|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Agenda item: PL.2** | **Revision 1 to****Document C24/8-E** |
| **31 May 2024** |
| **Original: English** |
|  |  |
| Report by the Chair, Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG |
| REPORT ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE CWG-WSIS&SDG 39TH AND 40TH MEETINGS |
| **Purpose**This report summarizes the main results of the 39th and 40th meetings of the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG), in line with [Resolution 140](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf) (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, and Council Resolutions [1332 (Modified 2023)](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0119/en), and [1334 (Modified 2023)](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en). It also reflects my observation as Chair for CWG-WSIS & SDG of the recent WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 that took place from 27 to 31 May 2024.**Action required by the Council**The Council is invited to **take note** of this report, and to **adopt** revisions to Council Resolution 1332 in [Annex A](#AnnexA).**Relevant link(s) with the Strategic Plan**Convening platforms; partnerships and international cooperation.**Financial implications**Within the allocated budget 2024-2025.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References***UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/125*](https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/125)*,* [*A/RES/70/1*](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1)*,* [*A/RES/77/150*](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/755/00/pdf/N2275500.pdf?OpenElement)*,* [*A/71/212*](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/212)*,* [*A/70/299*](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/299)*,* [*A/70/684*](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/684)*,* [*A/RES/73/218*](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/73/218)*; UN ECOSOC* [*Resolution E/RES/2023/3*](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2023/3)*; Plenipotentiary Conference Resolutions* [*140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf)*,* [*172 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Documents/Resolution172-PP10.pdf)*,* [*Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-071-E.pdf)*; Council Resolutions* [*1332 (Modified 2023)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0119/en)*,* [*1334 (Modified 2023)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en)*; WTDC Resolutions* [*30 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf)*; WTSA Resolutions* [*75 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.75-2022)*; WRC Resolutions* [*61-2 (Modified 2019)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61-2-2019)*;* [*WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes*](http://www.itu.int/net/wsis/implementation/2014/forum/inc/doc/outcome/362828V2E.pdf)*;* [*WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015*](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/implementation/2014/forum/inc/doc/outcome/362828V2E.pdf#page=21)*;* [*Final WSIS Targets Review*](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/publications/wsisreview2014/WSIS2014_review.pdf)*;* [*WSIS+10 Report; ITU’s Ten Year Contribution to the WSIS Implementation and Follow-up (2005-2014);*](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Documents/WSIS%2B10Report.pdf) [*Report on the Outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG Meetings held since PP-18*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0020/en)*;* [*Report on the Outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG Meetings held since Council 21*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0019/en)*;* [*Roadmap for ITU’s Activities to Help Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0014/en)*;* *[World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 - WSIS+20 Roadmap;](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/22/cl/c/S22-CL-C-0059%21%21MSW-E.docx)* [*Summary of 39th Meeting*](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/23/cwgwsis39/c/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0022%21%21MSW-E.docx)*;* [*Summary of 40th Meeting*](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/24/cwgwsis40/c/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0015%21%21MSW-E.docx)*;* [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*.* |

1. **Introduction**

This document contains the summary report of the two meetings of the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG), held since the July 2023 session of the Council. During this period the work of the group focused on:

1. Activities conducted by ITU towards the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Overall WSIS+20 Review Process and ITUs contribution to the Review
3. Alignment of the WSIS Process with the 2030 Agenda and its contributions to other UN processes
4. ITUs contribution to the High-level Political Forum
5. ITUs contribution to the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and its relationship with the WSIS Process

The meetings were well attended physically and virtually (39th meeting 140 participants and 40th meeting 150 participants), representing ITU Member States and Sector Members. The meetings considered 33 documents and 10 information documents. The meetings continue to provide an opportunity to reach consensus on progress achieved in WSIS process implementation, underlining the importance of urging global digital discussions, and the group is invited to continue addressing its work with openness, respect, and commitment. The contributions received by the secretariat and the Member States were recognized and appreciated, with special thanks to the secretariat and Vice-Chairs.

