorship and
software capabilities to help build a solutions. The
solutions that have been deployed included livestock
management, solutions in Argentina, wireless broadband and
cloud services for small and medium size enterprises the
echoing the comments that were made by ITC earlier on that
SMEs are building blocks of the Digital Economy and practical

solutions to micro grid in a box that has building and connectivity to the cloud. Ready for use. When we talk about where we are deploying some of these exam pems here is a specific example. That the league refugee camp in Malawi has 20,000 refujes. In 2017 Microsoft partnered with the UN refugee agency a local operator and affordable access grant winner and local Government to develop and launch an app factory that is powered by TV white spaces. Echoing theme of jobs and capacity building that have been mentioned else where this is the primary reasoning for this. Parents were killed when younger and she moved to a Rwanda refugee camp and ended up in alone in this camp in Malawi and once they become a epidemologist to better understand diseases in camp. Remi a 22-year-old bur Randyan is a self-taught developer who will now be leading the app factory and building the online community sharing the experience of the refugees worldwide but also developing a group of mentors and so developing that future generation and a set of skills that are necessary for them to succeed in the modern world. From our work in raining of initiatives both we have learned that local knowledge innovation but also affordable connectivity access to remote sources such as those available in the cloud and sources of energy, sustainable are essential for success which we defined as an activity that will continue on further long after these very small initiatives have ended. We are a firm believer in the use of technology for realizing global good to empower ever person at every organization on the planet to achieve more which leads to my next points on some examples efforts business in general and in this case ours in particular to encourage again the emphasis on local technologies development local skill buildings, both in supply and demand side. For example, the cloud for global good for fund was created by Microsoft in 2016. We committed a billion dollars in cloud services over three years for non-profits and researchers around the world to support the public good and for individuals who lack affordable access. To date the fund has donated 465 million dollars to 71,000 organizations around the world. Communities and organizations can help us identify what are the organizations, what are the initiatives that can make the most impact locally. In May 2017 the UN high commission for Human Rights also announced a five year partnership with Microsoft where we will provide a grant of 5 million dollars to supportive development of data driven dashboard to better understand predict analyze and respond to critical Human Rights issues. These are just some examples of the types of initiatives that businesses have deployed

worldwide. However to enable impact global progress at the level that was envisioned by the WSIS declaration initially, the Tunisia agenda this initiative needs to be scaled and be replicated in countries around the world. For that to happen longer term sustained investment is necessary requiring a stable enabling policy framework that encouraging long time partnership and multi-stakeholder approaches. Secondly enabling policy environment balances considerations in four dimensions. Economic considerations of the types that encourages sustained investment and social and cultural considerations, that leads to the factoring of ICT and digital literacy skills in a way that are respectful of Human Rights. Thirdly, teshg kal infrastructure and innovation that are important for maintaining a safe secure resilient and global interoperable infrastructure that can support the above objectives and finally governance approaches that encourages public/private partnerships an initiative that can leverage the unique contributions of each stakeholder groups including Governments, business civil society and technical community and furthermore, reflect the needs of those stakeholders in a different considerations that are required to achieve sustainable economic development. It is important to point out that we talk about this in a wholistic term because these issues cannot be dealt with in silos without consideration for their broader potential consequence economically either investment or development. In conclusion stakeholders must work together to guide development of trustworthy responsible and inclusive technology to inaebl the potential the Digital Economy and information societies with an enabling policy framework.

   On behalf of business we call for a practical and wholistic policy framework that focuses on sustained investment to realize the SDGs. We look forward to engaging in further dialogues with everyone on this framework for investment and look forward to engaging with you throughout the Forum. Good luck and have a productive week. Thank you very much.

   (Applause.)

   >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much and this has brought us to the end of the Opening Ceremony I would like to call for a round of applause for the distinguished leaders of United Nations agencies, private sector, international community of private sector, Civil Society and other stakeholders. Ladies and Gentlemen, now it is the time I would like to request you to remain seated for a second. I would like to -- I have the pleasure to invite the Secretary-General and to perform at the ceremony of appointing

the Chairman of WSIS Forum 2017. Mr. Zhao the floor is yours.
     >> HOULIN ZHAO: Excellencies, dear colleagues, I think
many of my colleagues have to leave. Some of them have to
catch their flights. But it is my pleasure with their
presence I would like to propose someone to be our Chairman of
high level segment. This time after some consultations I am
very pleased to suggest that we nominate Minister of youth and
ICT of Rwanda Mr. Jean Philbert Nsengimana, sometimes I call
him -- here.
   (Applause.)
     >> HOULIN ZHAO: So with your agreement we will have our
Chairman. Now we invite our Chairman to come to the stage.
   (Applause.)
     >> HOULIN ZHAO: Thank you. I received this nice hammer
last night from our donor dinner and this is run by smaller
entrepreneurs of Poland use 3D printing. This is from a 3D
creator. I will hanlt this hammer to our Chairman.
   (Applause.)
     >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Secretary-General
Mr. Houlin Zhao, honorable Ministers, distinguished leaders of
UN agencies present here, leaders the private sector,
academia, Civil Society, and technical communities,
distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, first of all I want to
thank you for the vote of confidence of my country. Rwanda to
lead this important Forum. I bring you warm greetings from my
people and my President, who is not only a strong believer in
the power of technology to fight poverty and build an
inclusive society but to also a leader who walks the talk. I
humibly accept the challenge to Chair this Forum, keeping in
mind that trust is granted as a gift but paid as a date.
   I look forward to working with you all and request your
support to meet the challenge of expanding the limits of our
respective comfort zones because that's where the change we
want will happen. And let's expand our comfort zone in two
main ways. First by recognizing that we can be more inclusive
and be faster what we do with whom we work with and whom we
work for. Stretching our minds and ARMs to include more in
our work is likely to stretch our comfort zones. But that is
what leadership is all about. WSIS is a time to build on what
you have in common. A strong purpose to put our people first.
A banning time to turn potential in to social impact and
profits and the shared belief in the power of technology and
partnerships to bring prosperity and defeat poverty and
sustainibly protect our planets. Those are seven important
themes. People, purpose, passion, prosperity, partnerships,
profit and planet.

But WSIS is also a time to think about what we need to have more in common. Courage, character to affect change. Collaboration, communication, coordination, but also ensure fair competition to grow our markets and ensure increased customer value. Those are seven important themes, courage, character, change, communication, coordination, collaboration and competition. Inclusivity is a cognition that WSIS is about me and you, but more so is about those farmers in Africa whose lives depend on maximizing their productivity of their small farms and who could be helped by precision agriculture, technologies that are already available but not scaling up fast enough. It is about those teachers in Americas whose motivation and relevance depends on ability to learn continuously but who remain and connected or cannot afford the monthly Internet cost. It is about those students in the Arab region who are studying for jobs that are not even known today. And not being exposed to the critical thinking and new linga Franca that is coding. About those in Asia and Pacific who do not have access to the necessary investment and support to succeed. It is about those small businesses owners in Europe who are fighting economies of scale through economies of scope. And increasingly looking forward to harness emerging text such as 3D printing, Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, but who do not yet have access to global markets while we are here to affirm that e-commerce should be for all. About those women in CIS region whose potential remain untapped because they are part of the 4 unconnected million. In 2005 in Tunisia I had a lot of talks of what ICT can do in the context of MDGs. Today we are not here to keep talking about ICTs can do for SDGs. Indeed we have enough evidence around us on what ICT has already done. In my country in Rwanda ICTs are saving lives. When drones spread their wings every day, supplying blood in emergency situations to dozens of remote hospitals, living are saved. When productivity is maintained whether at home office or on the move thanks to a nationwide 4G LTE network and free WiFi and public transport. Jobs are created and small bases thrive and the economy is strengthened. We are not here to talk about the enormous potential of technology for the greater good of humanity. We are here to reflect on how we can instill a greater sense of urgency and inclusivity as we do ten essential things that none of us can do by themselves but on which we need one another. Connect the next 4 billion data that are not yet connected and promote best practices, educate the next generation, regulate and ensure fair competition, protect consumers, especially the young ones, innovate and cocreate

