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     High-Level Policy Session 9: Inclusiveness, Access to
Information and Knowledge for All/WSIS Action Lines and 2030
Agenda/Bridging Digital Divide.
     >> KE GONG: Shall we start?
     >> Yes. It is 10:00. You may begin.
     >> KE GONG: Okay.
     Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, good day.
Welcome to the 9th session of the high-level political
session, High-Level Policy Session 9: Inclusiveness, Access
to Information and Knowledge for All/WSIS Action Lines and
2030 Agenda/Bridging Digital Divide. I'm Ke Gong, I'm the
immediate past President of the World Federation of
Engineering organizations, WFEO, which is the world's largest
engineering family consisting of more than 100 national and
international continental engineering organization,
representing tens of millions of engineers worldwide. We
strive to accelerate the implementation of SDGs by
engineering.
     As you know, the WSIS is aimed to build a
people-centred, inclusive, development oriented Information
Society for all. This session will focus on WSIS action
lines and the 2030 Agenda implemented to achieve the
inclusive access to information and knowledge for all. We
will share good practices and further identify pressing
challenges and fresh ideas to bridge the digital gap and to

connect the unconnected.

First, please permit me to reiterate the rules of the procedure. First, the session format is panel discussion. We have eight panelists from different parts of the world. Every panelist has 5 minutes, 5 minutes only to answer my questions and we encourage all participants to actively pose your questions and make your comments using the chat function provided on the lower part of the Zoom screen and we will collect all of your inputs. If time permit, I will ask the panelist to answer some of your questions from the online participants at the end of the session.

Finally, I ask all panelists to send your statement as soon as possible after the session directly to the WSIS Secretariat. Your statement will be published in the WSIS Forum 2022 policy session outcome document.

Now before the panel discussion, please allow me to invite the WSIS action line facilitator Dr. Marielza Oliveira, Director of a partnership and operational prom monitoring at the communication and information sector of UNESCO to introduce the session and how the action lines being implemented, especially by UNESCO.

The floor is yours.

>> MARIELZA OLIVEIRA: Thank you, professor Ke Gong. It is a great pleasure to be with you. This is a very important session, digital technologies have really had a transformative impact on our lives and much of it is actually due to how the Internet has expanded access to information and knowledge.

Just like in the last two years, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic we have had an additional 782 million people coming online. Digital technologies have actually made us more resilient to this crisis and whether or not we're connected to the Internet we have all benefited from our global knowledge society. The problem is that digitalization is not really benefiting everyone equally. Two main digital divides still prevent some individuals and communities from accessing the knowledge.

We have human centred connectivity due to the many pair years preventing people from actually accessing the information online. Second, inequal capacities for social value from the digital data in a responsible, ethical, safe way. The digital divides really impoverish all of us depriving societies from access to information and knowledge that for now has to exist outside of the digital spaces. The opportunity costs for the global economy and for the global comments is enormous. We all benefit if people have full access to information resources and is empowered to play an active role in the generation and exchange of knowledge. This is what we're going to be talking about today.

For UNESCO, we work to address the divide, preventing the great gap that exists between the under connected and the fully digitized from widening and exacerbating the existing

inequalities.

Digital ecosystems actually also have their downside, and because of that, we also work to mitigate the risks brought about by the expansion of the ecosystems and platforms, such as the erosion of the freedom of expression and the models that ex clues or vulnerablize the exposed groups and cyber risk, cyberbullying, hate speech, disinformation. Rashid Almemari a lead facilitator to several WSIS action lines, we place the empowerment and wellbeing at the centre of how digitalization evolve, our vision is to harness the digital technologies for the public good, leverage them to peace, pros pacerty, people, the planet. We work with partners to advocate for meaning. Connectivity that closes digital gaps, rural, gender gap, other, the 2.9 billion people still needing connectivity and millions more that need access at broadband speeds and affordable devices and data packages. A key element is generating evidence to underpin the decisions on the Internet development. The Internet universality roam principles, Human Rights, openness, accessibility, multistakeholder participation, they were endorsed in 2015py the Member States and underpin the national assessments that lead to recommendations in policy decision force humanistic development of digital ecosystems. 44 countries that have adopted this framework already.

We also promote access to information through legal guarantees to the right to information and the effective implementation. An important aspect of this work is research on a specific element of cyberspace accessibility, including technology enabled access for Persons with Disabilities and aging citizens and multilingualism in cyberspace to underpin and refine policies for digital inclusion.

For example, there are 7061 languages used in the world and less than 300 languages can be actively used online. Digital platforms lack even the ability to read the characters that compose the language's scripts. These issues are addressed by the information for all programme which prioritizes research that leads to policies on information for development, information literacy, information ethics, information accessibility, multilingualism and information preservation.

We also act as a capacity building network equipping key actors such as judge, teachers, others to take action at scale.

A final action line for UNESCO to call attention to, building the skills and competencies for young people, raising awareness of new technologies, as well as fostering their interest in capacities to contribute to the development and ensuring that the users of the digital ecosystems are equipped to safely access and process online content, contributing to combating disinformation, hate speech and extremism. We will advance faster if they engage in

international cooperation to exchange ideas and learn from
best practices being adopted with respect to the development,
use and governance of the digital technologies. That's why
we're a strong supporter of the WSIS process and I hope that
we discuss the elements of accessibility and connectivity and
access to information today in this session.
     Thank you very much.
     The floor is yours again, sir.
     Thank you, professor, Ke Gong.
     >> KE GONG: Thank you. Thank you, thank you
Dr. Marielza Oliveira.
     Your insightful statement is very encouraging to the
discussion we're going to have. We have mentioned not only
the con connectivity, the capacity, you have mentioned the
meaningful connectivity, the ethical access to the
information and so on, so forth. It is challenging problems
that we're facing now today.
     Now we switch to our panelists. First, the first
panelist, it is Mr. Shyam Sunder Sikder, the Chairman of the
Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.
     Sir, I would like to ask you, what do you think is a
reason of the digital divide? Especially what are the
challenges in terms of accessibility, affordability, open
access to knowledge, archives in the Developing Countries and
what do you suggest to overcome this?
     Another question is, what are you doing in Bangladesh to
bridge the digital divide? What lessons other developing
countries can take from the experience of Bangladesh.
     Mr. Shyam Sunder Sikder.
     >> SHYAM SUNDER SIKDER: Thank you, Ke Gong, thank you to
the distinguished panelists.
     I think that the reasons for digital divide, it is lack
of connectivity, lack of proper contents to attract user,
lack of ability -- availability of smart devices and the ICT
literacy of users in the rural areas. Absence of affordable
network.
     According to ITU data, still only 44% of people are
using the Internet in developing countries. In LDCs, only
17% of the rural population live in areas, one in four in
rural areas, it discourages the operators to invest for
Telecom and broadband network, government support is required
for regulation for the economic development and activities.
Despite efforts to make public services available online in
the most convenient manner with the lack of proper contents
to attract individuals to broadband network in the rural
areas.
     There is still limited penetration of the smartphones in
the rural areas. ICT literacy and comfort of people plays a
good part of the low adoption rate. Lastly, unless there is
a suns died network built by the government, affordability is
a problem in most rural and remote areas and it forces many
people to use the broadband service in shared manner and they

don't fill the requirement for the superior equipment for themselves.

For addressing all of these challenges in bringing every citizen under broadband network we should make the broadband service affordable for all. In Bangladesh, we have introduced one country, one rate for the mixed broadband services so that the people in the rural areas are not discriminated with the high prices.

Moreover, we work with collaborators to make the broadband practices more user friendly and transparent and as a result they simply over hold the whole Internet scenario is clouding the practices. Secondly, we have been working to make smartphones more affordable to rural populations.

In Bangladesh we have given permission to 16 companies with the smartphones. In addition to providing incentives for infrastructure, we have planned alternative means in collaboration so that people can buy smartphones more easily and with less financial commitment.

We have continuously -- we are continuously trying to implicate areas to dry test for the network that needs to be enhanced and directing the operators to develop or to improve within this mark and we're addressing the tolerance solution issue with the border area due to the recent decision many people living in the border districts would be able to join quality mobile broadband services.

Next, we have been building robust and redundant fiber networks and the government has invested a lot. We also need to work with the private operators so that such network is built with sustainability with connectivity and redundancy.

