Amman Time (GMT+3)	DAY ZERO: SATURDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2025
12:00 p.m.– 17:30	**The 10th meeting of the Joint Technical Committee and the Core Research and Technical Cooperation Mechanism (JTC/CRTCM)** **(Members Only)** **&** **The Third Meeting in the Series of Expert Meetings on Enriching the Mechanisms for Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab region** **(By Invitation)** Split Room 1 (Al-Mokhtar Side-Room)

Amman Time (GMT+3)	DAY ONE: SUNDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2025	
08:30– 09:30 a.m.	**Registration and Welcome Coffee** **(All Participants)** Al-Mokhtar and Al-Badya Pre-Entrance Lobby	**Reception of Ministers and Dignitaries** **(By Invitation)** Ministerial Lounge (Al-Arza Room)
09:30– 09:50 a.m.	**DCDF2.0 Inaugural Session** **Opening Ceremony and Official Statements** Al-Mokhtar Main (Mokhtar Main Hall, Room 1) <u>Audiovisual Spots</u> Video on the DCDF <u>Official Opening Statements</u> - Ms. Rola Dashti, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Executive Secretary of ESCWA - Mr. Ahmad Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States - Mr. Sami Smeirat, Minister of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MODEE), Jordan - Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, Under-Secretary-General of the United-Nations, and Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies <u>Introductory Remarks:</u>	

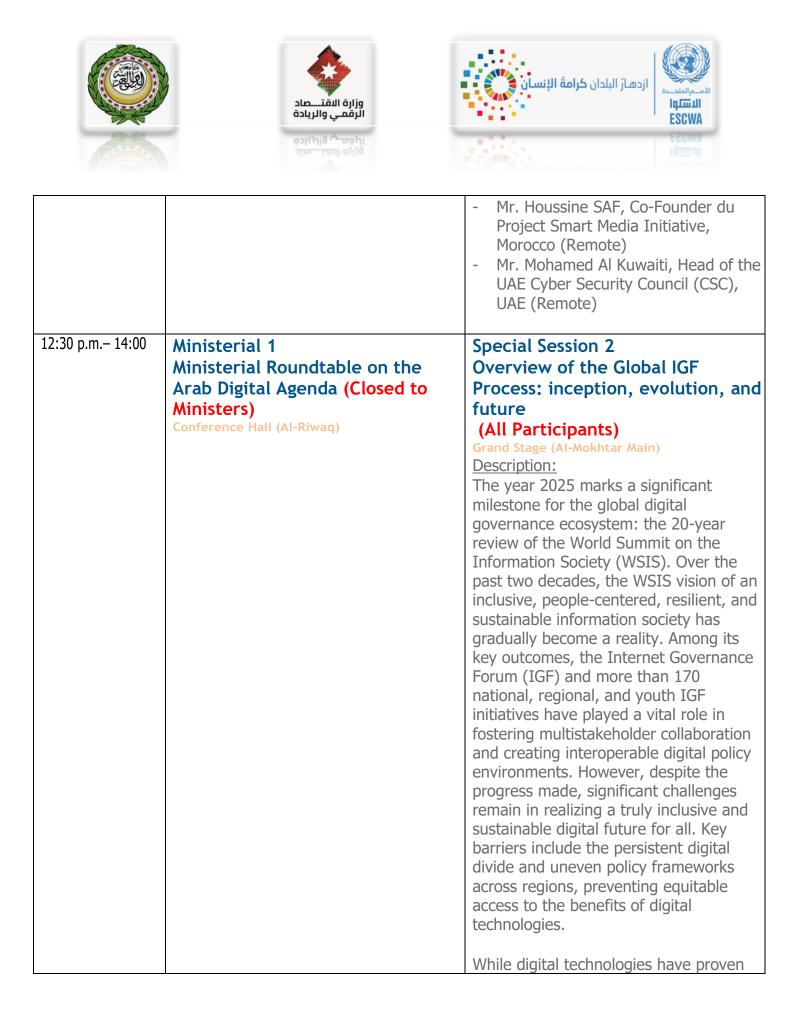|	
	- Host and Moderator: Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICT Policies, Digital Development, and Digital Cooperation, ESCWA; Chairman of DCDF's Executive Bureau for Joint Coordination.
09:50 – 10:30 a.m.	**Main Segment Opening 1** **Opening of the 1st High-Level Partners Conference on the Arab Digital Agenda (HLPC_ADA_1.0)** **Main Panel of the ADA Partners (40 minutes)** Al-Mokhtar Main (Mokhtar Main Hall, Room 1) Audiovisual Spots - Video on the ADA Panelists - Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) (recorded message) - Mr. Torbjorn Fredriksson, Head E-commerce and Digital Economy Branch, UN Trade and Development is an intergovernmental organization (UNCTAD) - Ms. Mary Kawar, Regional Hub Director, United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Arab States (UNDP-RBAS) - Mr. Mohamed Ben Amor, Director General Arab Information and Communication Technologies Organization (AICTO) - Mr. Mostafa Khattab, Director of Research, Studies, and Consulting Department Arab Administrative Development Organization (ARADO) - Mr. Abdalla Al Darmaki, Deputy Secretary General Arab Federation for Digital Economy (AFDE) - Mr. Mostafa Rashid, Vice President, Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT) - Mr. Fadi Salem, Director of Policy Research Department, Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG).