solutions to defeat poverty and mitigate the risks of digital transformation such as job erosion. Invest in infrastructure, capacity building and research, claib cooperate and coordinate and then for some of us in the Government the last one is quit or at least put the private sector in the front seat. Those are important things, connect, promote, education, regulation, protect, mitigation, invest, cooperate and quit. But rest assured I'm not quitting you. I want to close by thanking the ITU leadership, and in particular Secretary-General Mr. Houlin Zhao for the great job, not only as a host of the WSIS but also for leading the move towards a smart world. Back home we are proud of the progress that has been accomplished through smart Africa that Mr. Houlin Zhao supports so passionately and I invite all of you to be part of. As much as we would love to be part of a smart Asia, smart America, smart Arab region, smart Europe, smart CIS and smart is about connecting, sharing, measuring, and caring. I want to thank you -- to thank all the WSIS stakeholders, partners and sponsors. I would like to thank my team of High-Level Track facilitators. I know they will be introduced in a moment but want to request them if they are here to stand up for recognition.
     (Applause.)
        >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: They are there. Please support them. Make their life good as they take us through different topics of discussion. Thank you distinguished participants. Let's work together for a smarter world. I thank you.
     (Applause.)
        >> Thank you, Chairman for this very inspirational speech. I would now like to thank all the distinguished panelists for their interventions. And we will move on to the next high level strategic dialogue. So I would like request you to please step down and invite the participant the of the next dialogue to please join us. Thank you very much.
     (Applause.)
        >> While we are waiting for the next panel to join us here I would like to announce the names of the High-Level Track facilitators, the Civil Society is represented by Brenda from IFIP, Renie from Digital Coalition, Jessica from SMEX, Gayatri from APC, Jovan from DiploFoundation. Come nek from GSMA and academia is represented by Dr. Habib from IEEE, from University of Cambridge, Shuchita Thapar from the jat nat law university, San de gr ISOC and the technical communities represented by Justin from IEEE and Sherno from ISOC. We welcome them and congratulate for their nom anyone nations. The next panel is I would like to invite Mr. Malcolm Johnson

who is going to facilitate the session and also the Chairmen of the WSIS Forum vice Minister from Poland, Vice Minister from Japan Mr. Thomas Schneider, Ambassador Switzerland, ICANN Mr. Tarek Kamel senior VP, IEEE Ms. Karen, the President, ISOC, Mr. Raol, the vice-president. Jessie, Mr. Luis and Mr. Thomas, we invite you please to join us on the podium. Malcolm I would like to request you to take the floor and to please start the session.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Good morning. Good morning. Good morning. Good morning. Good morning, everyone. Good morning, everyone. And let me add my welcome to you to the WSIS Forum. And in particular this session. So we are running a little bit late. A little bit late. So let's try and make a start. If we can please settle down. And if we could can have some quiet. Thank you very much. We are very happy to see that we have so many participants. WSIS Forum is getting bigger and better every year. So as you heard we have around 250 -- 2500 participants in year. So that's from around 2000 last year. And that's from 150 countries. We have around 500 high level policymakers, participating in this event. So we have heard how inclusive the WSIS Forum is and how important it is that it is open and inclusive to all stakeholders. Now one thing that we need to emphasize is the fact that this is the whole WSIS Forum is extra budgetary. So we rely entirely on the support we have from our partners and our sponsors. And we heard this morning from our strategic partner, the World Global Telecom. So this session is an opportunity to hear from some of our other supporters. Our activity supporters, Japan, Switzerland and IEEE contributing partners. We have office of the electronic communication of Republic of Poland. Jessie, ICANN, international society and VEON. Let me start by inviting our first sponsor, that's the Government of Japan that has supported the WSIS Forum since inception. So we are honored to have His Excellency Shigeki Suzuki Vice Minister for policy coordination and I minute industry of internal affairs and communications. We will ask each of our sponsors to speak to one or two questions. So the first one I would like to offer to the vice Minister, in order to promote ICT innovation what kind of activities do you do in partnership with multi-stakeholders? So Mr. Shigeki Suzuki.

>> SHIGEKI SUZUKI: Excellencies, Distinguished Guests and Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General of ITU Mr. Houlin Zhao and the members of the WSIS Secretariat and all stakeholders.

To accomplish this year's WSIS Forum theme information and knowledge societies for SDGs I would like to comment on three

factors very briefly. First one is to ensure that the access to the ICT for all peoples and everywhere. Building and enabling an environment for access to ICTs and the Internet is essential dimension Foundation for the inclusive growth and bridging digital divide is the most crucial and urgent issues because still of a half the people on globe does not have the access. Japan promotes the public private initiative named quality infrastructure investment and contributing bridging digital divide through developing ICT infrastructure in the world. From a long-term perspective the key is how to reduce the life cycle of infrastructure considering the operation and maintenance cost, not only focus on the very cheap initial installation cost. This initiative includes not only developing long term sustainable infrastructure with high operational rate, but also capacity building and technological transformation for operation and maintenance. It is also important to make fair and transparent policy and regulative framework that encourages compensation and investment through open process (competition) of decision making and -- of multi-stakeholder joining. This can achieve affordable access as a consequence of people around the world regardless of income, region, genders and disability have an access means to ICT. Second point is to promote and protect the free flow of information. The free flow of information is essential for multi-stakeholder approach. To make the best use of ICT and innovation such as AI and Big Data by every stakeholders. Effective utilization of information is a powerful enabler of future innovation and economic development. And third one is to promote and utilize innovations, innovations like IoT and Artificial Intelligence is a great opportunity for economic development. AI can improve productivity and quality of life by leading workers of monopoly and tedious labors. We need to strength collaboration among all stakeholders at national, regional and international levels. Conclusion, last year Japan hosted the G7 ICT Minister meeting after an interval of about 20 years. In response to that moment this April G20 Minister conference relating to information and communication technology was held for the first time at the G20. At the conference the new common goal was set as we will encourage the domestic deployment of connectivity to all people by 2027. We the Government of Japan. We continue to put forward our best possible effort to achieve this goal and SDGs together with all stakeholders. Thank you very for your attention.
    (Applause.)
      >> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much Excellency. And I would like to turn to Marcin Cichy, President of the office

of electronic communications in Poland. And to save time perhaps I could suggest that the speakers stay in their seats and use the microphone in front of them. So Marcin Poland has been a strong supporter of the WSIS Forum throughout its time. So we very much appreciate that. And I wonder if we could ask you to look and tell us what exactly you are able to do in the regulator in Poland to help the development of the information society in the country, especially recognizing the importance of innovation. I know this is something that you are very strong on as we heard at the reception last night. And the development of 5G. So if we could hear a bit from you.

>> MARCIN CICHY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman for the floor. Thank you very much for your kind attention. Yes, it is right. It is -- it is our intention to be a part of the WSIS Forum. And from our perspective it is not only about the regulatory issues that we are responsible for but also about the most of the economy and the development of the ICT infrastructure. So as to fulfill the society requirements. That's why we decided to bring to Geneva some innovative stuff, stuff that has been presented yesterday evening. We are doing our best to contribute and follow the WSIS agenda key points strategic key points. When it comes to the regulatory issues that are our main activity we need to talk about some kind of roadmap of the social development around the -- so what we decided to do last year was to prepare some kind of strategy for development of the first main document recording all branches of the economic and the industry has been already organized by our deputy Prime Minister and the second more important strategic document, was -- already organized by my dear friend Minister of digital affairs. In Poland and this documents mainly focuses on development of the I.D. identification and some other digital issues regarding the activity of citizens and inhabitants in relation to the public sector not only on a Government level but in cooperation with local program or local Governments. So as to stay in line with the EDAS regulations and last but not least there is also our strategy, the strategy of the office of communications for ITC team branch and it is based not only on tele-Act but also on the other procedures and regulations but we are responsible for. The four main pillars regarding our activity in cooperation with the venders, mobile providers, service providers, content providers and other ICT development in Poland. The first most important key point is the Consumer Protection that should be understood not only as the relation between the end user and service provider but also some education. And boosting of the investments in the high speed

infrastructure I mean broadband access on the hosting and (inaudible), the next issue is the optimization of the regulatory processes that we are responsible for. And last but not least the EC A3.0 I discovered I am the third President of this office and help for the various group of interests, all those participants that are interested in the boosting of the economy in Poland. And when it comes to the 5G we need to remember that the essential is that 5G development for all countries and for all over the world would change our way of usage of the services that would be completely different capacity, the completely different conditions, services and it is not only about our usage on the regulatory but also regards the usage on the wholesale one, machine-to-machine and Internet of Things issues that are extremely growing on year to year KPIs. So what we are responsible for when it comes to the 5G development in Poland it is preparation of the (inaudible) and implementation of the approaches. Needless to say this month we are going to signed a memorandum of understanding with all participants that are interested in this project. And also venders, mobile operators and other parties. This will be managed by our Institutes of the telecommunication technologies and under the Patronage of the Minister of digital affairs and the President of the communication and that's our intention is to provide some kind of a platform for the understanding of social needs and the understanding of the requirements that we as a sector fulfill in relation to the private sectors investors. But it is not only about the cooperation between the operators and the public sector. It is also about some key points compon nents that are needed to be developed, I mean the frequencies is we have 700 megahertz that has already been clarified by the European Commission and used for 5G development. We are going to distribute in near future. And we are waiting for the next world radio spectrum conference organized by ITU in 2019 so as to find out about the next high bandwidth even higher than 6 gigahertz than 10 gigahertz that could be clarified for the 5G development. Last but not least this boost of the mobile service usage is not only about the 5G it is also about the broadband access. In Poland we have over 4 billion Euros to spread for the development of the six Internet access with the up to 100 gigahertz and this money should allow us to connect to the high speed Internet additional 10% of households. That's what we are going to introduce in the near future in the next four years and that's what we are responsible for as the public sector in relation to the private sector.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much. That's very impressive development in Poland. Thank you very much. So turning to Switzerland Ambassador Thomas Schneider, director of international affairs at the Swiss Federal Office of Communications OFCOM, Swiss OFCOM, turn this over to you. I have a question on what is the role of multi-stakeholder partnership for WSIS implementation at the national level and what is the important thing for the international level?