For quick, efficient implementation of these plan, the government sectors must be strengthening to the use of evidence-based processes.

Lastly, it is not only the government, but the private sector also should come forward with people oriented and localized content that will create demand for using broadband services for people in the rural areas. If we become successful in these efforts I am confident that we can easily and quickly bridge the digital gap across the economic classes and regions.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: Thank you very much, Shyam Sunder Sikder.

So practices and lessons, it is meaningful I think for all developing countries to have to penetrate the rural area, so on.

Now I turn to Dr. Vaghele, the Chairman of the Telecom regulatory of authority. We have heard a lot about the initiative, the digital India. I want to ask you, how is India accelerating the paste of adoption to digital technology? And the second is, the latest technologies are making transformative changes in society how are you ensuring that the technologies help with digital inclusion.

>> P.D. Vaghela: Thank you. India has taken ICTs and

measures to foster the use of digital technologies, coming to connectivity, Indy has robust rules which have been rolled out recently in the national portal with the telecommunication sectors. We're reducing the cost.

We have come out with a project to provide broadband connectivity to all the 600,000 cross India by using these technologies. And universal service obligation fund, this helped us to create and deliver an infrastructure to unconnected areas to islands and others.

Coming to affordability, India has a policy framework of sharing infrastructure at all levels. That actually has reduced the cost of the infrastructure by the Telecom. Moving forward, we have now introduced a cooperation policy and that will help us to come up with Telecom infrastructure which can serve the Telecom industry. We have started to collaborate with regulators like airport, Smart City, highways, creating these paths that will be important and many states, they are looking to mobiles and last but not least, rural and urban areas, who have access to, almost 400,000 community service centres for Internet access for online services, including banking. Coming to accessibility, we're looking at an interoperable network and are looking for the connectivity, we have digitally empowered the society and allowed the government agencies to come out with applications to provide online services for citizens in the digital mission that will be with rural households and digital spaces and we have 40% of the rural households already trained. This will have significant digital included, we have improved that 80 times since 1997, the Internet subscriber reached to these levels and in the last few years, most important, the Internet subscriber, it has shown a growth of 152%.

The data has fallen to 1.3 U.S. dollar per gigabyte.

The next question, normally, it is said that the introduction of new technology, it is at the exclusion of some people and however we are planning the intervention in forward looking regulations and new technologies can accelerate the digital inclusion. For example, particular sectors, they have had the creation of an interministerial group and they're implementing plans to include and increase the digital inclusion as well as IT and the ministry is great for start-ups and identification of propagation of cost effective use cases. Based on our recommendation, policy framework end-to-end, this is an issue and this is likely to encourage smaller players in the whole ecosystem to bring down the cost and make services more affordable. Smart devices and new applications will lead to online services brought by private sectors and remote areas. We have mobile manufacturing and we have a net exporter of mobile and bring down that cost in India, especially as part of the digital media programme, they have developed a payment interface and transforming the way that digital payments in India is made including all sections of the society and we have had

5 billion transactions and nearly 9 million-dollars, and
we're helping developed nation force the adoptions of these
low cost solutions.

Thank you very much.

>> KE GONG: Thank you, thank you, Dr. Vaghela.

May I ask again, I have not noted you have mentioned a
lot of centres have been established. Could you repeat the
number of the service centre?

>> 400,000.

>> KE GONG: 400,000.

>> Yes. Yes.

The rural area, many people, they cannot afford the
Internet services, they have the access to the service,
online from the government and for the private sectors also.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: That's very good.

Thank you so much.

Let's move to Mr. Wa from Mauritius, a small island
country. He's the Chairman of information and communication
technologies authority, ICTA, Mauritius.

>> DICK CHRISTOPHE NG SUI WA: Good morning.

>> KE GONG: I would like to ask you two questions.

>> DICK CHRISTOPHE NG SUI WA: Yes.

>> KE GONG: First, how does Mauritius and your
organization, ICTR, promote digital inclusiveness and tackle
the constraints, challenges of the digital gap in your
country in Mauritius?

The second question, what are the main pillars of the
ICTA regulatory action to embark on Digital Transformation
strategy towards digital inclusiveness for Mauritius for
everyone in Mauritius?

