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| **Agenda item: PL 2** | **Document C23/81-E** |
| **27 June 2023** |
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| Contribution from the People's Republic of China | |
| PROPOSAL ON STRENGTHENING MEMBER STATES' PARTICIPATION IN ITU'S WORK ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | |
| **Purpose**  The Administration of the People's Republic of China invites the Council to consider the proposal on encouraging greater participation of Member States in ITU's work related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.  **Action required by the Council**  The Council is invited to **consider** the proposals contained in the contribution and **take action** as appropriate.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  UNGA [Resolution 76/307](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/587/47/pdf/N2258747.pdf?OpenElement) and [Resolution 75/1](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N20/248/80/pdf/N2024880.pdf?OpenElement);  [Resolution 140](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-e.pdf) ( Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;  [Resolution 1332](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0137/en) (C11, last amended C19), [Resolution 1334](https://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0111/en) (C11, last amended C15),and [Resolution 800](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/conf/S-CONF-CL-2021-PDF-E.pdf) (C-1977, last amended C-1984) of the ITU Council;  Document 61 of the 2023 session of the Council ([C23/61](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0061/en)) | |

# 1 Background

The Plenipotentiary Conference clarified the role of ITU in implementing the outcomes of WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. *Resolves* 1 of Resolution 140 of the Plenipotentiary Conference states that, "ITU's role regarding implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should focus on telecommunications/ICTs, in accordance with ITU's mandate"; *resolves* 13 states that, "the ITU Sectors, and in particular relevant study groups, should, when carrying out their activities, consider the work of CWG-WSIS&SDG and other Council working groups on issues relevant to WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"; in *instructs the Secretary General* 14, the Secretary-General is instructed "in accordance with UNGA Resolution 76/307, to engage actively on issues related to the mandate of ITU in the preparatory process of the United Nations Summit of the Future, to be held on 22-23 September 2024, in New York." At the same time, Resolution 140 requests the ITU Council to oversee ITU's work on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs and related activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate; and to maintain CWG-WSIS&SDG, in order to facilitate membership input and guidance on ITU's implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and its activities to help achieve the SDGs.

We noted that the ITU submitted its input[[1]](#footnote-1) on the Global Digital Compact (GDC) to the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Technology in April 2023, presenting its work and considerations in areas such as avoiding Internet fragmentation, protecting human rights on the Internet, AI governance and digital public goods. At the same time, ITU will organize SDG Digital Day on 17 September 2023. According to the Secretary General's circular letter to P2C pledgers in June, the event, co-sponsored by ITU and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), invites UN Member States and stakeholders to take stock of progress and identify the gaps in delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

# 2 Discussion

ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency for ICTs, plays an important role in promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the implementation of the WSIS outcomes will contribute to promoting digital transformation and the development of the digital economy and achieving the SDGs. Therefore, ITU, as an international intergovernmental organization driven by Member States and as a moderator/facilitator for implementing WSIS Action Lines C2, C4, C5 and C6, needs to consolidate existing resources and make full use of WSIS working mechanisms while participating in the GDC consultations and organizing the SDG Digital Day and other 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development-related activities so as to promote the broad participation of Member States and jointly contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

# 3 Proposal

Based on relevant resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Council, China proposes that the Council provide guidance for the following work:

1 When ITU participates in activities related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including participating in the GDC consultations and organizing the SDG Digital Day, the General Secretariat should consult broadly with Member States and draft a comprehensive report based on the opinions of Member States, detailing ITU's ongoing activities, actions taken and other work carried out in response to these topics, for consideration and discussion by CWG-WSIS&SDG.

2 In considering the report submitted by the General Secretariat, CWG-WSIS&SDG should focus on ITU's role as a moderator/facilitator for implementing WSIS Action Lines C2, C4, C5 and C6, make proposals on ITU's work on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, avoid, to the extent possible, duplication of ITU's work with various UN multi-stakeholder mechanisms, and submit the outcomes of related discussions to the Council for consideration.

3 The Council should thoroughly review the report submitted by CWG-WSIS&SDG, as an important reference for drafting the WSIS+20 report and the report on the UNGA overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.

4 The Secretary-General is encouraged to actively participate in the activities of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on behalf of ITU, based on the result of consideration by the Council.

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1. See <https://www.un.org/techenvoy/sites/www.un.org.techenvoy/files/GDC-submission_ITU.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)