1. **Activities of the CWG-WSIS&SDG**
	1. The meetings discussed the updates on implementation and follow-up actions to relevant ITU and United Nations (UN) resolutions and processes, including Resolutions from the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) and Council Resolutions [1332](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0119/en) and [1334](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en), United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolutions [A/RES/70/125](https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/125), [A/RES/70/1](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1), [A/RES/77/150](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/755/00/pdf/N2275500.pdf?OpenElement), [A/71/212](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/212), [A/70/299](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/299), [A/70/684](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/684), [A/RES/73/218](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/73/218); Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [Resolution E/RES/2023/3](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2023/3);
	2. In line with the Resolution 1332, the Secretary-General’s comprehensive report on [ITU’s contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Contribution.aspx)*,* providing an overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken to implement the WSIS outcomes and in support of the 2030 Agenda, was presented.
	3. The meeting also discussed the follow-up to the UNSG’s report and provided additional updates on the “Our Common Agenda” ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-39/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0002/en)), the outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2023 ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-39/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0004/en)) and the ITU Council contribution, as well as the WSIS Forum contribution at High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2023 ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-39/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0003/en), [CWG-WSIS&SDG-39/14](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0014/en)), and the ongoing preparations for the 2024 Summit of the Future ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-39/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CWGWSIS39-C-0004/en))
	4. The [CSTD Roadmap for the WSIS+20 Review](https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/ecn162023_roadmap_p05_CSTDChair_en.pdf) was presented by UNCTAD and UNCSTD representatives, while the [UNESCO’s Roadmap Towards the WSIS+20 Review in 2025](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark%3A/48223/pf0000379370) was presented by UNESCO representative.
	5. Preparation of the Summit of the Future 2024, including the Global Digital Compact (GDC), were also discussed, with co-facilitators of the two processes presenting the briefings (supporting documents: [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0004/en), [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0005/en), and [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0006/en)).
	6. ITU’s [WSIS Action Lines Roadmaps](http://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Roadmaps.aspx) for C2, C4, C5 and C6 were presented, in alignment with the Strategic Plan of the Union for 2024-2027, and updates will be made available at the next CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting.
	7. The meetings reviewed the outcomes of annual activities contributing to the [WSIS Forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum), the [WSIS Stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking) and the [WSIS Prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes), as fully aligned with and contributing to the SDGs ([WSIS-SDG Matrix](http://www.wsis.org/sdg) as developed by UN agencies).
	8. ITU’s contribution to the [Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/intlcoop/partnership/default.aspx) was presented and its importance in producing high-quality and timely ICT statistics and leveraging the potential benefits of using big data for official statistics and the urgent need to identify follow-up indicators to measure progress in achieving the development goals, including for the Global Digital Compact, was highlighted.
	9. The work of the [United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/ungis/) for the period 2023-2024 was presented and ITU’s contributions to UNGIS were highlighted.
	10. On the preparation activities to the Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS Beyond 2025, while the group recognized the WSIS as a multistakeholder process that has stood the test of time, the WSIS+20 review process is expected to provide a guidance framework for all stakeholders for addressing opportunities and challenges posed by the current digital landscape, having regard to the strategic goals of the Union, i.e. universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation, the following points highlight the activities of the group:
		1. [CWG-WSIS&SDG](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0018/en) initiated discussions on the role of ITU in the WSIS+20 review process and its preparations. The Secretary-General's report elaborating the role of ITU in the WSIS+20 review process (“[World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 - WSIS+20 Roadmap](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/22/cl/c/S22-CL-C-0059%21%21MSW-E.docx)“) was presented and noted at the Plenipotentiary Conference (Bucharest, 2022). Several sessions on the WSIS+20 review process were held at WSIS Forum 2022 and 2023, with the participation of all stakeholders. The discussions covered examples of reporting templates that could be used by WSIS action line facilitators, civil society and countries. Member States are invited to take the necessary action required for the preparations of the overall review of WSIS.
		2. The [WSIS+20 Forum High-level Event](http://www.wsis.org/forum) preparations were reviewed and discussed, while the Event was recognized as a platform for the [WSIS+20 review](http://www.wsis.org/review) that will enable multistakeholder discussions on progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes under the mandates of the participating agencies, and as an opportunity to take stock of achievements in the last 20 years based on reports from WSIS stakeholders, including countries, action line facilitators and others.