>> DICK CHRISTOPHE NG SUI WA: I will try to answer you
in five minutes.

>> KE GONG: Please.

>> DICK CHRISTOPHE NG SUI WA: I Thank you for giving me
the floor and I would like to thank you, all of the Chairman
regulators and all participants, ladies and gentlemen, and I
see India, we have signed an agreement between India and
Mauritius.

In the spirit of digital inclusion, the ICT authority of
Mauritius, it has engaged with a number of concrete actions
to bridge the digital divide in Mauritius and this indeed, we
fully align with the tag line of a World Telecommunication
Development Conference being held soon in Rwanda, Africa,
leave no one behind. As we are here to serve a nation and to
serve a country, we have to offer an essential service from a
strategy, inclusion, innovation and good governance.

In my view, the best way to deliver an ICT regulator is
to come up with tangible outputs for specific projects and
level the playing field measures for the operators as well as
for implementation of measures of government policy and
tendering the advice to policymaker on ICT regulatory issues.

With this in view, the ICT authority has been funding a variety of projects and that's universal service fund in order to foster digital inclusiveness for all citizens in Mauritius, indeed the universal service fund is one of the key financing mechanism used to connect and serve in underserved areas where there is density nor capital for Telecom operators to justify private sector infrastructure investments.

     This is managed by our authority in line with international trends to make universal services more specific by targeting the real needs of the underserved. Establishing and managing the USF is a statutory duty of the ICT of Mauritius and the information and communication technologies act of 2001. The rule of this and the body's commitment to enhance the digital inclusion in a rapidly evolving from concerted efforts of social regulation. Mauritius is made up of several islands and the two main inhabited dependencies, the main one is located at 560 kilometers east of Mauritius and has a population of around 42,000 people. The other, located about 1,000 kilometers north of Mauritius and has a population of around 300. The authority has in 2012 acquired a 118 megabit per second satellite connection through the universal service fund and that companies capacity was increased in in 2013 with an additional megabit per second connection and in 2017 the satellite capacity between Mauritius and others averaged 425 megabit per second.

     Now, it needs to be noted, but to be served by an under sea cable that connects the island, satellite connectivity has been provided between the areas and mobile network which have been set up for the UCF from 2017 and the authority is also funding the setting up and the operation of digital service centres in post offices around the island so, far, 99 post offices in Mauritius. This service allows those visiting post office to access the Internet free of charge. The latest project of national importance implemented by the ICT, it is the free wi-fi project across the country and we have selected 243 spots in Mauritius to give free wi-fi. It was successfully launched last Friday in fact by the Prime Minister in a village which is a very remote village in the South of the island of Mauritius and we have about 1,000 inhabitants and they didn't have access to Internet. This project has been managed by a governmental decision of cabinet of Ministers to set up wi-fi facilities free of charge effort public in major public areas such as traffic centres, hospital, municipalities, counsels with the aim of reducing the digital divide and further promoting connected communities.

     The project of the free wi-fi through the country is funded and managed and the local operators to the IC T Sector contribute.

     In June of last year, the ICT authority under section 16 of the ICT act carried out and procured the submission of the

proposals for Internet services licenses to make available free wi-fi service to all users in 234 identified sites in Mauritius. We're planning that that will be fully operational by October of this year, the launching of the project in a village mean as lot to us and testifies of our determination and commitment to ensure that the most remote villages of the country are covered with Internet and have free access to it.

Now, strengthening the regulatory framework in the ICT sector of Mauritius, it is a major challenge but I believe it has been successfully tackled by the ICT under my chairmanship as a necessary backbone of digital inclusiveness in Mauritius from a regulatory point of view.

This policy has to be supported and developed into a number of pillars.

The second question, what are the main pillars of ICTs regulatory action for Digital Transformation strategy for digital inclusiveness for Mauritius. In terms of the regulatory actions, the ICT has been working hard to keep the sector growing, at the same time, ensuring the proper regulation, between 2020 and 2021, despite the pandemic, broadband Internet in Mauritius increased from 1.6 million to 1.7 million and mobile subscription increased from 1.9 million to 2 million for a total population of around 1.3 million people.

