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Updated Roadmap for ITU’s activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. In line with Resolution 1332 (Modified 2018), and taking into account the overall mandate of ITU and its role as the specialized United Nations agency for ICTs, the Roadmap for ITU actions related to the SDGs remain a living document giving course to ITU actions related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
2. During ITU PP-18, Member States and sector members reemphasized on the importance of telecommunications/ICTs as an enabler that harnesses the potential of and opportunities resulting from digital innovation which can benefit the socio-economic development of the countries concerned and help achieve the 17 SDGs. In the recently adopted Resolution 71, ITU Strategic Plan 2020-2023, member states highlighted the necessity of contributing to the worldwide efforts to achieve the SDGs in close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process. This interlinkage is well embedded in ITUs resolutions in different areas of activities across all sectors, please refer to the [ITU SDG Mapping Tool](https://www.itu.int/sdgmappingtool) for further details. The sector objectives, in particular the objectives and outputs of BDT and TSB, and intersectoral objectives are also well linked to the WSIS Action Lines, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The [WSIS Action Lines and SDGs matrix](http://www.wsis.org/sdg) also clearly highlights the linkages between the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs.
3. Since 2016, as resolved by ITU membership in Resolution 1332 (Revised 2018), the WSIS framework is used as the foundation through which ITU helps achieve the 2030 Agenda.
4. In order to maximize ITU's contribution to the 2030 Agenda, ITU's primary focus is in addressing **SDG 9** (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and Target 9.c aiming to significantly increase access to ICTs and provide universal and affordable access to the Internet. That is to enable ICT and telecommunications to be a catalyzer towards fast forwarding all SDG. As **SDG17** (Partnership for the Goals) highlights ICTs as a means of implementation, with crosscutting transformative potential, it is imperative that ITU leverages this broad impact. Notable SDGs where ITU has a particularly strong impact include **SDG 11** (Sustainable Cities and Communities), **SDG 10** (Reduced Inequalities), **SDG 8** (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 1 (No Poverty), **SDG 3** (Good-Health and Well-Being), **SDG 4** (Quality Education) and **SDG 5** (Gender Equality).
5. Bearing in mind the overall mandate of the ITU and its role as the specialized United Nations agency for ICTs, the Roadmap is a living document intended to give course to ITU actions related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
6. The Roadmap is made available in Annex I.

**Annex I**

**DRAFT ROADMAP OF ITU ACTIONS RELATED TO THE SDGs**

1. **Revised ITU Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 aligned with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai in 2018, endorsed the new Strategic Plan for the Union for 2020-2023. The strategic goals and targets set for the Union by the Member States (on 1-Growth, 2-Inclusiveness, 3-Sustainability, 4-Innovation and 5-Partnership) support ITU's role in facilitating progress towards the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With the adoption of the UNGA Resolution "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" ITU, along with the rest of the UN family, needs to support Member States and contribute to the worldwide efforts to achieve the SDGs. The associated 17 SDGs and 169 related targets offer a holistic vision for the UN system.

The role of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) as essential catalysts to fast-forward the achievement of the SDGs is clearly highlighted in the 2030 Agenda: "the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide, and to develop knowledge societies". ITU, as the UN's specialized agency for ICTs and global connectivity, has a key role to play in promoting prosperity in our digital world.

1. **Discussions at WG–WSIS &SDG, and at annual sessions of Council**

ITU’s activities related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will be reported annually to Council for its feedback and guidance on how ITU can better serve its members and the global community in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets.

1. **WSIS / SDG Task Force as the inter-sectoral coordination mechanism**

WSIS / SDG Task Force facilitates coordination of ITU Secretariat’s activities in relation to 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and WSIS processes within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget.

1. **Cross-sectoral mapping of ITU activities and initiatives to the SDGs**

The ITU secretariat will continue to update the stocktaking and mapping of all ITU initiatives and activities related to the SDGs ([ITU SDG Mapping tool](https://www.itu.int/sdgmappingtool)), taking into consideration existing frameworks provided by the WSIS Action Lines for the overall ICT ecosystem.