		3. ITU’s contributions to the global digital governance processes, such as the GDC and the 2030 Agenda, to ensure synergy and coherence throughout the WSIS+20 review process, were appreciated by the group.
	11. ITU’s contributions to the alignment activities between WSIS and other UN processes and events were reviewed and appreciated, including the UNGIS/WSIS side event “[WSIS Cooperation for Accelerating Progress on the SDGs](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/en/Agenda/Session/131)” took place at the ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2023. At the 61st session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD61), special sessions were held on “[Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Older Persons: Healthy Ageing in a Digital World](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/Agenda/Session/132)” and on “[Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Accessibility: Towards Building Inclusive Digital Communities](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/Agenda/Session/133)”. During the fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5), a WSIS/UNGIS side event was delivered on “[ICTs for accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) – from potential to prosperity](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/Agenda/Session/346)”. A WSIS Gender Trendsetters side event on “[ICTs for Gender Inclusion](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/Agenda/Session/358)” was held at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
	12. In line with Resolution 1332 (C11, last amended C19), and taking into account the overall mandate of ITU and its role as the specialized United Nations agency for ICTs, the [roadmap for ITU’s activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0014/en) was presented, including series of actions have been implemented as guided by the Roadmap and CWG members.
	13. Following the presentations of the ITU’s activities towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda ([Connect 2030 Agenda](https://www.itu.int/highlights-report-activities/connect2030/)) as also reflected in the [strategic framework set out in the ITU strategic plan for 2024-2027](https://www.itu.int/en/council/planning/Pages/default.aspx#:~:text=%E2%80%8BITU%20will%20work%20to,for%20the%20benefit%20of%20all.), was discussed, and the group highlighted the importance of realization of ITU’s mission and role in facilitating progress towards the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the 2030 Agenda.
	14. ITU’s participation in HLPFs held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and at the SDG Summits held every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly, were discussed and appreciated. Inputs from the ITU Council to the HLPFs are available on the [CWG-WSIS&SDG website](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx) and the [UN HLPF website](https://hlpf.un.org/inputs?f%5B0%5D=type%3AIntergovernmental%20forums%20and%20bodies).
2. **The group considered and discussed with appreciation all contributions forwarded to this meeting and made the following recommendations:**
	1. The group requested the secretariat to update the ITU Roadmaps C2, C4, C5 and C6 (2023) with all the WSIS Action Lines, where ITU is a lead facilitator, and to present it to the next CWG-WSIS&SDG.
	2. The membership and all stakeholders are invited to contribute to the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event, its calls for action, and to participate at the event scheduled to take place 27-31 May in CICG and ITU HQ in Geneva.
	3. Further information about the WSIS Forum 2025 is to be presented in the 2024 session of the Council.
	4. The membership and all WSIS stakeholders are invited to contribute to the WSIS Fund in Trust and to explore the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event partnership packages. The group appreciated the announced WSIS Fund in Trust 2024 Partners.
	5. The membership and all stakeholders are encouraged to actively contribute to the WSIS Stocktaking and WSIS Prizes calls for action and supporting activities, including the WSIS special prizes.
	6. The group appreciated updates on UNGIS activities and its contributions to other UN processes, highlighting the importance of digital in accelerating the achievement of the SDGs, and ITU’s leading role in this process.
	7. The group encouraged the secretariat to continue collaborating with all UN agencies, including GDC and Summit of the Future discussions.
	8. The secretariat was requested to further engage with the GDC and Summit of the Future seeking for alignment that is well coordinated and complementary between the GDC and WSIS outcomes
	9. The group encouraged the ITU Regional Offices to continue facilitating the participation and engagement of the Member States in the regional activities and projects, particularly in implementing the WSIS outcomes at the regional level and planning the WSIS+20 review meetings.
	10. The membership was invited to participate in the regional events organised by ITU and regional organisations on WSIS and SDGs.
	11. The membership was invited to actively participate in commemorating the theme of WTISD-24 on Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development and WTISD-25 on Gender Equality in Digital Transformation.
	12. The group noted the activities presented in the Roadmap for ITU's activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and looked forward to receiving the roadmap document for the next CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting.
	13. In preparation towards the Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS Beyond 2025, and in accordance with the Resolution 1334 (mod.2023) CWG-WSIS&SDG agreed to:
	14. invite the secretariat to submit to 2024 Council session a first draft report on ITU's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the WSIS outcomes and its role in achieving the SDGs (2015-2025) for submission to the 2025 session of CSTD and UNGA (hereinafter referred to as the report on ITU's contribution to WSIS+20)
	15. invite the 2024 Council session after the consideration of the first draft the report on ITU's contribution to WSIS+20, due to time constraints related to the sequence of the 2025 CSTD session and the 2025 Council session and expected relevant ITU activities to be conducted after 2024 Council session to instruct the CWG-WSIS&SDG:
		1. to consider and agree on the report for ITU's contribution to WSIS+20 for further submission to the 2025 session of CSTD and UNGA;
		2. to report to the 2025 Council session accordingly.