We have also embarked on reforming the licensing and the contribution regimes. The contribution is currently still based on roaming and in coming in the international revenue, the two revenues, the streams, they're at stake with the advent made by the over the top application.

Hence, we have made the recommendation for the contribution. With the licensing regime, a modernization has been long overdue, we're working on it, we have a policymaker to ensure -- and the government -- to ensure the investment momentum in the sector is not far off.

The mandate, I have been given -- giving special collaboration to the collaborative. role that we have in this environment. Both internationally and locally. As such, we have worked with international regulators as well as as local regulators in the sector. At international level, I would just mention it, we have signed MOUs recently, with our friend, Republic of I wanted I can't and others and we're looking to sign more agreements of this type with the French regulators as well as whom we met in February of this year.

We are planning to develop corporation with regulators of the African continent because we're part of the African continent and we have one of the leading roles in Africa and we intend to keep that position.

Satellite and 5G connections are major areas where the ICTA is involved in support of a digital promise and it will innovate and progress and drive investments and bring essential technologies and services to more citizens, and we

have been proactive and we have a huge license to a free mobile national operators last year.

The authority will be actively working together with other members and groups to obtain new satellite positions in the space for Mauritius and this will enable Mauritius in the future to have its own satellite in this space.

In this effort to support the digital inclusiveness strategy for Mauritius we have been tasked with fulfilling and balancing the stakeholders expectations against the backdrop of technological and service convergence to sustain a heavy development of ICT sector. The whole mission of the ICT operations of Mauritius is geared to ensuring the benefits of any measure implemented in this sector effectively with the Mauritius citizens in the spirit of digital inclusion.

I will stop here and thank you for the time.

>> KE GONG: It is very impressive, you have done so much in Mauritius. Let's turn to Dr. Xie Cun from China, he's Director General of the Department of ICT development, Ministry of Industry and information technology, China.

As we know, China has had a very fast pace of development and with special investment to the emerging technologies, especially ICT. Now I would like to ask you to introduce the development of the fifth generation 5G of mobile communication in China and what relevant measures will be taken to promote the 5G development in the future.

The second question is, could you please introduce how China has bridged the digital divide to achieve broadband access to all villages and provide universal service for all.

>> XIE CUN: Thank you, professor, thank you for the question.

China is promoting the construction of new infrastructure, including 5G networks in the moderately forward looking manner.

By the end of the first quarter this year, China had deployed 1.55 million 5G stations, networks covering all cities and urban districts in the counties and 87% of the township areas.

The subscribers, they have 403 million, and China is actively promoting the innovative application of the 5G, with this approach to promote 5G construction through the 5G application and other 5G construction or application simultaneously.

By now, the 5G application computation has been felt in China by attracting the participation of 20,000 project from different manufacturing, transportation, so on enabled by the 5G and other new generation technologies. The smart factories and the remote diagnosis and other modules are applied which has the Digital Transformation of the production and the lifestyle and the contributions to the economic recovery and inclusive advisement.

Next, China will promote the construction of 5G network

and further to reach the 5G application module such as 5G and industrial Internet, 5G plus smart education and other applications to facilitate the Digital Transformation of the economy and the society.

China has already launched the 5G computation with international track and we work on the active participant of all partners worldwide.

China will continue to strengthen the cooperation with other countries to build a better ecosystem for 5G and to share the development.

As for the universal telecommunication service, China is making efforts to bring the telecommunication services to everyone and reduce applications costs in achieving the commitment to provide people with successful, affordable, high quality information services. China has launched a pilot project for the telecommunication services and the country is connected by broadband through the first time in history and to achieve the same network and the same speed in both rural and urban areas.

Today mobile funds have become a new tool to us, streaming is a new activity and this is a new farming resource.

Enabling all people to get on the digital train and we have nearly 100 million people in the rural areas in China and People with Specific Needs such as rural households living in poverty and the people with disability. China has carried out targeted reduction projects to improve the affordability of telecommunication services and at the same time, China is promoting the transformation of the websites and they are essential for the convenes of the digital life in order to better meet the new expectation and the needs of the people, China will continue to promote the universal telecommunication services, improving the inclusiveness and the equalization of the telecommunication services and contribute to the ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: Thank you. Thank you. Now let's move to engineer Hasanul Haq Inu from Bangladesh, Chairman of the parliamentary standing Committee for Ministry of Information and broadcasting and Chairperson of the Bangladesh Internet Governance Forum.

