



Ministerio de Comunicaciones

MR CHAIRMAN, MR SECRETARY GENERAL, HIS AND HER EXCELLENCES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN IN REPRESENTATION OF THE ARGENTINE ADMINISTRATION AND MORE SPECIFICALLY OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE AGENCIES AND PEOPLE THAT HAVE MADE THIS HIGH LEVEL EVENT POSSIBLE.

WE ARE PLEASED TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN THE BELIEF AND CONVICTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ICTS FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. THE NEW ARGENTINE ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY SHOWN ITS COMMITMENT IN THIS REGARD WITH THE CREATION OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION WHICH DID NOT EXIST BEFORE AND WHOSE OBJECTIVE IS TO PROMOTE THE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES AS TOOLS OF KNOWLEDGE AND PROGRESS.

WE FURTHERMORE SHARE THE COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LET ME EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS NOT BY CHANCE THAT THE THREE PILLARS OF THE ADMINISTRATION THAT I REPRESENT ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH THESE OBJECTIVES.

OUR FIRST PILLAR, ZERO POVERTY IS A MORAL ISSUE, BUT IT IS NOT **ONLY** A MORAL ISSUE. IT IS ALSO A STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE. IN A WORLD WHERE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES RELY NOT ANY MORE ON NATURAL RESOURCES BUT RATHER ON GRAY MATTER, WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LEAVE OUT THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP.

WE HAVE TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM FROM ITS ROOT AND IN THE SAME WAY THAT A CHILD WHO IS NOT PROPERLY FED DURING HIS FIRST YEARS OF EXISTENCE IS CONDEMNED IN HIS ADVANCEMENT, SO IS A CHILD WHO IS DENIED ACCESS TO ICTS. WE HAVE LONG BEEN TALKING ABOUT DIGITAL DIVIDE, BUT DIGITAL POVERTY GOES BEYOND IT TO ENCOMPASS THOSE THAT BY LACK OF MEANS OR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ON “HOW TO USE THEM” CANNOT NOT BENEFIT FROM ICTS.

DIGITAL POVERTY, ALTHOUGH NOT MORTAL, DEFINITELY AFFECTS THE POSSIBILITIES OF PROGRESS AND GROWTH.

ARGENTINA IS COMMITTED TO USING ICTS TO PROMOTE ADVANCEMENT, THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY AND TO IMPLEMENT WSIS ACTION LINES AND THE 2030 AGENDA. WE WANT, ABOVE ALL TO CHANGE THE PARADIGM UNDER WHICH THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION OPERATED,



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SEARCHING FOR IMPROVEMENT AND GROWTH TO FIGHT POVERTY INSTEAD OF INSTITUTIONALIZING IT WITH PALLIATIVE MEASURES.

WE WILL STRIVE FOR A DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM AND A CONVERGENT AND PLURAL REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT SO THAT THE 2030 AGENDA BECOMES A REALITY AND NOT A MERE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

WE WANT TO STRESS THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGENDA IS DEPENDENT ON THE INTERACTION, DIALOGUE AND JOINT WORK OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS GLOBALLY AND WE WANT TO HIGHLIGHT OUR COMMITMENT TO CONTRIBUTE IN THIS DIRECTION.

WE REST REASSURED THAT WORKING TOGETHER WE WILL ACHIEVE EVERYTHING WE INTEND TO.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION