Statement of the Delegation of Israel
Yotam Goren, First Secretary, Permeant Mission of Israel to the United Nations
Agenda Item 134: ICT:

Mr. Chairman

I would like to speak in my National Capacity on agenda item 134: ICT

At the outset, I would like to thank Under-Secretary-General, Mr Yukio Takasu [Assistant Secretary-General Atefeh Riazi], for introducing the report of the Secretary-General on information and communications technology in the United Nations. I would also like to thank the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Mr Carlos Ruiz Massieu, for introducing the related report of that Committee.

Mr. Chairman

In the last ten years, we have witnessed a remarkable evolution and diffusion of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). Unforeseen even a decade ago, ICT has penetrated nearly all corners of the globe and every facet of our daily lives. It has revolutionized how we interact, how we connect, how we travel, and how we conduct business.

Israel knows first-hand how important the role ICT can play in transforming how we do business in the public and private sector.

As the Start-Up Nation we believe that a forward thinking, comprehensive and well managed ICT strategy for the UN is essential. Successful implementation of such a strategy will not only provide gains in terms of administrative and financial efficiencies but also, and more importantly, it will help the organization better deliver on its diverse mandates.

We are encouraged that the Office of Information and Communications technology is committed to taking full advantage of the latest technological developments and working with all corners of the secretariat to leverage technology for the benefit of all. It is imperative for the ICT strategy to serve as a bridge for the different parts of the secretariat to deliver on their mandates, and not as a barrier.

Mr. Chairman,

Following on from the 69th session, the themes of ICT harmonization, defragmentation and standardization are critical in ensuring a successful long term ICT approach at the

UN. Specifically, such an approach is a necessity when we consider the challenges that the UN faces in information security.

We agree with the ACABQ that a common security policy be applied across the Secretariat, both in the Headquarters and in the field.

Mr. Chairman

Israel stands ready to engage constructively on this important agenda item during the course of negotiations and looks forward to doing its part to reach consensus on this critical issue .

Thank you Mr. Chairman