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| **Council Working Group on theWorld Summit on the Information Society****31st meeting – Geneva, 19-20 September 2017** |  |
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**CWG-WSIS PREPARATION TO PP-18**

**I Introduction**

After РР-14 there were two global events in the area of CWG-WSIS ToR:

* UN Sustainable Development Summit, 25 - 27 September 2015, adopted Resolution A/70/1 on [Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E) and
* UNGA High-level Meeting on the overal​l review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, 14-16 December 2015, adopted Resolution A/70/125 on Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.

These documents define ITU activities in the fields of WSIS and SDGs on the period up to 2030.

ITU Council in its Resolution 1332 (Rev.2016) took decision on ITU role in implementation of WSIS/SDG outcomes and modified CWG-WSIS ToR accordingly, in particularly, requested CWG-WSIS to provide guidance to ITU on how its future and ongoing activities can help achieve the WSIS Outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provide direction in reviewing reporting and work plans to support those efforts.

Based on materials prepared by the secretariat and membership contributions the CWG-WSIS should discuss and reflect in its outcomes new areas and challenges in the WSIS/SDG processes, including digital transformation and economy, financial digitalization, artificial intellect, regional coordination etc.

**II Proposals**

We propose to start discussion on relevant modification of our basic PP Resolution 140 to reflect main events, documents, tendency and goals in the field of WSIS/SDG emerging after 2014. Preliminary proposals for draft modification of Resolution 140 are presented in the Annex.

ANNEX

Draft revision of RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014)#15572

 RESOLUTION 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the
Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Dubai, 2018),

recalling

*a)* Resolution 73 (Minneapolis, 1998) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which achieved its aims in regard to the holding of both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);

*b)* Resolution 113 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on WSIS;

*c)* Decision 8 (Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on ITU input to the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and the information document on ITU activities related to the Summit;

*d)* Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary conference, on the Connect 2020 Agenda on global telecommunication/ICT development,

recalling further

*a)* the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action, adopted in 2003, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted in 2005, all of which were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly;

*b)* United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution A/70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of UNGA on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS;

*c)* UNGA resolution A/70/1 "Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development";

*c)*

*e)* the WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014);

considering

*a)* that ITU plays a fundamental role in providing global perspectives on the development of the information society;

*b)*  the role played by ITU in the successful organization of the two phases of WSIS and its coordination of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

*c)* that the core competences of ITU in the fields of information and communication technologies (ICTs) – assistance in bridging the digital divide, international and regional cooperation, radio-spectrum management, standards development and the dissemination of information – are of crucial importance for building the information society, as stated in § 64 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles;

*d)* that the Tunis Agenda stated that "each UN agency should act according to its mandate and competencies, and pursuant to decisions of their respective governing bodies, and within existing approved resources" (§ 102 (b));

*e)* the establishment of a United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the request of the Summit, with the main objective of coordinating substantive and policy issues facing the United Nations' implementation of the WSIS outcomes, and that ITU is a permanent member of UNGIS, and shares a rotating chairmanship thereof;

*f)* that ITU, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are playing lead facilitation roles in the multistakeholder implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda, as called upon by WSIS;

*g)* that ITU is the moderator/facilitator for Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) of the Tunis Agenda, and a potential partner for a number of other action lines, as identified by WSIS;

*h)*  that Resolution 200 (Busan, 2014) endorsed the Connect 2020 global communication/ICT goals and targets;

*i)* that the ITU is given specific responsibility for maintaining the WSIS stocktaking database (§ 120 of the Tunis Agenda);

*j)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise relevant to the Internet Governance Forum as demonstrated during the WSIS process (§ 78a of the Tunis Agenda);

*k)* that ITU has, *inter alia*, specific responsibility to study and report on international Internet connectivity (§§ 27 and 50 of the Tunis Agenda);*l)* that ITU has a specific responsibility to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio-frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements (§ 96 of the Tunis Agenda);

*m)*

*n)* *m)* that "*building an inclusive development-oriented information society will require unremitting multistakeholder effort … Taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the Information Society, effective cooperation among governments, private sector, civil society and United Nations and other international organizations, according to their roles and responsibilities and leveraging on their expertise, is essential*" (§ 83 of the Tunis Agenda),

considering further

*a)* that ITU and other international organizations should continue to cooperate and coordinate their activities where necessary for the global good;

