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**Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the
World Summit on the Information Society
at the regional and international level**

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23rd UNCSTD Session

Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international level

Friday, 12 June

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Moderator,

Let me thank the Secretariat of UNCSTD for introducing the report. Allow me to present my delegation's comments regarding the above report, as follows:

We fully support those countries who apply their cultural, moral and religious values when using ICTs. Those countries, companies and platforms who have dominance in the ICT environment, including in the internet, shall respect and observe values and regulations of the target societies and I would like to ask that such issues be considered and applied in next follow-up reports.

The follow-up to WSIS, as foreseen through enhanced cooperation and envisaged fair internet governance, has yet to yield its expected results. A new architecture for internet governance which is fair, inclusive and transparent needs to be given high priority. We expect all existing processes, including the very last one which was launched yesterday by Secretary General, contribute to this noble objective.

The development dividends of ICTs for the human societies and international community, particularly developing countries, is yet to be fully realized. To the contrary, the challenges and risks associated with the malicious and criminal use of ICTs have in many cases outweighed its benefits for the countries. Besides, the unilateral coercive measures and sanctions, including the limiting and blocking ones, against Iran and other targeted countries created extra burden which are in violation of accepted laws, norms and principles.

I would like to highlight the pivotal role of ITU in the process of setting up a new mechanism on international digital cooperation, internet cooperation and setting norms.

At the end, while supporting its continued pivotal role, we request that the United Nations and its relevant agencies address such concerns through accumulation of all efforts and mobilizing all adequate capacities and resources.

I thank you.