My question to you, it is the following: First, how do you ensure inclusiveness and access to information in achieving SDGs and how do you play a role in bridging the digital divide as Chairman of the Bangladesh Internet Governance Forum and Chairman of the parliamentary standing Committee for the Ministry of information and broadcasting.

>> HASANUL HAQ INU: Thank you very much. Dear participants, for inclusiveness, access to information, I would like to say that our Prime Minister in 2009, January, the first job, it was to ensure access to information. For that, the right to information act 2009 was enacted in

Bangladesh. This law helped every citizen of the country to ask for better information than the government was currently doing. That is working there, if the government officials, if they fail to give information in proper time, then the person is being taken to the platform while the Commission has this, all of the area, especially the television and the online media has been given in the private sector. Also, the community review, it is functioning in the rural sector, in private rhythms, so rural voices ensure, TV and radio is functioning in the private secretary, online web portals, television, they're functioning I loud to function in the online sector, and, the government is ensuring the public services online.

Again, open and participatory processes and perspectives for the data protection and privacy act, eCommerce act, online web portals like that, any law regarding the online digitalization process, it is enacted in the parliament through the participatory process.

Besides that our 939, it clearly ensures Rights of citizens to freedom of speech and expression and freedom of press, in many Constitutions it is not there and we have.

Then to bridge the digital gap, we need to look to this and all actions need to be linked to SDG and all laws need to be seen on the Human Rights.

We have to bridge the gap, one country, one broadband, we have set up the digital information centres and the price of the smartphones are reduced as we started producing in Bangladesh, the smartphones, they're produced in Bangladesh and they have affordability. Remote areas, wetland, they're connected by satellite to Internet and the dedication to ensure more affordability, all of the village schools are extensively having the digital connections so that the children are familiar with the ICT. And we need to upscale, mid scale, upscale, to equip the industrial manpower to know the emerging technologies.

Next, in this era, Bangladesh government has used Internet in a massive way, it is used in health sector, it is used in delivery of social sectors to the beneficiaries. My recommendations now, to bridge the gap for inclusiveness, I recommend cyber literacy should be a prime target to make everyone an E. citizen. Next, Internet should be considered a Human Rights and should be clouded in the Constitution so that the state is bound to ensure Internet to all citizens. That will enhance inclusiveness and to manage the social media, there -- this is very important just so that the social media, it is not refused to citizens. In Bangladesh, courts are addressed for misuses of cyber spaces and this is the situation in short.

I think Bangladesh is progressing towards bridging the digital gap and also is working for inclusiveness.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: Thank you. Thank you.

Now let's move to Dr. Ismail Ismail. Ismail Ismail is the Director General resource management and equipment of post and informatics, Ministry of Communications and informatics, Indonesia.

Doctor, I would like to ask you two questions: The first, what are the strategies of Indonesia government to bridge its digital divide? The second, what has the Indonesian government done accomplished to overcome the digital divide issues?

>> ISMAIL ISMAIL: Thank you honorable panelists and participants.

We believe that bridging digital divide is a very important in order to have the Digital Transformation in Indonesia. Indonesia has launched a roadmap on digital Indonesia 2021 to 2024 to provide guidance for the governments and all stakeholders to transform to a fully connected digital society. Indonesia focuses on four strategic sectors. Our targets in digital Indonesia roadmap 2024 are creating 2.5 million jobs, digitalizing the 50% of small, medium enterprises that contribute to 60% of national GDP, increasing national GDP up 1% and promoting the growth of 5,000 start-up companies. The Indonesia government believes that bridging the digital divide is a key factor to accelerate the Indonesia Digital Transformations. This is through the development of equal digital infrastructure nationwide, improvement of digital literacy and support for local content application development.

One of the key important strategies is the position of government rule. Now the Government of Indonesia not only as regulators, but there are billions of dollars to speed up the development of infrastructure especially rural areas.