*b)* the need for ITU to evolve constantly in response to changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and, in particular, in respect of evolving technologies and new regulatory challenges;

*c)* the needs of developing countries[[1]](#footnote-1)1, including in the areas of digital economy developing, bridging digital divide, building telecommunication/ICT infrastructure, strengthening confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICT and implementation of the other WSIS goals as well as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

*d)* the desirability of using ITU's resources and expertise in a way which takes account of the rapid changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment and of the WSIS outcomes, including the Outcome Document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; , *e)* the need to carefully deploy the Union's human and financial resources in a manner consistent with the priorities of the membership and cognizant of budgetary constraints, and the need to avoid duplication among the Bureaux and the General Secretariat;

*f)* that the full involvement of the membership, including Sector Members, Associates and Academia, as well as other stakeholders, is critical to successful ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes;

*g)* that the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference contains a commitment to the implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes and SDGs in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development,

*h)* that the Council Working Group on WSIS (WG-WSIS) constitutes an effective mechanism for facilitating Member State inputs on the role of ITU in implementing WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as envisaged by the plenipotentiary conferences 2006 -2014);

*i)* that the ITU Council has approved roadmaps for Action Lines C2, C5 and C6, which have been updated and made available on the web, as well as WSIS/SDG-related activities, which have been included in the ITU Operational Plans for 2019-2022;

*j)* that Council 2016 resolved to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which the ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda, within the ITU’s mandate and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN Agencies;

*k)* that the international community is invited to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS outcomes;

*l)* that ITU is capable of providing expertise in the field of statistical work by developing ICT indicators, using appropriate indicators and benchmarking to track global progress, and measuring the digital divide (§§ 113-118 of the Tunis Agenda),

noting

*a)* the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, organized annually by ITU in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNESCO and UNDPb) the recognition by the UNGA Resolution 70/125 that the World Summit on the Information Society Forum has been a platform for discussion and sharing of best practices in the implementation of the World Summit outcomes by all stakeholders, and it should continue to be held annually;

*c)* the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of ITU and the Director-General of UNESCO, which aim to make broadband policy universal and to increase affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including theSDGs),

taking into account

*a)* that WSIS acknowledged that multistakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of a people‑centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society;

*b)* the nexus between issues of telecommunication development and those of economic, social and cultural development, as well as its impact on social and economic structures in all Member States;

*c)* § 98 of the Tunis Agenda, which encourages strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders and welcomes, in that respect, the ITU‑led Connect the World initiative;

*d)* that, in recent decades, the ICT landscape has dramatically changed progress in natural science, mathematics, engineering and technology: rapid innovation, diffusion and uptake of mobile technologies and improved access to the Internet have greatly expanded the gamut of opportunities that ICTs offer to promote inclusive development and bring the benefits of the information society to an increasing number of people around the world;

*e)* that UNGIS proposes that "in collaboration with other stakeholders, the UN system should seek to take full advantage of ICTs in addressing the development challenges of the 21st century and to recognize them as cross-cutting enablers for the achievement of all three pillars of sustainable development" and states that "the potential of ICTs as key enablers of development, and as critical components of innovative development solutions, is fully recognized in the Post-2015 Development Agenda";

*f)* the outcomes of the ITU‑coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event, based on the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform, together with other UN agencies and inclusive of all WSIS stakeholders, which was conducted as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, under the mandates of the participating agencies and on a consensus basis;

*g)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS/SDG Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, whose role is to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU’s policies and activities in relation to WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*h)* the outcomes of the annual WSIS Forums,;

*i)* the ITU reports entitled "*WSIS+10 Report: ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS implementation and follow-up (2005-2014)*", outlining WSIS-related activities of the Union,

endorsing

*a)* Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), on the role of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*b)* Resolution 139 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of this conference;

*c)* the relevant results of the 2015-2018 sessions of the ITU Council, including Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2016);

*d)* programmes, activities and regional activities established by WTDC‑17 with the objective of bridging the digital divide;