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	**Knowledge Mini-Expo** Opening of the Pavilions of the Arab Digital Agenda (UN-ESCWA) Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MODEE) of Jordan **Pre-Function Area (Al-Mokhtar and Al-Badya Pre-Entrance Lobby)**
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.	**Networking & Coffee** **Pre-Function Area - 1 and Pre-Function Area - 2**
11:15 – 12:30 p.m.	**Roundtable 1** **Arab Digital Agenda: Vision, Objectives, and Strategic Priorities** **(All Participants)** **Conference Hall (Al-Riwaq)** Description: This session will provide an overview of the Arab Digital Agenda (ADA) 2023-2033, focusing on its vision, core objectives, and strategic priorities. The session aims to explore how the ADA is shaping the digital landscape in the Arab region, highlighting its key goals, targets, and proposed actions. Participants will gain insights into the guiding principles behind the agenda, including its implementation mechanisms, monitoring and follow-up, and management and sustainability framework. Moderator: Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICT Policies, Digital Cooperation and Digital Development, UN-ESCWA Facilitators: Ms. Mirna El Hajj, Programme Management Officier UN-ESCWA Mr. Rami Zaatari, Senior Data and Technology Officer UN-ESCWA	**Special Session 1** **The 20-years Journey of the WSIS Process in an hour** **(All Participants)** **Grand Stage (Al-Mokhtar Main)** Description: The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Process has stood the test of time and is highly relevant in the digital age, as it continues to remain at the forefront of leveraging the power of digital for sustainable development. It serves as a UN multistakeholder coordination mechanism on digital and emerging technologies topics. The WSIS process has a long history, starting with the first phase in Geneva in 2003 and continuing through subsequent phases and reviews. Its longevity and continuity provide a stable and reliable platform for ongoing discussions, evaluation of progress, and adaptation to emerging challenges and opportunities. This long-term commitment ensures that WSIS remains relevant and effective in addressing the evolving digital landscape. The upcoming WSIS+20 review is critical to assess the progress made since

| | | WSIS, identify gaps, and recommend future actions beyond 2025. As we approach the milestone of WSIS+20, the global community has a unique opportunity to reflect on the progress made and to actively shape the future of digital cooperation.

This side event, "The 20-Year Journey of the WSIS Process," will bring together key stakeholders from the Arab region and beyond to exchange insights, foster collaboration, and contribute to a shared vision for the future of digital cooperation. Through this dialogue, participants will reflect on the WSIS journey, discuss emerging challenges, and explore opportunities for strengthening digital cooperation beyond 2025.

