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| Report by Brazil (Federative Republic of) | |
| ITU PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY WORKING GROUP (DEWG) OF THE GROUP OF 20 UNDER THE BRAZILIAN PRESIDENCY | |
| **Purpose**  As the Presidency of the Group of 20 (G20), Brazil invited the ITU to act as the knowledge partner in Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) for the issue of Digital Inclusion, Universal and Meaningful Connectivity.  This is an Information Document prepared by Brazil to report to the Council the context and the progress of the ongoing DEWG G20 work.  **Action required by the Council**  This report is transmitted to the Council **for information.** | |

This contribution aims to inform the Members of the ITU Council and other interested parties of the work currently under development in the Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) of the Group of 20 (G20).

From December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024, Brazil holds the Presidency of the Group of 20 (G20). The G20 is a forum that brings together countries with some of the world's largest economies. Member States meet annually to discuss economic, political, and social initiatives. The Group has established itself as one of the leading forums for international economic cooperation, with its terms of reference based on the agreement reached by leaders at the Pittsburgh Summit in September 2009.

The Group is currently composed of 21 members and eight invited countries. There are three general priorities for Brazil's G20 Presidency:

* Combating hunger, poverty, and inequality;
* The three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental); and
* Reforming international governance.

Specifically, regarding the DEWG, four thematic areas are being explored this year:

* Digital Inclusion, Universal and Meaningful Connectivity;
* Digital Government: Building a Reliable and Inclusive Public Digital Infrastructure;
* Information Integrity in Digital Environments and Trust in the Digital Economy; and
* Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Development and Reducing Inequalities.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the knowledge partner of the G20 DEWG for the issue of Digital Inclusion, Universal and Meaningful Connectivity which has the objective to address the following questions to be reflected in the Group and the Brazilian Presidency outcomes:

* Would it be possible to reach an agreement on guidelines for developing a set of comparable indicators and metrics that contribute to overcoming existing gaps in digital connectivity?
* Can we identify a set of applications aimed at improving users' perception of the importance of meaningful connectivity (such as in education, health, digital government services, among others)?
* What types of innovative financing mechanisms could be facilitated by plurilateral and multilateral financial institutions to accelerate progress towards the goal of universal and meaningful connectivity by 2030?

During the previous DEWG meetings, the first held online (from January 31 to February 1) and the second in Brasília, Federal District (from April 11 to 13), Brazil presented and received feedback on the Issue Note of the G20 DEWG and presented a first draft of the Ministerial Declaration. The third meeting of the DEWG during the Brazilian Presidency is scheduled to take place from June 11 to 13 in São Luís, State of Maranhão.

It is worth noting that the ITU has already played a leading role in two of the deliverables of the G20 DEWG, having participated in two workshops on the topics of Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Development (April 17, at the Itamaraty Palace in Brasília) and Indicators for Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (April 19, at the National Telecommunication Agency - Anatel in Brasília). Additionally, ITU representatives are engaged in the ongoing technical debates, providing relevant expertise and helpful insights.

As we approach the Ministerial Meeting next September, Brazil is confident that it will deliver essential outcomes that will contribute to the efforts by the ITU and its membership on the issues of Universal and Meaningful Connectivity, Digital Public Infrastructure, Information Integrity, and on Artificial Intelligence.

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