*e)* the relevant work already undertaken and/or to be carried out by ITU in implementing the WSIS/SDG outcomes, under the aegis of WG-WSIS and the WSIS/SDG Task Force;

*f)* Resolution 75 ( Rev. Hammamet, 2016,) of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), on ITU‑T's contribution in implementing the outcomes of WSIS taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*g)* Resolution 61 (Geneva, 2015) of the Radiocommunication Assembly, on the ITU Radiocommunication Sector's contribution in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

recognizing

*a)* that the Outcome Document of the UNGA on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society has substantial implications on the activities of the ITU;

b) that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications on the activities of the ITU,

*c)* the importance of ITU's role and participation in UNGIS, as a permanent member, and sharing a rotating chairmanship;

*d)* ITU's commitment to the implementation of the goals and objectives of WSIS and SDGs, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*c)* resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the implementation process, along with UNESCO and UNDP, as stated in § 109 of the Tunis Agenda;

2 that ITU should continue to coordinate WSIS Forums, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD), WSIS Project Prizes and maintain the WSIS Stocktaking database, as well as continue to coordinate and support the activities of the Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development; ;

3 that ITU should continue to play a lead facilitation role in the WSIS implementation process, as a moderator/facilitator for implementing Action Lines C2, C5 and C6;

4 that ITU should continue carrying out those activities that come within its mandate and the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference and together with other stakeholders, as appropriate, to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which the ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN Agencies, working through the Council Working Group on WSIS, including by:

1. updating its WSIS Action Line Roadmaps for C2, C5, and C6 to take into account activities underway to also achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
2. providing input, as appropriate, into the roadmap/work plans of WSIS Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9 and C11, also related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5 that ITU should continue to adapt itself, taking into account technological developments and its potential to contribute significantly to building an inclusive information society and to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6

6 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the Summit, in which the expertise and core competence of ITU were noted several times;

7 to express its satisfaction with the successful outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event to review implementation of WSIS outcomes, at which the importance of collaboration among United Nations agencies, governments and relevant stakeholders was noted several times;

8 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for ITU's efforts to initiate and coordinate the WSIS+10 Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform (MPP) and WSIS+10 High-Level Event in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders;

9 to express its satisfaction and appreciation for the efforts and contributions of other relevant United Nations agencies and all other stakeholders during the WSIS+10 MPP and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event;

10 to endorse the following outcome documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event:

– WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes;

– WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015;

12

11 to express its thanks to the staff of the Union, the host countries and WG-WSIS for their efforts in the preparation of both phases of WSIS (Geneva, 2003 and Tunis, 2005) and the WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014), as well as all members of ITU actively involved in implementing the WSIS outcomes;

12 that there is a need to integrate the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) of WTDC, and relevant resolutions of plenipotentiary conferences, with the multistakeholder implementation of the WSIS/SDG outcomes;

13 that ITU should, within available resources, continue to maintain the current public WSIS stocktaking database, as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up of WSIS, as instructed in § 120 of the Tunis Agenda;

14 that the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU‑D) shall give high priority to building information and communication infrastructure (WSIS Action Line C2), this being the physical backbone for all e‑applications, having regard to the Buenos Aires Declaration and Objective 2 of the Buenos Aires Action Plan and calling upon the ITU‑D study groups to do the same;

15 to endorse the WSIS+10 Report: ITU's Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014);

16 that UNGA be encouraged to consider the WSIS+10 High-Level Event outcome documents, which were developed through the MPP, which takes stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Geneva 2003 outcomes and addresses potential ICT gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as addressing challenges, including bridging the digital divide, and harnessing ICTs for development;

17 that ITU should submit a progress report on the implementation of WSIS/SDG outcomes concerning ITU to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2022,

instructs the Secretary-General

1

1 to support ITU's role in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the2030 Agenda for Sustainable , as established by Member States;

3

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2 to regularly update the roadmaps for ITU’s activities within its mandate of the WSIS implementation, taking into account the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, as well as, “Connect 2020”, to be presented to the Council via WG-WSIS;

3 to ensure that ITU activities related to the 2030 Agenda are implemented through the close alignment with WSIS process and are conducted in accordance with its mandate, within established policies and procedures, and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget;

4 to prepare a final and comprehensive report on the ITU activities for WSIS implementation and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda together with proposals for further activities and submit it to Council 2018 through WG-WSIS;

