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| **Council Working Group on WSIS and SDG36th meeting – Virtual meeting, 28-29 January 2021** |  |
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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-36/18-E** |
| **14 January 2021** |
| **English only** |
| Contribution by the Russian Federation |
| Comments toITU COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION TO THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HLPF) 2021 |

**I Introduction**

The meeting of the HLPF in 2021 will be held **from 6 to 15 July 2021**, under the auspices of the [Economic and Social Council](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en).

The General Assembly defined the theme of the 2021 HLPF to be “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. The HLPF in 2021 will also discuss Sustainable Development Goals 1 on no poverty, 2 on zero hunger, 3 on good health and well-being, 8 on decent work and economic growth, 10 on reduced inequalities, 12 on responsible consumption and production, 13 on climate action, 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and 17 on partnerships in depth. The Forum will consider the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs.

President of ECOSOC invited the intergovernmental bodies to provide substantive inputs to the 2021 HLPF on its review of the above SDGs and the theme. This contribution could showcase the views and guidance of the intergovernmental bodies on those aspects of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the various measures and types of international cooperation that can control the pandemic and its impacts and put the world back on track to achieve the SDGs by 2030, within the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

It was also mentioned that it would be essential that the intergovernmental body contributes to the HLPF thematic reviews, even in case its main area of work is not under in-depth consideration at the HLPF, given the interlinkages across the SDGs. Contributions should be as focused as possible and build on the expertise of the intergovernmental body.

The template conveyed in the letter of the President of ECOSOC, listed in document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-36/15](https://www.itu.int/md/S21-CWGWSIS36-C-0015/en)**,** could be considered in providing inputs, while taking into account the ITU mandate and views.

The contribution should be send no later than 15 March 2021 to the HLPF Secretariat.

The Resolution 140 ((Rev. Dubai, 2018) instructs the Secretary-General

 “…4 to contribute annually on relevant ITU activities to the High-Level Political Forum, and provide the report to the Council through CWG-WSIS&SDG”.

Document **CWG-WSIS&SDG-36/16** that includes the draft ITU Council contribution to the 2021 HLPF reflects only one part of requested input - a reply to the template, but does not include the ITU activities related to SDGs implementation, especially on SDGs 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 that are under consideration of HLPF-21.

For the consideration of the updated ITU Council contribution to the 2021 HLPF it could be useful to use the similar procedure as one had been used at previous years, i.e. to continue work on this document by correspondence bearing in mind the deadline on 15 March 2021, and the Council session to be held tentatively in June 2021.

**II Proposals**

1. To invite Secretariat to provide additional information on the ITU activities related to SDGs, especially SDGs 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 and other relevant activities that focused and build on the expertise of the ITU.
2. To create a Correspondence group under the auspices of CWG-WSIS&SDG open for all interested group members for the consideration of the ITU input to HLPF-21 with a target to prepare an agreed text of the draft of the ITU input to HLPF-21 up to 20 February 2021 that shall be posted for comments at the CWG-WSIS&SDG website by the deadline of 1 March 2021.
3. The CWG-WSIS&SDG management team shall consider and combine all comments received and send the consolidated text to the Council Chairman up to 5 March 2021.

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