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ITU Regional Workshop on Frameworks for Cybersecurity and Critical Information Infrastructure Protection
Buenos Aires, Argentina[1]

On behalf of Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid
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H.E. Arq. Carlos Lisandro Sala, Secretarío de Comunicaciones, Argentina

Distinguished Speakers, Guests and Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning

It is my great pleasure and honor to welcome you, on behalf of the International Telecommunication Union, to this ITU Regional Workshop on Frameworks for Cybersecurity and Critical Information Infrastructure Protection. I would like to thank the Republica Argentina for their particularly active interest in the work of ITU on cybersecurity. In fact, it was Argentina who immediately volunteered to play host to a planned event in the Latin American region in 2007 — one in a series of regional cybersecurity events jointly organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and Telecommunication Standardization Bureau. The Directors of these two bureaux, Mr. Sami Al Basheer, and Mr. Malcolm Johnson, have requested that I pass on their deep appreciation to the Secretaria De Comunicaciones and the Comision Nacional de Comunicaciones for their gracious hospitality and assistance in hosting this event in this beautiful and historic city of Buenos Aires. Not only is this building classified as having particular historic importance due to its architecture, I understand that the

actual room where we are holding our workshop has particular significance for Argentina — it was the actual office used by Eva Peron for her charitable foundation.

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The integration of information and communication technologies (ICTs) into almost every sphere of daily economic and social activity has increased the dependence of individuals, organizations and governments on globally interconnected networks. Unfortunately, many threats have emerged that have had a major impact on confidence and security in the use of ICTs. In order to protect networked infrastructures and address these threats, coordinated national action is required to prevent, respond to and recover from incidents. National frameworks and strategies are needed that allow stakeholders to use all the technical, legal and regulatory tools available to promote a culture of cybersecurity.

While some are advanced in the formulation of national cybersecurity strategies, others are only just beginning to consider which measures are necessary to undertake. This workshop presents an excellent opportunity to share experiences and best practices on addressing the challenges faced by countries in the Latin America and other regions in developing frameworks for cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection as well as increasing awareness on related ITU activities.

We are very pleased to have a line up of excellent speakers. I therefore would like to invite all of you to take advantage of the presence of these many experts and your counterparts in countries of the Americas and other regions, to actively participate in all sessions of the workshop by sharing your views and experiences, and to raise any questions or issues you may have on the topics discussed. We have endeavored to design and conduct this workshop for a maximum of interaction and we have included at the end of each day interactive round table discussions where you will be able to discuss on a peer-to-peer basis the topics of that day. Your active participation and contribution in this workshop will greatly contribute to its success.

Thank you for your kind attention and my best wishes for a very successful event.

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[1]ITU Regional Workshop on Frameworks for Cybersecurity and CIIP held in Buenos Aires, Argentina (16-18 October 2007), www.itu.int/itu-d/cyb/events/2007/buenos-aires/