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| **Council Working Group on the World Summit on the Information Society**  **31st meeting – Geneva, 19-20 September 2017** |  |
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|  | **Document WG-WSIS-31/05-E** |
| **14 July 2017** |
| **English only** |

**United Nations Group on the Information Society**

**Background**: In April 2006, UNGIS (United Nations Group on the Information Society) was endorsed by the UN-Chief Executives Board (CEB) as the new inter-agency mechanism with the main objective to coordinate substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations’ implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

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| **Objective**: UNGIS’ objective is to develop extensive collaboration and partnerships among the CEB members in order to contribute to the achievement of the WSIS objectives, to help to maintain ICT-related issues as well as science and technology at the top of the UN Agenda and finally to mainstream ICT for Development issues in the mandate of CEB members.  To this end, UNGIS should complement and add value to existing programmes and projects by facilitating synergies and joint efforts, so as to maximize coordinated action, coherence and effectiveness of the support to countries in their efforts towards achieving the WSIS goals agreed upon by the international community.  **Update:** ITU took over the as the Chair of UNGIS during the UNGIS High-Level meeting at the WSIS Forum 2017.  **UNGIS Chair and Vice Chairs (2017-2018)**  Chair: ITU  Vice-Chairs: UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNDP and UNECA  Members: 32 UN Agencies |
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The annual High-level Meeting and the Working level Meeting of UNGIS took place during the WSIS Forum 2017 as an integral part of the Event.