

Honorable Chair,
Secretary-General Doreen Bogdan-Martin
BDT Director Cosmas Zavazava
Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

It is a pleasure to be here with you today.

Congratulations to the government of Azerbaijan and ITU
for successfully hosting this important event in Baku,

These days, we are witnessing
how rapidly evolving digital technologies
bring new opportunities
while creating new challenges
like the AI divide.

At this pivotal moment,
efforts to bridge the digital divide and promote inclusion
have never been more urgent.
The international community must unite
to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity

When it comes to
establishing digital infrastructure and capacity building,
Korea has made significant strides in both.

Over the past 30 years,

through targeted policies and investments,
we have built critical infrastructure
including broadband networks
and completed nationwide 5G deployment.

This has laid the groundwork
for all Koreans to enjoy
fixed and mobile high-speed internet
at affordable prices.

We are also looking ahead,
advancing network infrastructure
and working on next-generation technologies like 6G
to keep pace emerging technologies

while providing our citizens with diverse
capacity building programs
to harness them.

Moreover, Korea's Digital Inclusion Act ensures that
inclusive digital policies are integrated
from the very start of policy development.

These efforts align with the theme of WTDC-25:
"Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity
for an inclusive and sustainable digital future."

Korea is committed to working with the international community to ensure that the benefits of digital technologies are shared by all across the globe.

For 18 years since 2008, we have been supporting global digital inclusion through our partnership with ITU, from standardization of next-generation network to improving digital connectivity in developing countries.

Since joining ITU in 1952, Korea has grown alongside the international community, leveraging our digital capabilities to achieve remarkable economic progress. Korea is the only nation to transition from an aid recipient to a donor.

Building on our experience as a nine-time ITU Council Member, Korea is seeking re-election to continue contributing to ITU's vital work. We ask for your support in our efforts

I also seek your support for Dr. Jong Min Park,

who is running for a position on the RRB,
as well as Korea's first candidate for TDAG Chair,
Ms. Mina Jun.

Thank you.