

Georgia statement for agenda 7 at the CICTSIT4

Dear chair, excellencies distinguished delegates good morning from Georgia.

Firstly, let me express my gratitude for giving me the floor and for inviting Georgia to the Fourth Session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation.

I would like to shortly say on behalf of Georgia that we are fully support, share and admit all initiatives and action plans which were presented during these two days.

A few words regarding the digitalization process in Georgia:

The dynamic development of cyber-physical-biological technologies of the 4th Industrial Revolution creates completely new challenges that radically change the paradigms at the level of economy, public governance (including e-governance), and social relations. The "Next Normal" formed in the wake of COVID-19 further accelerated these trends. "Digital Transformation" in response to these challenges, requires wholesale rethinking of existing approaches, and not only redesigning business processes but also transforming business models.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us how important it is to maximize digitalization of services effectively in a timely manner and accordingly has accelerated digital transformation all across the world, shrinking the time needed for digitalization from years to months.

The priorities of the country have been defined in long-term governmental program "For Strong, Democratic and United Georgia", including:

- Building knowledge and innovation-based economy;
- Increasing the export of intellectual products, innovations and technologies;
- Increasing the usage of local inventions and innovation.
- Providing high-speed internet access throughout the country
- Becoming regional ICT and innovation hub

In order to accelerate the process of reaching above-mentioned objectives, Georgian Government has created a legal entity of public law (LEPL) – Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency, which is coordinated under the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia which observes all relevant services in Georgia, as well as the research institutes of the country contribute greatly to the development of the above-mentioned processes.

It should be mentioned that at the same time GEORGIA has taken the strong steps toward openness and inclusiveness in all services at the national level and at the global level as well, in order to provide findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) data which is crucial for implementing the world's sustainable development goals.

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In conclusion we are more than happy to have an opportunity to participate in the Fourth Session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, which paves the way to all member states, observers and other distinguished participants to work together to meet the challenges and offer interesting and innovative products to international markets.

Georgia is planning to be more active in the next sessions, and we express our full readiness to participate in the next sessions of the Committee with deeper and more valuable contributions from Georgia.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marina Razmadze

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