>> THOMAS SCHNEIDER: Thank you Malcolm and also everyone. Why should we talk about the national level at a global Forum like this? Because we think very often that things only work on a big scale if they are built at a small scale. In order to harness ICT's full potential for sustainable development our national comi comis and societies we need to make sure that all national stakeholders across all sectors are aware of the challenges and opportunities that ICTs offer. Then we think that the national governance needs to know what businesses need, what the local priority issue are for boosting development. And they need to listen to everyone including minorities and vulnerable groups, and then they need to find a balance between all these different interests and needs so that also on a national level no one is left behind. Only then Governments can provide for an enabling freament work for sustainable development and for peace at the national level. This requires not just connecting with all stakeholders but it requires first of all respect of fundamental values and care of the needs of all stakeholders groups in order to enhance mutual comprehension and cross-sectoral interdisciplinarian cooperation. We think we need a new spirit of cooperation and sharing among all stakeholders. Start ing from national and then move willing up to international level. At national level there are a number of obstacles to overcome for this cooperation. Between different ministries and Government agencies often people are not aware of each other's activities or they even fall in to competition for resources for attention and recognition. Also there is often mistrust and prejudices between stakeholders on national levels and there are too many voices of the minorities and vulnerable groups that are not heard in processes policy processes on national levels. So we think that we need to understand and show by example on a national level that it is a win win for all ministries and Government agencies to cooperate and support each other in their work. Governments need to earn trust of all stakeholders and willingness to cooperate through being accountable to them. But we also need to build capacities of businesses and

citizens on the other hand, so that they understand that this is also in their interests that they Act responsibly and accountably to their society. Two weeks ago we had in Bern we had an excellent discussion between all stakeholders and a number of things that are very challenging and we made a lot of progress in mutually understanding each other. In addition we have a strategy adopted last year by the Government which is called digital Switzerland and this will be continuously develop in dialogue with representatives from the economy from the Civil Society technical and academic community and will also partner with media as well. So a new dialogue with be launched in connection to this strategy to enable all relevant stakeholders to contribute to the further development of digital Switzerland. Now with regard to the international level again con struktive respectful and responsibility cooperation among all stakeholders of course is the key in our view. Switzerland is very committed to undertake and support capacity building efforts to allow all stakeholders to take part in the discussions and the decision-making processes on national regional and global levels. Multi-stakeholder cooperation on equal footing however does not mean in our view that we are all the same in the sense that we have the same roles and responsibilities. We are we think equal in the sense that we have to share the responsibility the overall responsibility for developing our digital societies. And in order to find out what our respective roles are and in order also to mutually agree on and accept these respective roles we need to all sit together and openly discuss opportunities challenges, possible digital policies taking in to account needs of special groups of populations and then identify each other's roles and responsibilities and foster awareness on the needs of various stakeholders and engage them in partnerships and solutions. We think this discussion everyone is talking about multi-stakeholder cooperation but the discussion about concrete roles and responsibilities in concrete fields is something that we are still lacking. So we would strongly urge everyone to be more focused, be more precise. In addition or as a means of this capacity building efforts we have launched in 2014 the Geneva Internet platform which is an initiative by the Swiss Government operated by the DiploFoundation. I guess many of you already know and use it. It is a physical platform, online platform. It has an observatory called a digital watch and a number of other activities. Meant to be a neutral venue for discussion and a neutral way to find information to connect with other people and we hope that you are all using it and help us developing

it further. On, of course, we strongly support and have been supporting since the beginning dialogue platforms like this one, like the WSIS Forum as well the Internet Governance Forum which we are proudly hosting here towards the end of the year here right next door at the Palias Wilson. And we hope you will help us in the preparation and in the meeting itself to get everyone together to get people out of their silos and exchange information and experience and learn from each other and then go back to the silos to continue work but with a more Open Mind broader horizon and more ideas on how to find solution to challenges together. To conclude we would like to take this opportunity to thank ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and all the other partnerships organization and support for this very important event in which we are participating and, of course, we would like to invite all of you to the reception which will take place this evening at 6 o'clock here at CICG. Thank you very much.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much. And thank you very much for the invitation to the reception tonight. We look forward to that. And for emphasizing the importance of bottom up approach and the need for inclusivity working up from the national level to the international level. So thank you very much.

And moving now to ICANN, very pleased that we have Mr. Tarek Kamel, senior VP and advisor to the President of ICANN. And Tarek is based here in Geneva. Very pleased that we have worked very closely with Tarek and have a very good relationship between ITU and ICANN which is very much as a result of his efforts. So thanks very much Tarek for being here. So a question we have is what is ICANN's role in the global Internet governance space. Now we have the IANA transition and how do you envisage further capacity building requirements by different players to help the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

>> TAREK KAMEL: Thank you very much Malcolm. I am delighted to participate today on behalf of ICANN and this distinguished Forum and ICANN is a partner with the ITU in the WSIS Forum and has been for many years and we look forward definitely to the great success of this event. I will start by address the first part of your question Malcolm which is primarily related to the role of ICANN in the post IANA transition and the overall IG ecosystem. ICANN coordinates the unique identifiers together with other organizations, the technical identifiers of the internet. In the last two years ICANN community has been leading a unique multi-stakeholder global process in order to make sure to move over the

stewardship of the IANA services, so-called IANA services from the U.S. Government to the global multi-stakeholder community and this has been successfully last fall on the 1st of October 2016. Many people present in this room and else where have contributed to the success that we really consider a unique process since it has been global and multi-stakeholder, including academia, private sector, Civil Society as well as users in leading this work to -- in the fall of 2016. But what's next? More important now on ICANN's priority for the board as well for the management is to make sure that the new governance model of empower community makes ICANN for accountable, transparent, and working really towards the global public interest. This is easily said but not necessarily easily implemented and we are undergoing the implementation of the empower community and testing while we are going forward in the different processes of ICANN. In this spirit and in implementing this new governance model we invite the various players as well to participate more and more in ICANN processes, each in its own constituency to move forward ICANN to be more accountable and more transparent and to ensure that it is really serving the global public interest for you.

In this spirit again we are participating also in other stakeholders ISOC and other ISOC organizations in global fora like this. ICANN has a very limit mix when it comes to technical coordination of the unique identifiers but this does not mean that we shrink our role as one of the global players in the overall IG ecosystem pushing it forward in a collaborative model. The challenges are the same. And ICANN is making sure that it is part of the ecosystem taking this challenges forward. To the second part of the question related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and capacity building I would like to ask that we all know that the number of Internet users at the time being is around 3.7 billion users. But we know the next billion Internet users are coming primarily from the younger population in the Developing Countries or in the less developed countries as we say. Hence it is becoming very visible that the ICANN -- the Internet is definitely and surely a global platform but it is becoming more and more local. Users want to make sure it is serving their services, health services in their own local language. This can only happen while hosting more and more local content. ICANN does not work in the development of local content but ensures to provide better access to local content by international localized domain name, domain names in Arabic in Sireliic and Chinese and many other languages. It is

making a great progress and fostering really the utilization of local content worldwide. This will enhance definitely the local services of the Internet and ensures that we can easily bring the next billion users with the support of the different global players in to the overall Internet ecosystem. Needless to say that this Sustainable Development Goals which are becoming an overarching framework for the social economic framework agenda of the world in the next 15 years. With this we have been here providing together with our partners ITU Diplo and other players from the Internet Society to capacity building workshops that has been quite successful. One was yesterday and the next one will be on Thursday morning where we look forward how can we really enhance our cooperation together and compliment each other when it comes to capacity building implementation on a regional level. Thank you Malcolm and I hope this has addressed part of your questions.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much and we certainly look forward to further collaboration with ICANN especially on the capacity building. Thank you very much for that. So turning now to IEEE, and Karen Karen Bartleson. We are very pleased to have her here and I would like to take this opportunity to thank IEEE for helping with the first ever WSIS Hackathon which Karen and I launched early on Sunday morning here and had some really wonderful results. So Karen, question for you, is what do you believe the technical community role can be in the achievement of the SDGs and also linking that with the recognizing the fact that less than 50% of the world's population are connected to the Internet. What role can IEEE and others take to meaningful collect the remaining of the 50% of the world's population? Karen.

