



Israel (State of)

H.E. MK Ayoob Kara,  
Minister of Communications

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

It is my honor to address this Plenipotentiary on behalf of the State of Israel. I wish to thank the government and the people of the United Arab Emirates for their hospitality.

We thank the ITU, under the outstanding leadership and inspiring vision of Secretary General Zhao, for its important role in promoting international cooperation.

The rapid developments in the ICT sector continuously transform the world and our way of living. Today's challenges include Internet availability and access for all, fostering ICT's for education, agriculture, health, commerce, business and solutions for Smart Cities.

As a leading country in Innovation and ICT, Israel introduced in 2012, a first time ever, UNGA (UN General Assembly) resolution entitled "Entrepreneurship for Development". This resolution promotes entrepreneurship and innovation in developing countries, which serves as a growth engine, creates jobs and empowers people, especially women and youth. This resolution is part of



Israel's contribution to the global efforts to achieve the SDG<sup>1</sup> and the objective of bridging the digital-divide as a major step towards establishing a truly global information society.

Towards this end, Israel is a small country that enjoys an advanced ICT market with an advanced and transparent e-government system and a dynamic market economy. Israel will continue to share its experience and best practices in ICT capabilities and its success in building a vibrant information society and Hi-Tech Economy through capacity-building and training programs in developing countries.

Today's information society creates not only opportunities but also new challenges. Our national ecosystem revolves around the dynamic cooperation between all the relevant players. Our goal is to develop human capital and advanced solutions.

Our regulations intend to removing the last barriers from our fixed and wireless markets in order to promote investments in advanced technologies and endorse a competitive market, where consumers will enjoy its benefits.

Mr. Chairman,

Children are the future of the world and the inclusion of ICT in early childhood education is an important tool for their advancement. The civil society in Israel



is an important stakeholder in realization of advancement of children through ICT capabilities.

I consider the peace and co-existence between the people of our region as a major priority for Israel. That includes enhancing the economic relations which will benefit all parts.

With regard to our relations with the Palestinian people in the telecommunications sector, we believe that the bilateral mechanism provided by the Interim Palestinian-Israeli Agreement, is the most appropriate and effective way to discuss and resolve all issues between the two parties.

In this respect, I am glad to note the substantial progress in the Palestinian economy including its telecommunications market and the successful deployment of 3G in the West Bank, as well as 2G in Gaza Strip. We are meeting our Palestinian counter parts in a productive atmosphere and continue to discuss the introduction of advanced technologies in the West bank, as we are reserving the frequencies for their future use, and the operation of 3G in Gaza. There is more to be done, and Israel will continue to assist the Palestinians in that regard. We welcome the continuation of such meetings aimed at achieving constructive progress and fruitful results.

Finally, I wish all of us productive discussions on the important outstanding issues instrumental to the success of the PP-18 that will no doubt contribute to the future architecture of the ICT world.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.