



STATE OF ISRAEL
Ministry of Communications
International Relations Division

February 27, 2013

To:
Mr. Marcin Krasuski
Chairman
Committee for ITU Policy (Com-ITU)
European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

Dear Mr. Krasuski,

I am honored to write to you this letter and kindly request that CEPT consider accepting the State of Israel as an Observer in the meetings of the Com-ITU working group.

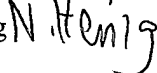
Considering the close kinship between the positions of Europe and Israel in issues of Internet governance (as recently shown in the WCIT-12 Conference in Dubai, where Israel submitted a state position which was aligned with the one submitted by the European States); taking into account the close proximity between the structure and characteristics of Israel's advanced, open and competitive telecommunications market and those of the EU market; Bearing in mind that the EU and Israel already enjoy constant bilateral cooperation in the field of telecommunications, under the framework of the Association Agreement and a joint Action Plan (within ENP- Enlargement neighborhood Policy), which includes telecommunications and information society; and noting that, before the last WTDC in Hyderabad, Israel was invited by ITU to participate in the European RPM in Andorra, in the belief that we better fit in the European Region, we are confident that Israel can contribute a lot and add value to the work of CEPT and to the cohesion and coherence of a strong, unified position that should result from that work.

We attach special interest and importance to all topics concerned with the future of the Internet. As both Europe and Israel share similar views and values in this field – both asserting that the openness and freedom of the Internet, as well its multistakeholders-governance must be secured – we believe that close cooperation and coordination between Europe and Israel on international Internet governance will essentially serve the benefit and the interest of CEPT and Israel altogether.

Acknowledging all the above considerations, we believe that it would be beneficial for all concerned parties if Israel could take part in the meetings of Com-ITU, as an Observer.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could most kindly bring this question before the Members of CEPT to be deliberated and decided upon.

With kind regards,

Naama Henig 

Director, International Relations Division