In conclusion, the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 took place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 27 to 31 May 2024. The Swiss Confederation and the ITU co-hosted the event, which was co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, and UNCTAD.

During the five days of discussions, it was widely agreed that WSIS processes have resulted in a policy framework supporting innovation and digital development to achieve ambitious WSIS Action Lines

 Given that 2025 will mark twenty years since the Geneva Plan of Action was implemented, similar to the WSIS+10 review process, I propose that Council Resolution 1332 be revised to incorporate the latest developments related to the WSIS process. This should include the outcomes of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 and should lay the framework for the preparatory process of the overall review of WSIS+20 as attached in the Annex.

***Annex: 1***

Annex A

resolution 1332 (Modified 2024)

ITU role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The ITU Council,

recalling

*a)* Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) on the ITU’s role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes;

*b)* Resolution 70 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) on mainstreaming a gender perspective in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies;

*c)* Resolution 102 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) on the ITU’s role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;

*d)* Resolution 175 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs;

*e)* Resolution 200 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on the Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology, including broadband, for sustainable development;

*f)* the relevant Sector resolutions on the role of the ITU Sectors in implementing the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*g)* UNGA Resolution A/70/125 “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”;

*h)* UNGA Resolution A/70/1 “Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”;

*i)* relevant Resolutions of UNGA and ECOSOC on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as in their follow-up and review processes;

*j)* the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, adopted at the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event (Geneva, 2014) and endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Busan, 2014), which was submitted as an input into the Overall Review of WSIS by the UNGA;

*k)* the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference related to WSIS and the SDGs;

*l)* the UNGA Resolution [A/78/L.49](http://www.undocs.org/A/78/L.49) on *Seizing the opportunities of safe, secure and trustworthy artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development,* which is referencing the “UNGA Resolution 70/125 on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, all the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, including the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society”; and which “looks forward to the overall review by the General Assembly, in 2025, of the progress made since the World Summit on the Information Society”,

considering,

*a)* that ITU has a pivotal role in providing a global perspective in regard to the information society;

*b)* that CWG-WSIS&SDG has proven itself a successful mechanism for facilitating the input of Member States related to the ITU’s role in the implementation of WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDG as called for by the Plenipotentiary Conference 2022, particularly, as instructed by the Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022), the ITU Sectors, and in particular relevant study groups, should, consider the work of CWG-WSIS&SDG and other Council working groups on issues relevant to WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development when carrying out their activities;

*c)* that Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) called for the ITU to allocate adequate resources to its activities, including WSIS staff and financial resources, to maintain effective implementation of the WSIS action lines and achieve the SDGs;

*d)* the implementation of the WSIS outcomes will contribute to promoting digital transformation and the development of the digital economy and achieving the SDGs;

*e)* that Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) instructs the Secretary-General 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;

*f)* that Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) emphasizes the core competences of ITU in the field of ICTs, namely 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;

*g)* that Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) requested that the ITU should submit a progress report concerning its implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, noting the contribution of telecommunications/ICTs to the digital transformation and the digital economy to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2026 and requested Council to maintain the CWG-WSIS&SDG in order to:

facilitate membership input and guidance on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes and its activities to help achieve the SDGs, and

requested Council:

i) to oversee, consider, discuss as appropriate, ITU’s work on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate;

ii) to oversee ITU's adaptation to the information society, in line with *resolves* 7 "that ITU should continue its work on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and realization of the WSIS+10 vision beyond 2015, carrying out those activities that come within its mandate and participating, together with other stakeholders, as appropriate";

iii) to continue to report annually on relevant ITU activities to HLPF through the mechanisms established by UNGA Resolution 70/1;

iv) to consider the outcomes of the UNGA overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and take appropriate actions;

v) to review and improve, through CWG-WSIS&SDG:

– the ITU activities related to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs

– the WSIS Prizes rules and guidelines to facilitate the participation of all stakeholders, using the six official languages of the Union, to make them more effective and simpler and serve the interest of all stakeholders

– promotion of the winners of WSIS Prizes throughout the UN activities related to WSIS and the SDGs

and invites ITU members:

 to participate actively in implementing the WSIS outcomes and achieving the SDGs, contribute to the WSIS Forum and WSIS Stocktaking database maintained by ITU and the WSIS Prizes, and participate actively in the activities of CWG-WSIS&SDG and in ITU's further adaptation in order to build an inclusive information society and achieve the SDGs;