>> KAREN BARTLESON: Thank you very much. Good morning, everyone. I am very honored to be here today and to speak on behalf of IEEE as a specific activity partner of the 2017 WSIS Forum. As the world's largest technical professional Association IEEE represents over 420,000 members in 190 countries around the world. As an international body we have a vital role in impactful technology development and standardization and our members continue to shape information communication technologies for current and future generations. Grounded in the principles of openness, transparency, and inclusiveness, we work in collaboration with all stakeholders around the globe to advance technology for the benefit of humanity and that's the emphasis is the benefit of humanity. IEEE shares the vision of a people centered inclusive and development oriented information society as outlined by the United Nations through WSIS. ICTs will play a central role in

sustainable development connecting the citizens of the world and achieving this crucial development is our common responsibility. IEEE is committed to supporting ICT development and adoption as well as common responsibility and global connectivity. These are foundational to accelerating social and economic growth and sustainable development with a specific focus on local grassroots efforts to ensure that the solutions are tailored to the unique needs and each individual community. Our members are pursuing these efforts on a daily basis. One example is the work of the IEEE special interest group on humanitarian technology in Tunisia. This group consists mostly of students at the University level. Their goal is to create technology hubs through schools in Tunisia and to provide the necessary ICT skills training so that access to these technologies is both meaningful and beneficial to their local communities. And another example of this is as Malcolm mentioned the first of Hackathon at the WSIS Forum which IEEE had honor to cohost with ITU. Students came together to reduce exposure to common risk factors for noncommunicable diseases in smart healthy cities in middle and lower income countries. The winners of this Hackathon came up with something so unique that the judges were hard pressed to ask them questions. They went to reinvent storytelling so that all of us learn new ways of interacting in the world and solving our problems as outlined in the SDGs but it was a phenomenal Hackathon.

  And I want to conclude this question with saying that using technology to create practical solutions to societal concerns is at heart of IEEE's mission. Continuing on with the second part of your question, Malcolm, about connecting the rest of the world, IEEE endorses the goal of universal access to the Internet. Designed to expand access to the billions of people in both developed and Developing Countries around the world who do not have access to the Internet. Through its global reach and capabilities IEEE has an important role to play in advancing solutions to the global Internet access challenge. Promoting universal Internet access is inherent in our mission of foster technology and innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity. To this end we call on the worldwide community of engineers, scientists, industry leaders and policy experts and others to apply their knowledge and skills to address the challenge of yoourl access to the Internet. As the Internet's value in all areas of global community and economy growth we draw attention to the need to address the issues of truth, safety, and security which can become barriers to achieving global benefits of the Internet

particularly for currently underserved countries and communities. We call upon the global community to work collectively address these issues and to ensure digital inclusion through trust and agency and IEEE is committed do working with all stakeholders seeking to leverage communication technologies. Last year durings the Opening Ceremony of the WSIS Forum IEEE stated that achieving the SDGs is not an easy task but one that everyone in this room is willing to accept. We are heartened to see the significant achievements supporting the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development but there is still much work to be done. We stand ready for continued collaboration with all of you as we work united by a shared vision of a truly global information and knowledge society. Thank you.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much Karen. And very nice to hear the very nice result from the Hackathon. I think we all could do with some good stories to hear from. So thank you very much. And now turning to Internet Society, very pleased that we have Raul Echeberria, vice-president of ISOC with us and continuing the theme of the challenge of connecting the unconnected, Raul the question is what do you see as at barriers for access and connecting the unconnected? And will the market solve these issues? And secondly if I may, the second question is based on recent events we see increasing concerns around security and trust. What do you see as the main challenges and how can we address these issues through partnership?

>> RAUL ECHEBERRIA: Thank you very much Mr. Johnson. First of all I would like to thank the invitation to be part of this man panel and congratulate his Chairman for his appointment. Thank you for the inspirational speech at the opening. We live in a paradox at this moment because we have connected half of the lower population but we should be here claiming victory because we have achieved a lot but we are very worried because the dinl tal gap between those who are connected and not connected is much bigger than in the past. Internet is a central component of every human activity. So access is even more important than a few years ago. The market is obviously has a role of this. And there is a responsibility of regulators and Governments for providing an enabled environment for permitting the market to do its work and bridging out more people and connect more people. We know that market will not solve all the products. In -- at the Internet Society we have been working for the last 25 years by the way, this is -- this year we are celebrating our 25th anniversary. We have been working and promoting meaningful

access, access for improving the lives of the people. And the last couple of years we have been working on community networks. The flowing community networks and strengthening the community around this matter. We have learned some lessons from that work that is work that we do with the a lot of other partners. One lesson is that we have technologies for connecting the people. We have a panel on this topic. And so there are technologies for connecting the people. The point the challenge is to stop thinking about under served communities as the last mile. If we put the people in the center, we should think about communities as the first miles. And the other -- the other lesson is that the -- when we empower communities, we get good results. Availability of infrastructure is just one of the drivers for connectivity but it is not the only one. It is important to empower communities to make they will realize how they can improve the lives using technology. They want to be connected. This is a really important aspect of. And community networks is an example, the enabled change, enabled business and enable kids to learn more. The third lessons that we learned is that the regulation should be catalyzer of access and not about (inaudible). So we have to rethink many things. About how to license with community networks and how to provide frequencies and reuse of spectrum for -- as a low second use of spectrum for community networks. So the answer is that the market has a role but there is also room for other possibilities and solutions to be considered and to be considered as a viable solutions and part of the international dialogue. With regard to the second question on security, I think that -- we are facing many challenges on security, some of them are technical. Some social. Some others are policies solutions. And the center of this challenge is the cooperation. Deeper cooperation and collaboration among all stakeholders. Some stakeholders sometimes think that they can solve the problems by themselves alone. It is usually doesn't work. And it doesn't contribute to have a more secure and more trusted Internet. And concerted measures, measures that are taken without participation of different stakeholders, usually have unpredicted consequences and some risk to them. For example, the data localization, many Governments have promote or are considered measures for asking a business to store the data in their own countries. And it implies big investments and it is a barrier for innovations for newcomers to enter in the market because the money that they have to invest and so this is a measure that probably is based on good objectives and initiatives but the consequences that produce are negative.

By the way, we think that local costing is very good. And in fact, we have proved that in our local conferences in Rwanda but local cost issue be achieved through enabled environments and not through obligations. Other examples is that sometimes people blame Internet for things that are not classified as Internet. But classified by human interest. So all of us are very worried about terrorists. But it is clear that usually over regulating the Internet reduce our negative consequences. In our ability to connecting the people that is not connected. Collaboration is the center of everything involving all stakeholders, providing more stakeholder platforms and now my last comment is that very recently we have listed together the international society with the African union just two weeks the first infrastructure security guidelines. This is something that there is no precedence about -- this is the first time that this kind of guidelines are produced in a multi-stakeholder and open manner and I think that it could be some inspiration for work to be done in other regions. Thank you very much.

     >> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much. Very good points made there. I saw a statistic that around 35% of the world's population could be connected but they don't bother to be connected. A lot of emphasis on the need to make people aware of these advantages of connecting and make sure that there is the content there that is of advantage to them to connect and with the security collaboration that's the word I think that everyone is using more and more these days. We all need to collaborate better. Thank you very much for those points. Turning now to GeSI, globally sustainable initiative. I have Luis Neves the Chairman of GeSI and it is the climate protection officer for Deutsche Telecom. GeSI has a long collaborate ion with ITU. I am a member of the GeSI board. So it is somewhat of a rhetorical question to Luis. Could you give us your views on how this collaboration between GeSI and ITU has materialized and some examples of benefits of that collaboration and also recognizing that GeSI has many other partnerships, some examples of the benefits of working in collaboration with others Luis.

     >> LUIS NEVES: Thank you so much. Thanks for the invitation. We have extremely proud of supporting the WSIS Forum. And as well as we are proud of having a local relationship with ITU. It is interesting that the ITU is probably the most, the obviously event organization. GeSI is probably the youngest industry organization. We were created 16 years at United Nations environmental program as an industry initiative to promote the role of technology in

relation to sustainable development.

And since the very beginning we have the honor to have the ITU as a partner, later Malcolm sitting at GeSI and helping GeSI to promote this condition. As any other organization we grow of the but our core interest in business is really through partnerships, partnerships of different member. We have 40 global multi-national companies an members. But we have huge organizations as partners working with us, the ITU being one of them. United Nations framework for climb change, UNDP the world Business Council for sustainable development the world green building Council and others.

