Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for giving me the floor. India associates itself with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the G-77.

We thank the Secretary General for his reports on the follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information society and other ICT issues.

Mr. Chairman,

Internet has evolved itself into a powerful, ubiquitous, empowering and liberating medium, even though only a fragment of its full potential is known and has been exploited by humankind so far. Internet with its immense transformational potential can provide the means for sustainable and inclusive development.

India is deeply committed to the free growth of the Internet, and is determined on its own and would urge others, to exploit this tremendous opportunity.

Mr. Chairman,

We remain deeply committed to the true spirit of the vision outlined in the Tunis Agenda, i.e. the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations.

Given the nature of the Internet, we need to put in place a system designed for cyberspace - a system which is collaborative, consultative and inclusive for dealing with all public policies involving the Internet.

It should be evolutionary so as to meet the ever-changing requirements of the Internet space. The processes should evolve through dialogue that is continuous and continuing. The consultations in the process should involve all stakeholders and work to make the digital divide a thing of the past. They must also factor in regional and national sensitivities and divergences.

The system should put in place a mechanism for accountability in respect of crimes committed in the cyber space. A new cyber jurisprudence needs to be evolved, which deals with cyber crime without being limited by political boundaries so that cyber justice can be delivered in real time.

The system of representation should be truly reflective of the ground realities.

We are hopeful that the Second Committee Resolution on ICT this year will make a new beginning to give shape to the Tunis vision of Enhanced Cooperation. We seek support of all Member States for the formation of a CSTD working group on Enhanced Cooperation, with multi-stakeholder participation, as proposed by India in the Resolution, for examining the mandate of the WSIS regarding Enhanced Cooperation and recommending necessary steps to operationalize it.

I thank you.