*h)* that Resolution 102 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) in its considering, recognizing and emphasizing parts was inspired by the relevant WSIS outcomes in paragraphs 29-82 of the Tunis Agenda concerning Internet governance and resolved to explore ways and means for greater reciprocal collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organizations[[1]](#footnote-2)1 involved in the development of IP-based networks and the future internet, through cooperation agreements, as appropriate, in order to increase the role of ITU in Internet governance so as to ensure maximum benefits to the global community and promote affordable international connectivity,

recognizing

*a)* ITU's commitment to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs under its responsibility, as one of the most important goals for the Union;

*b)* 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;

*c)* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has substantial implications on the activities of the ITU;

*d)* that there is a close SDGs-WSIS interlinkage reflected in WSIS-SDGs Matrix, that shows the value of continued implementation of the WSIS outcomes towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda;

*e)* the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as the only inter-governmentally agreed global documents on information and communication technologies (ICTs) and digital technologies;

*f)* the WSIS process as the foundation of global digital policies and cooperation supporting our shared vision of people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information and knowledge societies that fully respects and upholds the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

*g)* the successful Chairship of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 by the Swiss Confederation;

*h)* the outcomes of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 and the Chair’s Summary calls for the:

i) continuous relevance of the WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS Action Lines that serves as a pertinent framework of discussion on digital policy and governance issues;

ii) GDC and the WSIS+20 review to complement and reinforce each other building on existing multistakeholder mechanisms like the WSIS Forum and IGF avoiding duplication of efforts;

*i)* that the WSIS Forum 2025 should be branded as a High-level Event in Geneva and serve as a platform for the WSIS+20 review the WSIS Action Lines and to take stock of the achievements and key trends, challenges and opportunities since the Geneva Plan of Action,

noting

*a)* that the ITU Secretary-General created the ITU WSIS&SDG Task Force whose role is to formulate strategies and coordinate ITU’s policies and activities in relation to WSIS and the SDGs and that this Task Force is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General;

*b)* the input submitted by the ITU on the Global Digital Compact (GDC), reflecting the ITU’s mandate, including on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

resolves

1 that ITU should play a leading facilitating role in the WSIS 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) and 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 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, working through the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG, including by:

1. updating its WSIS Action Line Roadmaps for C2, C4, 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, C7, C8, C9 and C11, also related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4 that the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG, open to all ITU membership, should continue its work with the terms of reference as shown in the Annex;

5 to confirm its commitment to amplifying the use of information and communication technology (ICTs) so as to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

6 to establish an open and inclusive preparatory process, Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform, for developing drafts of the outcome documents for consideration by the WSIS 20+ High-Level Event, by 1 April 2025 (for ITU under its responsibilities and other interested UN agencies, under their responsibilities):

a) draft WSIS +20 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes;

b) draft WSIS+20 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2025 under mandates of the participating agencies,

instructs the Council Working Group on the World Summit on the Information Society and SDGs

1 to initiate an open and inclusive preparatory process similar to that of WTPF-21, Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform for the WSIS 20+ High-Level Event 2025;

2 to hold online open consultations and necessary number of physical meetings, with remote participation as an integral component, that should serve as the preparatory Meetings leading towards the WSIS 20+ High-Level Event 2025. These meetings should be organized in an open, inclusive and multistakeholder manner within the framework of the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform;

3 to review the preparatory activities of the ITU in the context of convening the WSIS 20+ High-Level Event 2025;

4 to monitor and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux in relation to the implementation of this resolution;

5 to consider ITU’s contributions to various options for themes relevant to the substance of WSIS 20+ and beyond with the assistance of the WSIS Task Force,

instructs the Secretary-General

1 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 2030”, to be presented to the Council via CWG-WSIS&SDG;

2 to ensure that ITU activities related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 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;

3 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 and to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference through CWG-WSIS&SDG;

4 to build upon the outcomes of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 and fully engage and lead the Union in the organization of the WSIS twenty-year review (WSIS+20), which includes a preparatory process and the review of the WSIS Action lines, as appropriate, aligned with agreed United Nations reporting mechanisms on WSIS outcomes;

5 to continue reinforcing ITU's leading role in the United Nations system in implementing World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes and the twenty-year review (WSIS+20) process, building on its comparative advantages;