And it is through these dialogue this partnerships that we have been promoting our work. And our work is very much driven by promoting the role of technology to a better world. And we made the Sustainable Development Goals our overarching strategic direction and we have organized ourselves in relation to those 17 goals and 169 targets. We have three core areas of work. One that we call the industry responsibility. We understand that as an industry we have responsibilities and with our member companies with our partners we develop programs to support efficiencies in our supply chains and we just launched a new program called supplier development program looking at water efficiency, energy efficiency, Human Rights in the supply chain, child labor issues. So we are looking to all those areas as important areas to show how credible we want to be as an industry initiative. One very interesting area that has been touched by the previous speaker which is about security Human Rights, we have a special Human Rights program. We have been looking to the Human Rights guidelines and we are convinced that digital trust and responsibility will be one of the key challenges that we need to address. As industries we need to make sure that people trust what we do. And we also want to -- we need to be responsible in our actions. But more importantly and coming to the point that Malcolm was mentioning we are mostly known by our famous smart reports, the latest one smarter 2030 report launched last year. In that the follow-up very interesting report that was launched last year with WSIS Forum called hashtag system transformation where we showed the enable ing capacity of technology that promotes sustainable development. We are convinced that our technology commune information and communicational technology will be fundamental to address the environmental challenges, the climate challenges, and it will help people to have a better life. And both reports show amazing achievements from our industry, our technology could by 20% of the global

emissions up to 2030 we will be able to connect 2.5 billion people by 2030 and we can in terms of growth we can realize 11 trillion U.S. dollars in potential up to 2030. I don't know how many years are there but it is a big figure. It is equivalent to the GDP report China and the ITU has been a fundamental partner in this work. In all those reports not only the smarter -- the smart 2020 that we did before but other reports that we did or the together with the ITU I remember just to finalize my short intervention, that we started to work many years ago and I first met Houlin Zhao at the climate conference and since then we have been at every single climate conference promoting the role of technology in relation to sustainable development. We are very proud of this cooperation and we are convinced that partnerships are fundamental to make this world more sustainable and to make sure that we will live in a better world in the coming years. Thank you so much.

>> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much Luis and thank you very much for your cooperation with ITU. It is very good to have GeSI to get over the message to industry that their contribution to implementing the SDGs really makes good business sense and actually came up with figures to show the increase in the turnover that could be achieved through that. Mentioning private sector very pleased to move to private sector company, VEON and a former colleague, Tomas Lamanauskas, group director of public policy with VEON and nice to see you back here Tomas and the question we have what is needed to unleash the power of ICTs to accelerate the progress towards the SDGs and what is the contribution in this regard. Tomas.

>> TOMAS LAMANAUSKAS: Thank you very much and it is a pleasure to be here. And I think what I was mainly rejoicing being here is this community of ICTs optimists. We usually hear about fake news, hacking attacks, ran someware, terror attacks and sales of job loss because of automation and it is easy to believe that ICT is nothing more than an evil conspiracy that is here to destroy us all. As the force that can bring a development of the -- that we heard a lot this morning and not just harm that needs to be regulated and intrusive regulatory environments and with protection as policies. So this is the first step of things just to put that -- put a clear and strong narrative back on the table. It is just a start. We have a few other elements and very clear elements that we all need to work together. VEON is doing our part. Reducing ourselves as one saying -- saying that we are largest least known technology and communications

company in the world. So we do serve and we play our part in connectivity by serving 35 million subscribers across 12 markets, mainly emerging markets and most of them are -- we provide 4G networks and these are all our markets where permit us to do so. So in the connectivity work that we have all done, look across the world, the Mobile Broadband tripled (audio cut out)

And also enable more infrastructure players to adopt innovative deployment methods including network sharing. But as already Malcolm you mentioned that not everyone who is covered by network is using them and that's I think the role was mentioned before. And therefore infrastructure is clearly not enough. I very strongly agree with assistant Director-General Frank La Rue, it is about the networks but the content that's will be on those networks. It is very important to recognize. It is not just about any content. But about relevant content and relevant and local communities and individuals. And not -- it is impossible for a few global companies to fill the Internet with that and to give -- we need to empower everyone across the world not to be passive users and consumers and beneficiaries of that content but also active producers and participants in a digital development. Currently if we look around the world, around 95% of that economy is concentrated in ten countries. So how do you -- how do you unleash that? How do you unleash that Democratized development across the world. And a few enabling elements about digital finance and data frameworks are key for that. Any economy needs financial infrastructure. We cannot imagine how we can transact in a digital world that we cannot do digital payments. Still in some of the markets that we cover 98% of the transaction time catch. It is very difficult to unleash Digital Economy in such a context. We serve 48 million registered mobile financial users across the world. However in quite a few markets we still constrained by data policies. And in that way deprive quite a few people to build across the world from our ability to be included in digital financial ecosystem. Data, so I have a lot of -- all new digital business models depend on locking the value of it. However it is still in many countries we have our data or appropriate data protection frameworks. 108 countries don't have data protection frameworks at the moment. So that's the different clear and uncertain potential increases corporate first and consumer trust. However, of course, it is also important to avoid the swing in other directions and all mentioned data localization requirements and where we go from no regulation to very stringent regulation and harming ability

to do diblg tal business and UNCTAD statistics show by seeing cost increase by computing 30 to 60%. And these are some policy elements. However skills are also important. And we have been talking about skills quite a bit but think what is important now to recognize is that it is important to go beyond just our basic education skills or even technical skills to softer skills or -- including micro subcode, which include business administration, digital entrepreneurship. Only with these skills we can talk about the future and surviving future where fewer and fewer will be employees and more and more of us will be opening our own opportunities in the world in the digital world and where we see a lot of partnerships and we see our opportunities enabled by a platforms. We play our role in that also by -- through our groups make a mark program. To create and expand their businesses and in that way also resolve the challenges faced by their societies. Finally it is very important to recognize the digital transformation world actually transform their way we live our lives. It is not something that we can ignore. However I think it is very clear now that the only way to survive the turmoil is to embrace the progress. Again some statistics show that in the countries in emerging markets which are lower level of digitalization of 70% of jobs whereas more Digital Economyists only 6% of jobs are at risk. Only by moving towards digital world only by embracing it we can actually benefit from it rather than be harmed and bulldozed by. So this is also the -- that's why we also are here and that's where we also support WSIS because we think this Forum is essential platform for all of us to be together and for us to discuss opportunities and identify the risks but understanding them and finding a way to mitigate go tok to the few fur where we unlock opportunities for everyone. Thank you very much.
        >> MALCOLM JOHNSON: Thank you very much Tomas and thank you for that positive message and I think all the presenters are really shown us the importance of partnerships and collaboration. So thank you all very much. And I will hand over to the Chairman to conclude this session for us.
        >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. Thank you Malcolm. I want to thank the panelists if you want to join me in giving them a round of applause for a great job.
     (Applause.)
        >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: I listened carefully and I had the word partnership. I think the word that came up the most amount of times. I had innovation. I had participation. I had transformation. I had sustainability. I had digital

skills. And finally I had ICT is a first for good. So I
think on that positive note that this panel is concluded.
Once again and thank you for sponsoring the WSIS. Without you
this event would not be here in the first place. So thank you
so much.
   (Applause.)
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much for this. So
now we are moving to the next panel. We would like to one
more time thank you very much for the panelists for their
contribution and we are inviting the panelists of the next
panel to join the podium and while this is happening we would
like to use this time to announce the results of the Hackathon
of the the WSIS Forum 2017 Hackathon and photo contest.
Hackathon was held from Sunday to Monday with the tangible
results and this is our great pleasure to announce the results
just now.
      >> There were three winning teams. There were two prizes
that were awarded by the ITU to further develop the apps and
the two winning teams for that were team Norway who developed
an application on bridging the gap between folklore and fact.
Unfortunately they are not here. And the team Poland who
developed an application on connected health. We do have our
team from Tunisia that won the app awarded by IEEE. It is an
application that controls air pollution. Can we quickly
invite you to the stage?
   (Applause.)
      >> Thank you very much and congratulations once again to
the Hackathon team. They were awarded on Monday. This is not
awards ceremony but an announcement.
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: We would like to invite the next
speakers of the panel. We would like to invite Argentina,
Slovenia, India, Tunisia, UNAP and Azerbaijan. So we are
waiting here at the podium and in the meantime we would like
to present -- like o show you the photo contest results.
      >> Thank you Ladies and Gentlemen. For the first time
WSIS Forum and stock taking has been collecting success
stories from the ground using photography as the media.
Images show thousands of words and this would be opportunity
to see how ICTs are helping to advance sustainable development
goals and also like to invite all of you to visit the
exhibition of the photo contest that is positioned in the ITU
tower building and visit websites to see who are the finalists
of this photo contest. Three winning photos, the first one
coming from Bangladesh. Image titled digitally urs depriking
a group of women participating in a disaster training at night
and still have no electricity but that did not affect their

training as solar powered tablet devices were used. Next photo winner is from Mexico. ICT given as equal opportunities for an effective future rm displays an interactive session on the robotics which aims to give children insights and develop their ICT skills interest an early age. As a part of Mexico connect tablet project, present the example of program that benefits those who are less likely to have access to either connectivity or computers in their everyday life. And now third winning photo of this first ever photo contest WSIS photo contest was taken in Nigeria during the summary holiday camps for young students organized by the mine Africa organization for about 120 underserved students. And instructor leads students through a hands on demonstration and showing real life application of science technology and mathematics and I would like to visit you website and exhibition.

>> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you and this is the time that's we can hand over the floor to our Chairman. Mr. Chairman the floor is yours for the concluding panel on the SDGs and the WSIS.

>> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. Once again welcome to the panelists. We will want to try to make sh as efficient as possible, keeping in mind that we are running one hour behind time. So I want to kindly request my panel speakers to shorten our remarks. I will start straight away from Mr. Brahima Sanou who is the director of BDT. Mr. Brahima, 2017 is a special year for ITU development. What are your expectations towards the World Telecommunication Development Conference?

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Actually 2017 is a landmark in the development of the ICT sector. In October from 9 to 20th of October this year ITU will be organizing the World Telecommunication Development Conference in Buenos Airess in Argentina. You are all invited, of course, but the most important Mr. Chairman is that this is the first UN agency meeting at this level since the SDGs was adopted. And the theme of WTDC 17 is ICTs for SDGs. I think that this what we have been talking about since we started this Forum. ICTs for SDGs. ICTs for people because again even being a very technical organization we don't -- we are not planning to discuss only about technical issues when we get to Buenos Aires thanks to the invitation of the Republic of Argentina I have the Minister next to me, when you get there the issue for us is not to discuss about the bigger bites or discuss about software, hardware but talk, discuss about ICT for our people (bytes) ICT for our people.

For the people living in rural areas, how would we get those 2 billion people now to have access to financial services, how can you get them included. We talk about financial inclusion. How can we use ICTs for delivering health services when you look at what is happening in Developing Countries, education, how can we use ICT for all those SDGs in the way that we reduce the amount that is needed to fund the SDGs. Statistics, survey or estimations are made that we need 12 trillion to implement the SDGs. How can we make sure that we use ICTs not only to reduce the amount of to be spent but to get them on time and very quickly. So these are actually what we are expecting from WTDC. ICT for people, ICT for development. ICT for sustainable development. Then ICT for SDGs. Thank you.

        >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you Mr. Brahima. Let me turn to Mr. Boris Koprivnikar who is the deputy prime minute ser -- Mr. Boris digital technologies are evolving from e-digitalization to M which is mobility and more increasingly to S, smart and better.

    Is it possible to understand that also ICT is a public administration is following that trend? And also should ICT be in public administration, should it be centralized or decentralized concerning security, reliability and efficiency. What's your personal view and view from Sloveniana experience.

        >> BORIS KOPRIVNIKAR: Thank you for the question and invitation. ICT is becoming more and more popular --

        >> Microphone please for the speaker.

        >> BORIS KOPRIVNIKAR: Well, this is ICT is probably -- we have some problems here. We should turn it on. But as you said changes of technology of ICTs from let's say E, that we change everything that's in the electronic way, to M, then means that we can work anywhere from anyplace from any device and lately it is very important that ICT is S that means smart. We have around us a lot of tools, a lot of technologies, a lot of data which we have to use. And especially in public administration that our decisions are smarter, that they are evidence-based. That technology is supporting us. And as we see also in Slovenian Government, as we discuss with other Governments one the key problems is that the reaction of the governments that we are providing is not fast enough for the changes that we have in the environment. Government work will be more smart and connected to the solving the results. And by our experiences we strongly let's say recommend that Governmental info mattics should be centralize from the point of governing the process. Because it is like a nerving system and nerve system has to be

centralized and this has another possibilities that in centralized system you can better protect your data, protect your applications, and you can better use all the data and applications that you have inside the Government because you can interlink them in and interconnect them.

>> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Excellent. Thank you. Now on to Minister of communications from Argentina. Mr. Putting ICTs in line with your development and we also heard that Argentina will be hosting the development conference. ITU-D. What are your expectations?

>> OSCAR AGUAD: Thank you very much. I would like to thank the ITU for choosing Argentina this year to hold the World Telecommunication Development Conference in Buenos Aires in October. I invite all of you to Buenos Aires, we are waiting for you there, to continue discussing these themes that are so important to us. And on which so much our people are relying upon. Argentina is a country emerging economy, which has a number of challenges to access digitalization and modality with a number of people who are marginalized, who fall in to the digital gap. My Government has taken two strategies in order to try to bridge this digital divide. The first is to foster in the public sector an infrastructure of more than 36,000 fiber optic cables and with these fiber optic cables we are trying to reach the towns so that you understand, Argentina is a very particular country. It is a very vast with a number of national extensions with very few people in these areas. 70% of the territory are only occupied by 30% of the population. So this is what we have to address and through the fiber optic network we are able to administer through the state organization in Masat which has the satellite policy of the country in hand. And to have a satellite in Ba band K in this range and to bring Internet in most marginalized areas through in fiber optic network and to reach more than 2,000 rural schools who don't have access to any other type of Internet unless it is the satellite Internet provided. We also are asking calling upon the private sector to develop the mobile infrastructure throughout the country. There were three companies up to a year ago and we are going to integrate the fourth operator now and we hope that this won't be disruptive in the mobile telephony system.

And this will roll out the infrastructure network 4G infrastructure network throughout the country. We have until 2019 to do this. Connection Argentina is not good so that you have an idea of this, the main speed of the broadband is 3 mega throughout the country. And on top of this it is also very costly. Our challenge therefore is to address, to reach

in 2019 to reach a mean of 10 megabits in the most remote areas and more affordable prices for marginalized communities. Argentina has 30% poverty rate. 2 million people live in poverty and they have a number of challenges in order to access new technologies. We know that the main tool is education and that colleges who do not have connection to the Internet cannot integrate children in to the 21st Century. The challenge is enormous before us and we need everyone to help us. Also a challenge to organize this conference in October and an opportunity for Argentina to show the world and to show the world as we are a part of the global society and we would like to be involved in the best way possible. Thanks to the ITU and to its Secretary-General and to the head of the BDT Mr. Brahima Sanou and we are looking forwarding to meeting you in Buenos Aires in October.

      >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Now on to Manoj Sinha minute center of communication in India. When you move from MDGs to SDGs there is an increased focus on clarity and objects. India being a country of everything massive, with over 18% of the world's population what is India's thought process and action to take ICTs to the masses?

      >> Could we have the microphone, please?

      >> MANOJ SINHA: In recent times India the world's largest and vibrant democracy has been remarkable transformation in all walks of life. We are successfully leveraged ICT and over 1 billion cell phones for 50 million Internet users are engaging and transforming it in knowledge society and economy. Liberal and transparent provisions, stronger ICT infrastructure has created an ecosystem for growth of knowledge based industries including BPOs, KPOs startup ventures in all sectors of economy. This is -- this has led a strong Foundation for future economic growth and to provide states welfare services to most vulnerable. The general leadership of the Prime Minister has identified ICT as a keen enabler of governance based on the principles which means inclusive growth through collective efforts. Some of the key policy decisions under implementation includes broadband activity to over 250,000 elected bodies while indigenous developed gig ga bit optical network. 206,000 kilometers of optical fiber has been led and approximately more than 92,000 locally connected bodies are connected with fiber and over 100,000 WiFi hot spots and made to fully leverage infrastructure and enable resources in transparent manner. They state owned enterprises are used in providing ICT services in those areas which were left out. Developed unique I.D. system based on biometric identification is

proving pie votal and digital services in urban and rural areas. By bringing binding system in to 206 million benefitted from digital financial inclusion. Three inverse saved by direct transfers plugging the loopholes and replooi the to facilitate impairments with minimum in past. Create some national information infrastructure is on the top of Indian aJenned da and integrating all ICT infrastructure established by the Government of India and the states together. Novel network, gigabit network is connecting students, creating a collaborative platform. On national digital mission we have set a target to provide digital literacy training to 60 million rural households by 2019. Digital platforms such as national govern ance platform, marketplace are actively used by citizens, accountability over 150,000 are going to play an important role. Through digital India a campaigned launched by Government of India approach has been a great success story in ensuring that the Government services are met electronically. By improved online infrastructure. We wish to leverage it to build a truly knowledge based society. Thank you.

   (Applause.)

     >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. Thank you Mr. Manoj Sinha, Your Excellency. Let me turn to Mr. Excellency, advisor to the Minister of communications of Tunisia. What strategies does Tunisia have kernling the Digital Economy and in particular implications for the youth in Tunisia.