Facilitator:
Ms. Ruth Sidabutar, Project Officer at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Speakers:
- Mr. Karim Abdelghani, Programme Coordinator, ITU Arab Regional Office
- Mr. Chafic Chaya, Regional Manager, Public Policy and Government Affairs Middle East Region, RIPE NCC
- Ms. Heba Mohamed Ismail, Vice President, Arab Federation for Libraries and Information (AFLI) (Remote)
- Mr. Kassem Istanbouli, Secretary, Tiro Association For Arts (TAA) (Remote) |
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		- Mr. Houssine SAF, Co-Founder du Project Smart Media Initiative, Morocco (Remote) - Mr. Mohamed Al Kuwaiti, Head of the UAE Cyber Security Council (CSC), UAE (Remote)
12:30 p.m.– 14:00	**Ministerial 1** **Ministerial Roundtable on the Arab Digital Agenda (Closed to Ministers)** Conference Hall (Al-Riwaq)	**Special Session 2** **Overview of the Global IGF Process: inception, evolution, and future** **(All Participants)** Grand Stage (Al-Mokhtar Main) Description: The year 2025 marks a significant milestone for the global digital governance ecosystem: the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Over the past two decades, the WSIS vision of an inclusive, people-centered, resilient, and sustainable information society has gradually become a reality. Among its key outcomes, the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and more than 170 national, regional, and youth IGF initiatives have played a vital role in fostering multistakeholder collaboration and creating interoperable digital policy environments. However, despite the progress made, significant challenges remain in realizing a truly inclusive and sustainable digital future for all. Key barriers include the persistent digital divide and uneven policy frameworks across regions, preventing equitable access to the benefits of digital technologies. While digital technologies have proven

		to be powerful drivers of sustainable development, we are still falling short of meeting the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This raises an important question: What more can existing mechanisms, like the IGF, do to ensure that everyone benefits from the digital age?
		This session will spotlight the critical role of the IGF and its vast network of national, regional, and youth IGFs in advancing global digital governance. It will explore the IGF's contributions to shaping inclusive Internet governance, drawing on examples like the Arab IGF, and will discuss how the IGF can better address global digital challenges. Additionally, the session will examine the IGF's potential as a key follow-up mechanism for the Global Digital Compact and the WSIS+20 review, ensuring that the outcomes of these processes translate into tangible benefits for people around the world. Moderator: - Ms. Anja Gengo, Programme Management Officer, UN IGF Secretariat - Speakers: - Mr. Chengetai Masango, Head of Office, United Nations Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum (Remote) - Ms. Christine Arida, Board Member and Strategic Advisor to the Executive President, National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA), Egypt. - Mr. Chafic Chaya, Regional Manager,

		Public Policy and Government Affairs Middle East Region, RIPE NCC
		- Ms. Wassan Alabbadi, Youth representative, Youth Media Literacy Ambassadors Program (YMLAP), Civil Society, Jordan
14:00 – 15:00	**LUNCH** Pre-Function Area - 1 and Pre-Function Area - 2	
15:00 – 15:40	**High-Level Policy Dialogues** **High-Level Policy Dialogue 1: Unlocking Innovation: The Profitable Future of the ICT Sector** **(All Participants)** Conference Hall (Al-Riwaq) Lucrative and innovative ICT sector (ADA pillar 5) Description: This High-Level Policy Dialogue panel will bring together key stakeholders to unlock innovations and chart a profitable future for the ICT sector, with a focus on fostering a dynamic and thriving ICT landscape. The session will explore strategies to drive growth, innovation, and investment, ensuring a lucrative and forward-thinking ICT ecosystem. Discussions will concentrate on identifying the most effective approaches and facilitating collaboration among stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in ADA Cluster 3, specifically: 3.1 – Classify companies operating in the ICT sector and avail their data. 3.2 – Encourage investment in ICT companies. 3.3 – Activate and revitalize R&D efforts in the ICT field. 3.4 – Monitor the contribution of the ICT sector to the national economy. 3.5 – Promote the ICT sector in the Arab region. 3.7 – Promote exports of ICT goods and services in Arab countries. 3.8 – Expand the e-commerce market in Arab countries. This session will serve as a crucial platform for shaping the future of the ICT sector in the Arab region, fostering collaboration, and driving sustainable development and economic growth. Moderator: - Mr. Fadi Salem, Director of Policy Research Dept, Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG)	