Of course, we're not aspirators, but once we have the infrastructure, we will operate with operators to operate this infrastructure. The keyword, it is how to speed up. We cannot just wait for universal service obligation and government has spent billions to need up this infrastructure.

The second question, how is the Indonesia government going to overcome the digital divide issues. We believe that the development of robust infrastructure of information, communication, digital technology is important conditions with the connectivity of Indonesia. Considering the diverseness of peoples, as well as the Indonesia's unique country, currently we build infrastructure for connectivity supported by three layers, first one is backbone layers with more than 3,000 already in place build of national optic network and governments support more than 12,000 kilometers in very difficult areas.

The middle layers, there is a huge capacity of the connectivity. As you know, we cannot build only focused on fiberoptics but the complementary with the satellite, it is a must for Indonesia populations. We build 1.150 gigabit per seconds of capacities and to process now. By the end of 2023

maybe one of the biggest satellites will be here.

The next one, we support 500,000s of BTS for GTPS for 12,000 villages in Indonesia. The expense of the digital development supported by those three layers of infrastructure may accelerate the fulfillment of the government's goal of providing Internet access throughout Indonesia by 2022 which is ten years earlier than the original target in 2032. The government will also provide essential Internet access in 13,000 medical facilities across Indonesia by the end of 2022. We're five years ahead of the original target in 2027, through the development of digital satellite Indonesia, the Digital Transformation would be able to connect unconnected and leave no one left behind.

Honorable panelists and participants, the digital ecosystem must be supported, not only to the development of digital infrastructure but also through the improvement of digital talent as facilitated in the digital literacy and capacity areas.

We have continually conducted digital development through comprehensive programme with the digital skill layer, the basic skill, intermediate skill and advanced skill.

Finally, in conclusion, bridging the digital divide through the acceleration of the Digital Transformation requires comprehensive strategies in developing equal digital infrastructure, strong digital governance, a supportive digital ecosystem and we will take advantage of the digital technology in order to improve the quality of people's life.

The key to achieving those strategies, they can be achieve through ensuring equal, accessible, affordable coverage and digital connectivity.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: Thank you. Thank you so much.

Congratulations to your achievements.

Now let's move to Dr., of law in India, I have only one question to the professor, it is with more cybersecurity legislations and policies implemented worldwide what, are the impacts of this on the development of ICT technology?

>> Pavan Duggal: Thank you.

I will answer that question request some slides.

I think some things are very, very clear. The first thing that is clear,s that we're sitting in an ecosystem with the data economy, it is the new economy and this new economy, cyberattacks, it is the new foundational pillar of our existence. COVID-19 has actually ushered in the golden age of cybercrime and the breaches are going left, right, centre.

Cybersecurity is today an important buzzword and the aspects of the Internet regulation of cybersecurity have not been fully addressed and require more attention.

With the international scenario is, we find that there is no one international cybersecurity place, no wonder dinner countries have already begun to start coming up with their own distinctive legal frameworks and national laws on

cybersecurity. The list of countries, China, Vietnam, Singapore, Australia, it is continuously growing as countries are coming up with new dedicated laws on cybersecurity regulation. There are challenges however. Cyberattacks, cyber threats, they're rising. Ransomware has become the number one concern as far as stakeholders and governments are concerned. On top of it, breach of cybersecurity, it is often leading to violation of expectation of the protection of the data and privacy.

In the new book, new cyber world order, it is talking the current, subsequent infections of COVID-19, we'll enter a new cyber age where a new cyber world order awaits us. Cybersecurity breaches will be daily and increasing cybercrimes will be the new adoption. That's why the need for coming up with the universal principles in cybersecurity revolution is of crucial necessity. We're in the WSIS Forum back in 2015, I had brought up the idea that the world now needs to come up with an international Convention on cyberlaw and cybersecurity. The idea was early at the times and remains topical and relevant today.

Now the United Nations in our community on cybercrime, it is already working on a new international Convention to regulate the misuse of the information that technologies and services have and we're beginning to see more traction as we go. There are challenges with the jurisdiction and they are the biggest challenges with the regulation of cybersecurity.