     >> HABIB DABBABI: I am Mr. Habib Dabbabi. I am the advisor to the Minister of ICT in Digital Economy. Excellencies, Mr. Jean Philbert Nsengimana, the Chairman of this Forum and Excellencies, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen, firstly I would like to convey the most sincere apologies from Minister, Minister of technology and Digital Economy who is not able to join us here today. At the same time owe case His Excellency would like to confirm the commitment of Tunisia in the partnership and -- as part of the WSIS Forum in order to guarantee the success of the world telecommunication development indicator conference that shall take -- which took place in Hammat, Tunisia last year. Tunisia is continued to provide the open regional initiatives. Over the last ten years an example of favorable platform of fostering engagement to reply to your question Mr. Chairman, we are part -- we have taken note of a number of observations. First of all, on the territory of the country of Tunisia, there is a digital divide. There is an inequality and disparity across the region and social injustice. Quality training in ICTs, there

are more than 12,000 qualified people to support 18 University
levels. We have an ecosystem which is trying to create and a
for a number of years we have set up more than 2,000 startups
and more than 20 accelerated incubator schemes. A brine drain
and Disapra which today is leaving the country and moving
abroad. The second observation is this in terms of
investments. Investment in infrastructure over the
telecommunications sector is not cities and diversification of
channels and especially the high speed Internet, Smartphones,
tablets, social networks, et cetera, have brought and have
transformed the perception of the market. Today today we have
a new economy and emerging markets to address the challenge of
innovation and cultural diversification of the knowledge.
Creativity and competitiveness and knowledge will motivate the
notion of economic growth. Real richness is immaterial. It
is an ability to innovate, to create concepts and ideas which
will give a competitive advantage which is critical for our
country. Knowledge based economy such as intellectual
artistic and intangible opportunities will give it economic
value to trade. Another observation in terms of markets for
specifically replying to your question on youth, a global
market which is a focus on the Digital Economy when we see the
capitalization which goes beyond GDP, of Saudi Arabia, which
goes beyond the GDP of Argentina. When the experts in 2020,
when we see that the Minister of foreign affairs is innovating
the creating of a new Digital Economy by giving a new Digital
Economy as Gafai, Amazon, Facebook and Google and Apple,
consequently Tunisia would be like to be part of Digital
Economy revolution. We have a digital plan, Tunisia digital
2020. Looks at four main pillars. Fir of these is
infrastructure. No transformation is not possible without
infrastructure. This is ambitious. We are looking towards
2020 for a connection across the Tunisian territory of 100%.
Another pillar towards the transformation of the
administration the digital transformation. In order to combat
corruption and increase capital for investors and for foreign
investors. The further pillar is smart Tunisia whose aim is
to foster Tunisia. The aim is to attract investors in order
to absorb -- critical pillar is this which is the very
backbone of our program which is the e-business pillar. To
boost the startup ecosystem and to be able to meet the needs
of our young people.
   Within our national strategy we have the startup youth
component. In order to transform the DNA of our African
continent as a center of excellence we are not going to change
the image or create investment if the resources are not

available. And the Minister has prepared a framework, a startup at law and we are currently working upon this of a fund of a hundred million Euros towards startup Africa to innovate. We stand convince -- this project has an African perspective to it and not only Tunisian aspect. That's why in May last year we aligned with smart Africa as proposing to be an incubator. Smartup Africa in the attempt to advocate the future champion of our continent. I stand convinced that one success story on youth and to really convey the ambitions of our young people. To conclude, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to take this opportunity to invite those countries, the private sector to participate in this smart Africa program. And at the same time to in March 2018 there is a big startup Africa in March 2018 this event will take place and I invite you to attend. And I thank you very much.

    (Applause.)

      >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. I will now turn to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Dr. Fatima Denton can ICT play in achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and what are the challenges or opportunities for wider ICT adoption in Africa.

      >> FATIMA DENTON: Thank you very much. I think I have just prefaced my intervention Excellency with a comment you made earlier in your closing remarks, when you talked about the importance of demonstrating what ICT can do rather than talking about it in the form of potential. I think it is important in Africa that we very much front load our communications narrative with success stories in terms of what we are seeing on ground and how ICT can actually enable the realization of sustainable development. It has also been said here that tech ecosystem is advancing at a very fast rate in Africa. And I wanted to point to three potential areas where I think ICTs and innovation and technology can help in revitizing African countries but also helping in terms of ensuring the same mantra of leaving no one behind. The first example when you talk about SDG 13 which is on climate action and I wanted to say that ICT is essential in enabling the predictive capabilities of families in helping them make some very strategic decisions on planting rg harvesting and storage and how they can increase their productivity. I think the on the climate change a Jen da in terms of adaptation and mitigation ICTs have a key role to play. They can support climate action in terms of averting sudden dangers set in disasters. This has been mentioned here today. Disaster Risk Reduction is costing economies billions of dollars. And if we can give farmers realtime data that would help them in terms

of predicting weather patterns I think that will go a long way in terms of reducing poverty. SDG 13 is one good example. In Malawi the deforestation policy, project that is training local communities and these local communities are trying to map their villages using GPS systems and this is in many ways helping to empower them and also to enable them to adapt use adaptation strategies. So GPS devices are already making a very dramatic change in Malawi in terms of deforestation. Also to mention that in Uganda in Kenya, in Senegal we have also even the application of innovative digital technologies such as web and Mobile Applications and this is helping small farmers in terms of adaptation. We have just come back from the ocean conference in New York which is about SDG 14 and about the conservation of marine ecosystems and here again I think that ICTs have a key role in terms of satellite monitoring, it is also going to help provide global data and I think this would also help in terms of enabling the analysis of weather patterns ecosystems as well as both in terms of adaptation and mitigation. And lastly I wanted also to talk about the aspect related to the importance for a sector in terms of greening our industrialization. We have come to the realization that we are not going to be able to sort of develop now and clean up later. We have to be able to do both in one stream and it is important that we now embrace green infrastructure. Green infrastructure meaning that we have to look at the entire value chain. We have to begin to climate proof our infrastructure and we have to also begin to green this infrastructure and this is especially important in Africa given that we are faced with a number of trends. Rapid organization and seeing Africa is the -- is rapidly organizing. We need to also think about this rapid organization, what is it going to mean for energy services, what is it going to mean for health services and how can we use innovations and ICT technologies in ensuring that we are thinking in terms of Smart Cities, smart buildings. And ways in which we can embrace the Digital Economy. I think I'll end there. Just to also say that as you know Kegali is again one of the African riding cities. We are seeing some ambitious national development plans. Has really supported a number of countries in Africa, all 54 countries of them in terms of developing their national strategies, the ICT national strategies because we believe that these are not changes that you can make at the margins. You have to start from a national development plan and national development strategies. So I'll end there, Chair.
          >> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. Last but not

least I want to bring in Mr. Idris Isayev, deputy Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population in Azerbaijan. Tell us what kind of skills can advanced Digital Economy and should digital literacy development be the priority for the future?

>> IDRIS ISAYEV: Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. But I want to introduce myself. I am Idris Isayev and Deputy Minister on transfer, communication, and high technologies of Republic of Azerbaijan and my colleague is Israel but today he represents our ministry which become champion on WSIS award. But on this panel participate me. And therefore I try to answer your questions. I will mention Azerbaijan now on the -- and the new stage of economic development and where see innovative development as mere priority of our diversification of our economy. And the same, of last year in Azerbaijan was adopted 12, 12 strategic roadmaps which covered all sectors of economy, and all these strategic roadmaps include short, middle and long term tasks. And all these strategic roadmaps intercorrelated for the innovative development of my country. Will create very modern infrastructure for development of all sectors. And thinking in our country, in my country we can create new possibilities for the implementation SDG and for that we firstly establish state commission which hidden by Vice Minister and included all ministries which are relevant to the SDGs. And secondly we think Government can play and must play a leading role on implementation SDG. And their own practice show to the other stakeholders good example for the implementation ICT for the reaching SDG. And secondly Government bodies can play a role of coordinator, maybe -- and create situation for the cooperation with other stakeholders. And this is very important. When government will open own sources, all resources, information resources as was mentioned previously here for startup of small medium entrepreneurs for creating new applications and others. We can create new environment for the implementation in different sectors of economy. For example, as was mentioned here agriculture may be another tourism sector another. Therefore in my country Government lead on this process and wherefor in strategic roadmaps and we adopted national strategy for the development information society in country and we create the all condition for all stakeholders for the cooperation. I think on this way we can reach strategic Sustainable Development Goals in the -- in each country, in the whole in the world. Thank you very much.

>> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you.
   (Applause.)

>> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. I see that we are running a bit behind time. I now wish to give you a chance to say a final word but allow me just to give it to my friend and since you are our host today, can you tell us just top three things that BDT is doing to drive the role of ICT for Sustainable Development Goals very briefly?

