

IMO's main role is to deal with regulations on shipping from a safety, security and environment point of view. IMO recognized the remarkable contribution which ICT's have made to the shipping industry. Terrestrial and satellite communication systems can now be used to in order to ensure that rescue operations happen within a minimum delay. The combination of satellite communication and digital technology offers exciting new possibilities to cope with global warming – serving as tools to help reduce CO2 emissions from shipping operations.

***Positive role ahead for ICTs, but challenges remain***

ITU has been making good progress towards helping meet the millennium goals – such as achieving 6.5 billion access points by 2012. Meanwhile, Spain has invested in e-health systems, electronic accreditation and signing, digital TV, e-government, protection of intellectual rights (strong need for cooperation as global opportunities often coupled with global risks), internet governance and anti-fraud fight. Cisco emphasized the importance of anticipating economic upturn by understanding ones own failures – be they from economic contexts or self-inflicted causes or by moving from providing infrastructure capacities (e.g. transport or pipes) to enabling value-added services such as health care to increase productivity and job creation capabilities. Ericsson outlined visions of a more significant role for ICTs across the board in terms of economic wealth generation, and cited the example of a 10% of increase in mobile penetration correlating with 0.3 to 0.5% of growth in GDP. These must go hand in hand with standardization efforts such as those for GSM. WIPO outlined the need for incentives to invest in innovation. A sustainable balance is to be targeted through intellectual property systems between incentives for content creation and diffusion of social benefits out of innovations.

Climate change and green technology are 2 core challenges faced by the ICT industry. Cisco stated that through the innovative use of ICTs it slashed travel budgets from \$750 to \$230 million and overall reduced gas emissions by 25% within 3 years. Cities and their metropolitan areas are the source of 75% of world emissions and hence ICTs are critical tools to help reshape city life. The ITU outlined how ICTs have capacity to not only help reduce gas emissions for