We have new technologies like virtual and the Dark Net, they have effectively now meant that cyber criminals and cyber security, they can be relatively more safe and therefore, there needs to be -- it needs to be in place in the national level to meet the growing breaches. We have created the international cybersecurity law looking at legal principles pertaining to the regulation of cyber security and the international level.

Then the situation is getting consistently more complicated.

The advent of newly emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, meta works, they're bringing forward new manifestations of cybersecurity breaches and more challenges as we go forward.

So in this ecosystem, we now find metaverse has already arrived. On the metaverse, there are a number of new cybersecurity challenges emerging. The world now needs to come up with regulatory frameworks to regulate the misuse of the cybersecurity for new technologies like metaverse. The web 3.0, it has further complicated scenario, now the crypto ecosystem, specifically the foundation outcome of the daily lives brings in more challenges in terms of cybersecurity. On top of that, the world is today increasingly getting connected to devices which are connected and therefore the security, it is becoming more and more significant for lawmakers and legislators around the world.

At the artificial intelligence know how, we have to look at how the legal principles are appropriately developed so as to regulate the breach of cybersecurity in the context of the artificial intelligence ecosystem. This is the need for having in place the effective, legal frameworks, specifically for regulating and resolving cybersecurity and artificial intelligence algorithm.

I think that having laws may not really suffice. You will have to come up with effective enforcement of laws and therefore people also need to be empowered by appropriate capacity building on different aspects of cybersecurity. We have created an online platform called cyberlaw University. This is an online cyberlaw education platform where we're offering various courses on cybersecurity, cyberlaw, cybercrime, artificial intelligence, blockchain, the Internet of Things and this has already been done in the last four year business more than 27500 students and professionals from 174 country, speaking 53 national languages. This figure is telling us that there is a need for more capacity building, specifically in the context of the cyberlaw, cybercrime, cybersecurity. Therefore, at WSIS Forum 2022 I propose that the world needs to work towards the international cybersecurity law consortium which can be powered and supported by the ITU, to the consortium, we currently experience the regulating the cybersecurity, it can be appropriately analyzed and the wisdom thereof could be disseminated to state and non-state actors so that there is harmonious uniformity in national, regional and local approaches on the regulation of cybersecurity.

This assumes all of the more signature because in the come coming times nation also not be divided in haves and have-nots but cybersecurity regulation, we want a harmonious approach and therefore today on the landscape a large number of nation states are clueless on how to regulate cybersecurity, hence the explanation of the international best practices concerning the common minimum standards and acceptable principles by the international cybersecurity law can lead to --

>> KE GONG: I'm sorry. I have to stop you.

I got a message, we have to close this session.

I think I would like to give one minute to the last speaker, Ernest Mafuta.

Please, Ernest Mafuta, I give you one minute. We have ran out of time. I'm sorry. Now, it is your time.

You will talk about the post-COVID recovery, how to make the affordability to help build back better.

>> ERNEST MAFUTA: All right.

>> KE GONG: Very, very short.

>> ERNEST MAFUTA: Yes. All right.

It is my opinion that Digital Transformation and affordable access are not mutually exclusive events. For the Sustainable Development should be looked at and aligned with

one another.

The acceleration within this, COVID-19 has introduced new forms of Digital Transformation, advanced technologies and new business models, government businesses, societies, they're being a-- they're adopting the technologies. Public health provider, it is a threat, but announcing Big Data, artificial intelligence, new technologies, this area, they're able to remain contained. The pandemic is an area of great instability and affordability is largely unaccounted for. This area of discussion, it is the goal of governments, private companies to ensure that access and connectivity remain at the core of Digital Transformation and technology.

So we have the potential for digitalization and the development, it will include the society and to contribute to the environment and for every city through affordable, meaningful access to connectivity.

Thank you.

>> KE GONG: Thank you so much for saving the time.

We have ran out of time. I want to say please send your statement, every panelist, send your statement to the WSIS Secretariat as soon as possible. A summary will be given at the closing session of the high-level political policy session of the WSIS which we will have today, later today, at 17 to 18 hour Central European summertime. We hope to see you then.

Now the session is adjourned with a sincere thank you to all of you, the panelists, the participants online from all over the world.

Thank you so much. I'm sorry for not keeping the time so good! Thank you! Thank you!