	Speakers: - Mr. Haidar Fraihat, Director General, Department of Statistics (DOS), Jordan - Mr. Torbjörn Fredriksson, Head E-commerce and Digital Economy Branch, UNCTAD - Ms. Nermine El Saadany, Regional Vice President for the Middle East, The Internet Society (ISOC) - Mr. Ahmad Said, Advisor to the Minister for economic and statistical affairs, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), Egypt
15:40 – 16:20	**High-Level Policy Dialogues** **High-Level Policy Dialogue 2: Empowering Digital Trust: Building a Strong Regulatory and Legal Framework** **(All Participants)** **Regulatory Environment and Digital Infrastructure and Legal Environment and Trust, (Digital ADA pillars 3 &4)** Conference Hall (Al-Riwaq) Description: This High-Level Policy Dialogue panel will convene key stakeholders to address the development of a robust digital infrastructure within the Arab region, with a focus on ensuring the provision of world-class services that are both secure and reliable. The session will delve into two critical ADA pillars: Pillar 3 – Regulatory Environment and Digital Infrastructure and Pillar 4 – Legal Environment and Trust. The discussions will center on identifying optimal strategies and fostering collaborative efforts among stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in ADA Cluster 2, specifically: 2.1 – Maximize competitiveness and strengthen regulation in the telecommunications sector in Arab countries. 2.2 – Enhance regulatory collaboration and coordination between Arab countries to provide and improve telecommunications and regional digital services. 2.3 – Improve access to basic telecommunications services. 2.4 – Improve Internet speed for users and increase the benefits from Internet services and content. 2.5 – Develop the infrastructure of Internet networks and the structure of interconnection at the national and regional levels. 2.6 – Activate the use of digital signature services and electronic transactions at the national and regional levels.

	2.7 – Personal data protection of users. 2.8 – Enhance cybersecurity in the Arab region. 5.2 – Activate registration of domain names in Arabic and promote their acceptance. This session will serve as a platform for sharing insights and forging actionable solutions promoting regional integration, empowering digital trust, and building a strong regulatory and legal framework. Moderator: - Mr. Belal Khaled Al-Hafnawi, Commissioner and Full-Time Board Member, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), Jordan Speakers: - Mr. Yvone Sleiman, Head of Services, Ministry of Telecommunications, Lebanon - Mr. Mohamed Ben Amor, Secretary-General of the Arab ICT Organization (AICTO) - Mr. Baher Esmat, Managing Director, Middle East and Africa, ICANN
16:20 – 17:00	**High-Level Policy Dialogues** **High-Level Policy Dialogue 3: Pioneering the Digital Shift: Transforming Economies and Government Sectors** **(All Participants)** **Multi-dimensional transition to digital economy and digitally enabled government sectors (ADA pillars 6 & 8)** Conference Hall (Al-Riwaq) Description: This High-Level Policy Dialogue panel will bring together key stakeholders to discuss the multi-dimensional transition to a digital economy and digitally enabled government sectors. The session will explore strategies for advancing this transition, with a focus on fostering the adoption of digital technologies across all sectors of the economy and enhancing e-government services. Discussions will concentrate on identifying the most effective approaches and facilitating collaboration among stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in ADA Clusters 3 and 4, specifically: 3.6 – Enhance ICT use in the various productive sectors. 3.10 – Develop individuals' ICT skills. 4.3 – Strengthen digital accessibility for persons with disabilities in the Arab region

and enable them to access e-services.

4.7 – Develop integrated e-government infrastructure and services in Arab countries.

4.8 – Increase the efficiency and quality of infrastructure used in the provision of e-government services.

This session will serve as a platform for discussing innovative solutions and fostering cross-sector collaboration to accelerate the digital transformation across the Arab region, ensuring a more inclusive, efficient, and digitally empowered future.

Moderator:
-   Mr. Belal Khaled Al-Hafnawi, Commissioner and Full-Time Board Member, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), Jordan

Speakers:
-   Mr. Saoud Humaid AL Shoaili, Director General, Head National Space Program, Oman
-   Mr. Mohamed Ould Boba Mohamed Saleck, Director of Development and Interoperability, Ministry of Digital Transformation and Administration Modernization, Mauritania
-   Mr. Mostafa Rashid, Assistant to President, Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT)
-   Mr. Driss El Hadani, Deputy Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)