

PM attends 20th session of ITU Conference in Dubai

...invites ITU member states and international organization partners to attend ITU Global Symposium in Port Vila next year

PRIME MINISTER CHARLOT SALWAI is in Dubai attending the 20th session of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary Conference being hosted by the United Arab Emirates.

The Plenipotentiary Conference is the highest decision-making body of the ITU and convenes every four years to review strategic and financial plans, and

build consensus on major international ICT issues.

In his opening remarks the Secretary General of the ITU Houlin Zhao acknowledged Prime Minister Salwai, and the Chief Executive Officer of Afghanistan, the first time in the history of the Plenipotentiary Conference that two Heads of Government are participating.

At the opening segment the Prime Minister was presented

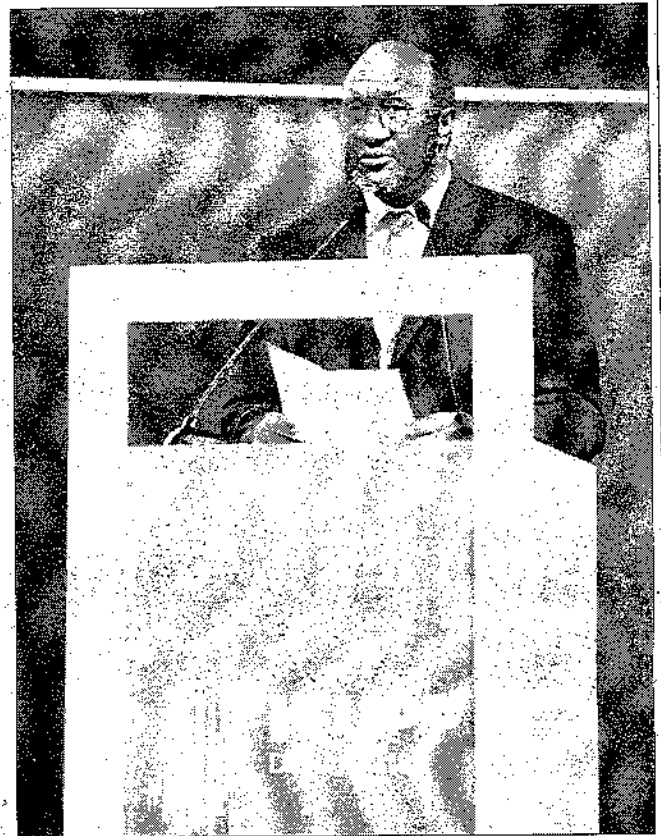
an opportunity to share a few remarks on ICT development in Vanuatu in regard to access and affordability of broadband connectivity, cyber security and ICT innovative solutions that can create a common platform enabling Small Island Developing States to address common challenges.

As a regional player in ICT development, the Prime Minister invited all ITU member

states and international organization partners to attend ITU's Global Symposium for Regulators that will convene in Port Vila from 9 to 12 July 2019.

Over 700 delegates are expected to arrive in Vanuatu next year for that major international conference.

On the margins of the ITU Conference the Prime Minister was also invited by EXPO2020



PM Salwai addressing the first Plenary of the 20th session of the ITU PP18 Conference. Photo: ©ITU/R.Maniego

Dubai to visit the EXPO site and to be briefed on progress in Vanuatu's preparations for EXPO2020 — the first international exposition to be held outside Europe and Asia.

The Prime Minister presented the country's national policy statement on ICT developments and progress to the Plenary on Wednesday, 31 October.