5 to report annually on progress made in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for which the ITU is the facilitator, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Economic and Social Council and to provide this report to the CWG-WSIS;

6 to contribute annually on relevant ITU activities to the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and to the UNGA HLPF 2019 through the mechanisms established by Resolution A/70/1 and provide the report to WG-WSIS;

7 to provide to the ITU Council a comprehensive report detailing the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union, is undertaking on these subjects, for its consideration and decision,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1 to take all necessary measures for ITU to fulfil its role, as outlined in *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, in accordance with the appropriate roadmaps;

2 to continue to coordinate, with the WSIS/SDG Task Force, the activities related to WSIS/SDG implementation for implementing *resolves* 1, 2, 3, and 4 above, with the aim of avoiding duplication of work among the ITU Bureaux and the ITU General Secretariat;

3 to continue to raise public awareness of the Union's mandate, role and activities and provide broader access to the Union's resources for the general public and other actors involved in the emerging information society;

4 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;

5 to strengthen, through the regional offices, together with relevant regional organizations, coordination at the regional level with the UN Economic Regional Commissions and UN Regional Development Group, as well as all UN Agencies (in particular those acting as facilitator for WSIS Action Lines), under process of implementation of WSIS/SDG outcomes with the aim of advancing the alignment of the WSIS and SDG processes, strengthening implementation of ICT for SDG actions through *Delivering as One UN approach*; programming of UN Development Assistance Frameworks, implementation of interagency and multistakeholder projects, strengthening regional input to the WSIS Forum, WSIS Prizes, WSIS Stocktaking.

6 to report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, including their financial implications;

7 to prepare and submit a progress report on the ITU activities for WSIS/SDG implementation to the next plenipotentiary conference in 2022;

7

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

to ensure that concrete objectives and deadlines (using results-based management processes) for WSIS activities are developed and reflected in the operational plans of each Sector,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to follow, as soon as possible and in accordance with Resolution 30 (Rev. Buenos Aires , 2017), a partnership approach in ITU‑D activities related to its roles in the implementation and follow-up of the WSIS outcomes, in accordance with the provisions of the ITU Constitution and ITU Convention, and to report annually, as appropriate, to the Council,

requests the Council

1 to oversee, consider and discuss, as appropriate, ITU's implementation of the WSIS/SDG outcomes and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

2 to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 5 above;

3 to maintain WG-WSIS, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS/SDG outcomes and to elaborate, in collaboration with other Council working groups, proposals to the Council that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society, with the assistance of the WSIS/SDG Task Force, these proposals possibly including amendments to the Constitution and the Convention;

4 to take into account the relevant decisions of the United Nations General Assembly with regard to implementation of the WSIS/SDG;

5 to prepare and submit to the UNGA High-Level Political Forum 2019 the report on the ITU contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015-2019;

6 to report annually on relevant ITU activities to the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) through the mechanisms established by Resolution 70/1;

7 to include the report of the Secretary-General in the documents sent to Member States in accordance with No. 81 of the Convention;

8 to take all necessary measures, as appropriate, in follow-up to UNGA Resolutions 70/1 and 70/125, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

9 to encourage the participation of the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities that support WSIS/SDG implementation, as appropriate,

invites Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia

1 to participate actively in implementing WSIS/SDG outcomes, contribute to the WSIS Forum and WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU and the WSIS Project Prizes, and participate actively in the activities of WG-WSIS and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

2 2 to participate actively in ITU WSIS implementation activities to support achieving the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate;

3 to support, through relevant UN processes, the synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development taking into account the WSIS-SDG Matrix , so as to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development;

4 to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of WSIS/SDG outcomes;

5 to continue to contribute information on their activities to the public WSIS stocktaking database maintained by ITU;

6 to contribute to and closely collaborate with the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development as an international, multistakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries,

resolves to express

1 its warmest thanks and deepest gratitude to the Governments of Switzerland and Tunisia for having hosted the two phases of the Summit in close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and other relevant United Nations agencies;

2 its appreciation for the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, coordinated and hosted by ITU and co‑organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP with the engagement of other United Nations agencies.

1. 1 These include the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)