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is not easy to suggest three. You have so many things. And shortly. You ask me too much. But let me try it. I think that in addition to all the work we are doing in the ICT sector, ITU in particular in BDT we are now open areas of collaborative policy and collaborative regulation. In 2016 and 2017 we brought the Ministers of ICT to UNESCO to have a structured dialogue on how to use ICT for education. In 2016 we did the same with World Health Organization during the world health Assembly, we brought Ministers of ICTs to WH torques talk to the Ministers of health on how ICT can be used for health service delivery. We are also working with FAO, I mentioned already, of course, the digital inclusion, working with FAO to see how we can use ICTs for agriculture.

  So Ministers -- the following we need to enlarge this debate on ICTs to other sectors. I would like to see in this room here more and more people coming from other sectors than the ICT sector. Because we can continue to say ICT is good for health, good for education. This is my message at the same time. We are doing a lot of things. Since you are short of time I ask me to be brief. I will stop here. Let's try to have collaborative procedures and policies that ICT can use in other sectors.

>> JEAN PHILBERT NSENGIMANA: Thank you. I want to bring this panel to a close by thanking the panelists and I have heard the great wisdom that we need to put the people first and reduce the bill, 12 trillion SDG build and reach out to other sectors and from Slovenia that the Government needs to centralize and it is key for efficiency and security and reliability as we try to improve our public service delivery. From Argentina we had a big if he cuss on bridging the digital divide. And Tunisia we had digital talent is extremely important. That investment in infrastructure in to -- in innovation and job creation will drive the digital transformation. We have heard about smart Tunisia and the invitation to set up Africa is received and kindly accepted and we heard about the importance of ICT for climate action and adaptation. We heard the role of ICT for disaster risk reduction and industrialization and from Azerbaijan we heard about creating a conducive environment for the digital

transformation across the board and bringing all partners
together. Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me as we give a
warm round of applause to the panel and thank you so much for
your contribution.
    (Applause.)
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, one more
time thank you very much to the panelists of this powerful
session. And now dear Ladies and Gentlemen, we are moving to
the next concluding item of the Opening Ceremony and opening
segment. And awarding of the prize winners 2017 WSIS Forum
prize winners. Let me welcome in the room the ITU
Secretary-General of the ITU who will be awarding in a second
the prize winners. Let me recall that the WSIS Forum WSIS
prizes 2017 as every year and are following the competitive
process which starts already 7 to 8 months prior to the WSIS
Forum and out of the 500 submitted projects, 350 were
nominated and more than 1 million votes have been passed in
order to select the winners and as of then select the 18
winners of the WSIS Forum prize 2017 in the 18 categories
following the WSIS Action Lines. Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
and this is the time that we will be announcing the winning
projects for the 2017 WSIS prizes.
    For the category in the WSIS action line G1 the winning
project of the Government in -- is the stakeholder from United
Arab Emirates.
      >> (Speaking in a non-English language).
      >> Winner for action C2 is people's Republic of China,
organization China communications technology company limited.
    (Applause.)
      >> Global communication construction for 60 years.
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, the
winner for the WSIS action line C3, access to knowledge and
information, is organization from the people's Republic of
Bangladesh and Daisy standard accessible reading materials for
students with visual and print disabilities and the
organization is access to the information A2I, program of the
Prime Minister office.
    (Applause.)
      >> When my daughter was in class 1, she came to me and I
could not teach my daughter. And she could be seen and heard.
      >> Braille books are quite --
      >> Because we are skilled to -- now because of this
multimedia board we can study ourselves.
      >> What --
      >> Not only blind people by disabled or literate persons
and children can use this.

>> The winner for action line flex kal Ministry of Communications and transportation.
   (Applause.)
      >> (Speaking in a non-English language).
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: And the winner for the WSIS action line C5 building confidence and security in the use of ICTs is the project multimedia e-distance learning course on the safe use of the Internet resources and the organization is the Poploff international academy, Ukraine.
   (Applause.)
      >> The winner for action line C6 enabling environments is Egypt's national program for ICT accessibility in education with Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Communications and information technology, the Arab Republic of Egypt.
   (Applause.)
      >> (Speaking in a non-English language).
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: And the winner for the WSIS action line C7 in the category of the Government is the project led by the Government of the Ministers of the Republic of Taterstan of Russian Federation and winning projects of rendering of state and municipal states in electronic format.
      >> Thousands of citizens save their time with the portal of electronic state service. We help ourselves and relative to maintain our health. Thousands of people dedicate time to their families without being distracted by extra hassle.
      >> The winner for action line C7 e-business is the Republic of Singapore.
   (Applause.)
   (Music).
      >> And the winner for the WSIS action line C7 on e-learning project name e-learning and visual classroom system is the Kuwait University.
   (Applause.)
      >> The winner for action line C7 e-Health is informed and innovation socialization program at e-services of Cuba for public health. National Information Center of medical sciences Cuba.
   (Applause.)
   (Music).
      >>.
      >> JAROSLAW PONDER: The winner for the category WSIS action line C7, e-employment is the project social network for health, promoting hospital and the project winner is advanced info services from Thailand. Congratulations
   (Applause.)
   (Music).

>> The winner for action line C7 e-environment is green map Belarus, minute city of environmental resources and environmental protection, Belarus.
    (Applause.)
    >> (Speaking in a non-English language).
    >> JAROSLAW PONDER: And the winner of the category WSIS action line C7, e-agriculture is the rural support service from Republic of Latvia and for the project electronic application system.
    (Applause.)
    (Music).
    >> The winner for action line C7 e-science is communication technology and networking for development voice science products, Ghana.
    (Applause.)
    >> JAROSLAW PONDER: This project will be presented in a foorm mat of the movie and --
    (Talking at the same time).
    >> Behalf of the world science project. We have been involved in connectivity of research Institutes and Universities for the past 15 years inspired by the world Summit in 2005 and the only thing I would say that we are watching right now is we are kernled about what is happening to friendship in the new era and we have seen some evidence that friendship is on the decline. Thanks everyone.
    >> JAROSLAW PONDER: And the next winner of the category WSIS action line C8 cultural diversity and identity linguistic diversification and local content is the project of Turkso.
    >> More than 3.5 million people in Syria left their homes. They were not able to communicate with locals and neither did they have the ability to express themselves. As a telecommunication flag there we developed an application that helped the communication needs of refugees. Refugees in Turkey connected in the Turkish people and connected through life.
    >> The winner for action line C9 media is agri business TV, media production Burkina Faso.
    >> The challenge is that Africa is student is not interested in agriculture. It is a web and mobile application. Showing a more positive image of agriculture the aim is to increase engagement in the agricultural sector that will create more jobs and food security.
    >> JAROSLAW PONDER: C10, ethical dimensions of information society is the project from Republic of Indonesia and it is called ICT watch Indonesia.
    >> It is committed on the expression of and -- recommend

their movies and serious content and forecasting. Internet plan cities -- stakeholder engagement in this of local communities.

     >> And the prize for action line C11 international and regional cooperation goes to African school on Internet governance Association for progressive communication, Republic of South Africa.

   (Applause.)

     >> (Music).

     >> And the winner --

   (Music).

     >> JAROSLAW PONDER: And the winner of the category WSIS action line C1 the role of the Government and all stakeholders in the promotion of the ICT for development is the Kalifa empowerment program for students of United Arab Emirates. Congratulations.

   (Applause.)

   (Applause.)

     >> JAROSLAW PONDER: Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, now we would like to invite all prize winners to take the group photo with the Secretary-General and which will be followed by the group photo of all stakeholders present in this room. So please be prepared to approach the podium after the picture of the WSIS prize winners 2017.

     Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, and -- one more? And now this is the moment when we are requesting all stakeholders present in the room, yes. Yes. Now is the time for the group photo with all stakeholders. So therefore we are inviting all of you to join us at the podium and be prepared for the nice historic picture. This is the time to be part of the historic moment. We will have the prize winners and you are kindly invited to join the group photo. Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, please approach the podium because the time is gold today. Please, please join. Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, I still see some colleagues not aiming at the podium. So please this is the moment to join the group photo. Please make sure that you will see the camera in front of you.

   Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the last call for joining the picture. So please don't miss the opportunity. There is 20 seconds still. And everyone in this room is invited to join the group photo.

   Please know that we will not be repeating this picture. Therefore there is still ten seconds to join the podium and to be part of this history. 2017 WSIS Forum.

   Please make sure that you are documented on this historic picture.

>> Please everyone take -- gentleman in the white shirt and now in the gray suit, follow their instruction please. Thank you everyone.

>> JAROSLAW PONDER: Thank you very much for the -- for this and with this the opening segment is declared closed. Let me remind that there are two sessions happening in the premises of the ITU. There is also high level lunch which is for the invitation only. So please don't miss the opportunity to join the two sessions at the ITU premises. Please also note that afternoon we are not meeting in this premises. We are meeting in the ITU tower room Popov and room C. We are kindly reminding -- champions and winners WSIS project prizes to be here and looking forward to seeing you in the event soon. Thanks.

   (Session concluded at 13:35 p.m. CET)

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