6 to continue to contribute to the Summit of the Future and the Global Digital Compact which is to be annexed to the Pact of the Future, including working towards synergy and coherence between the Global Digital Compact in its implementation and the WSIS process and outcomes, taking into account the views of the ITU Membership, including through CWG-WSIS&SDG;

7 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&SDG;

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

9 to submit to the 2025 session of the Council and the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference reports on ITU's implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes, follow-up to the Global Digital Compact (2024) and the twenty-year review (WSIS+20) (2025);

10 to invite UNGIS an inter-agency mechanism with a successful model of digital cooperation to align activities on developing the information society towards a knowledge society based on results of the overall review of implementation of WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and assist in the implementation and follow-up to the Global Digital Compact;

11 to continue to coordinate the WSIS Forum as a platform for discussion and sharing of best practices in the implementation of WSIS by all Stakeholders, taking into consideration the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

12 to adjust the WSIS Stocktaking database and WSIS project prize competitions in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13 to take into consideration the outputs of CWG-WSIS&SDG in WSIS&SDG Task Force activities;

14 to maintain the special WSIS Trust Fund to support ITU activities relating to facilitate the ITU implementation of WSIS outcomes through mechanisms including the establishment of partnerships and strategic alliances; and to invite the ITU Membership to make voluntary contributions,

*instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux*

1 in addition to focal points for WSIS action lines C2, C4, C5 and C6, to appoint other ITU focal points for action lines C1, C3, C7, C8, C9 and C11, where ITU is a co-facilitator or partner, as appropriate;

2 to formulate specific tasks and deadlines for implementing the action lines referred to above, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and incorporate them in the operational plans of the General Secretariat and the Sectors;

3 to take into account ITU's tasks with regard to the implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals when preparing for RA, WRC, WTSA, WTDC and PP as appropriate;

4 to regularly update the roadmap for ITU's activities within its mandate to reflect how the WSIS Framework can be used to help achieve the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, taking into account the “Connect 2030” Agenda, to be presented to the Council via CWG-WSIS&SDG;

5 to continue to integrate the implementation of the ITU-D Action Plan, and in particular Resolution 30, as well as put special efforts towards the development of an appropriate measurement methodology taking into account the ITU leadership in the Partnership on Measuring the ICTs for Development,

invites Member States, Sector Members, and all Stakeholders

1 to ensure that ITU’s mandate, topics and achievements continue to be well reflected in the international digital cooperation space, at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and beyond, and that related digital responsibilities continue to be attributed to the organization;

2 to participate actively in the activities related to WSIS implementation and in the activities of CWG-WSIS&SDG and in ITU's further adaptation to the information society;

3 to enhance their active involvement in, and contributions to, the effective implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes;

4 to mobilize resources in support of the Organization’s efforts to ensure ITU’s leading role in the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes and twenty-year review process (WSIS+20) including making voluntary contributions to the WSIS Trust Fund to support activities relating to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs;

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

6 to continue to nominate projects for the annual WSIS Project Prizes;

7 to encourage the participation of the ITU membership and other relevant stakeholders in ITU's activities that support the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the SDGs, as appropriate.

*Annex:* ***1***

ANNEX

Council CWG-WSIS&SDG Terms of Reference

a) to facilitate inputs from membership on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through its regular meetings and circular letters, questionnaires or other appropriate methods of query;

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

c) to monitor and evaluate on a yearly basis the actions taken by ITU with respect to implementation of WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by considering draft reports prepared by the Secretariat for submission to ECOSOC and HLPF on Sustainable Development and making appropriate recommendations to the Council;

d) to provide information to the membership regarding the actions to be performed by ITU in the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially with respect to implementation of WSIS action lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure), C4 (Capacity Building), C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs) and C6 (Enabling environment) where ITU is a facilitator;

e) to provide the membership with proposals for ITU in taking an active role in the implementation of action lines C1, C3, C7, C8, C9, C11 and other WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the SDGs related to ITU’s mandate within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

f) to provide guidance to ITU on the future activities of the ITU for the successful implementation of action lines C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, C9, C11 and other WSIS outcomes and the achievement of the SDGs related to ITU’s mandate within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference;

g) 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;

h) to develop proposals for Council’s consideration, in liaison with other Council working groups that may be necessary for adapting ITU to its role in building the information society and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the assistance of the WSIS&SDG Task Force.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. 1 including, but not limited, to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)