This includes also, a link with the WSIS Stocktaking is now implemented as well as providing a space for other stakeholders to map their own ICT activities with the SDGs.

1. **Review and input from the ITU Sectors**

Since Council 2017, measures have been taken to report on the contribution of ITU to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through the ITU Annual Report (please refer to the latest Report on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan and Activities of the Union/ITU Annual Progress Report [C19/35](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0035/en)). Information has also been introduced in the [ITU SDG Mapping tool](https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/SDG/#/home/home-page).

ITU activities contributing to the 2030 Agenda are also reflected in the Annual Four-year rolling Operational Plans 2020-2023 ([Resolution 1395](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0121/en): Annual four-year rolling Operational Plans for the Union for 2020-2023) – presented in document [C19/28](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0028/en).

1. **Engagement with Member States**

The main areas of focus here are on ITUs advocacy and assistance for the use of ICTs for development activities.

The SDG global follow-up and review process foresees the presentation of Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) during the High Level Political Forum held annually in July in New York. Member States will be continuously encouraged to ensure highlighting in their future Voluntary National Review, the importance of ICT for sustainable development as a cross-cutting enabler and accelerator to achieve the SDGs. Highlights could include illustrating good practices, lessons learned, challenges, opportunities and support required in terms of finance, capacity building, technology, partnerships etc. References to policy and enabling environment measures with key stakeholders including national and local government, legislative bodies, civil society and the private sector are encouraged.

Periodic information sessions for New York Permanent Missions on ITU relevant work and ICT4SDGs will be continued, with particular focus on the set of SDGs selected for deep dives during each HLPF.

Member states will continue to be encouraged to incorporate ICT component for SDGs in national development frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (former UNDAFs).

1. **Engaging with all stakeholders on the implementation of the Connect 2030 Agenda and the SDGs**

In the Resolution 200 (REV. DUBAI, 2018) the Connect 2030 Agenda endorses the high-level strategic goals and targets set out in the strategic plan of the Union and the global broadband targets set up by the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, and aims to inspire and invite all stakeholders and entities to work together to contribute and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs.

As part of the implementation of the ITU Strategic Plan, ITU will engage with all stakeholders, including international organizations, the private sector, civil society and academia, while undertaking initiatives to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. ITU brings together more than 700 Sector Members and Associates from industry, international and regional organizations and academia, providing a unique, trusted and global multi-stakeholder platform for partners from the public and private sectors to address ICT issues related to the implementation of the SDGs.

1. **UN system-wide coordination on the SDGs**

ITU participation in relevant UN system coordination mechanisms, under related 2030 Agenda and SDG implementation issues. Among these:

1. Chief Executive Board for Coordination
2. High Level Committee on Programmes
3. High Level Committee on Management
4. Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation as part of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism entrusted with the STI Forum and Online Platform
5. Interagency Task Team on Financing for Development
6. United Nations Sustainable Development Group
7. United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (former UNDAFs)
8. United Nations Group on the Information Society
9. United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanisms

ITU will continue to provide input to the various UN Secretary-General thematic reports highlighting ITU’s work and contribution, including challenges and opportunities, of ICT for sustainable development.

ITU will also provide ICT data and statistics to monitor and track the ICT indicators, incorporating those on new technologies, related to the SDGs.

ITU will participate and provide input to the global follow-up and review process of the SDGs, including following UN General Assembly, ECOSOC, the High-Level Political Forum, CSTD and other relevant UN bodies, meetings and thematic discussions. Through its Regional Offices, ITU will also contribute to or/and co-organize UN Regional Forums for Sustainable Development (regional mechanism for follow-up and review), while providing annual ITU Regional Development Forums as platforms for strengthening implementation of the regional initiatives focusing on ICT for SDG.

1. **Communication and Advocacy Campaign**

ITU will continue creating material highlighting the impact of ICTs on the SDGs with audio visual, social media and other content.

Advocacy and communication messaging will be aligned and tailored to different stakeholders.