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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/15** |
| **2 February 2024** |
| **English only** |
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| **Chair, Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG)** |
| Summary of the 40th meeting |

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| **Summary**  This report highlights the main outcomes of the 40th meeting of the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG held on 1-2 February 2024 in line with [140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf), 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).  **Action required**  To **consider and approve** the report.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **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)*; 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) *of the Plenipotentiary Conference; 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)*; Reports of the CWG WSIS&SDG meeting* [*38th*](http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*;* [*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)*;* [*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+10Report.pdf) [*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!!MSW-E.docx)* |

1. **Introduction**
   1. The ITU Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG) held its 40th meeting 1-2 February 2024. The work of the CWG-WSIS&SDG is conducted in line with [140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf), 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), including the Terms of Reference of the CWG-WSIS&SDG listed in the annex of this Resolution adopted at the ITU Council 2019.
   2. The meeting was attended physically and virtually by more than 150 delegates, representing ITU Member States and Sector Members. The meeting considered 13 documents and 7 information documents. Mr Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General, delivered welcoming remarks at the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Ms Cynthia Lesufi (South Africa). Vice-Chairs Ms Renata Santoyo (Brazil), Ms Mina Seonmin Jun (Korea (Rep. of), remote), and Ms Susanna Mattsson (Sweden), were present.
2. **Opening Remarks**
   1. Mr Tomas Lamanauskas, ITU Deputy Secretary-General, expressed appreciations to the Chair and Vice-Chairs for their continuous support to the WSIS process and the work of ITU. Emphasizing the importance of 2024 in digital governance, in addition to the outstanding week in May hosting the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event, AI4Good Global Summit, and AI Governance Day, other major events were highlighted including the SIDS conference, Third UN Conference on LLDCs, High-Level Political Forum, Summit of the Future, and WTSA-24.
   2. DSG underscored ITU’s pivotal role in the WSIS process, highlighting its enduring importance and evolution into a global community. He also reiterated on the ITU’s active participation in UN-wide processes, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Global Digital Compact and the Summit of the Future. He underscored the ITU's commitment to maintaining an agile and proactive stance, addressing pressing issues in a proper and timely manner to ensure ITU's relevance and leadership in the digital domain within the UN and beyond. Addressing the dynamic digital landscape, he urged harnessing the momentum of the WSIS+20 review to ensure enduring relevance of WSIS beyond 2025. Collaborative efforts with UNESCO, UNDP, UN CSTD, and UN DESA for the WSIS+20 review were noted. He thanked the Group for efforts in guiding ITU and its Membership on the WSIS+20 review, supporting ITU’s key role. He also thanked the co-facilitators of the Global Digital Compact and the Summit for the Future, Chair of CSTD and representatives of UNESCO for presenting their work to the Group.
   3. The Chair thanked the Deputy Secretary-General for his remarks and commitment towards the implementation of the WSIS process and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
   4. The Chair recognized the contributions received by the Secretariat and the Member States and shared appreciation for the hard work of all involved in organizing the meeting, with special thanks to the Secretariat and Vice-Chairs. The Chair highlighted the meeting as an opportunity to reach consensus on progress achieved in WSIS process implementation, underlining the importance of urging global digital discussions, and invited the Group to continue addressing its work with openness, respect, and commitment. The Chair expressed excitement about the discussions and collaborations that lay ahead for the CWG-WSIS&SDG.
3. **Adoption of the Agenda**
   1. The agenda [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/1(Rev.3)](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/24/cwgwsis40/c/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0001!R3!MSW-E.docx) reflecting the distribution of the documents was adopted. The original agenda was revised by the Chair, following the multi-country contribution by Russian Federation , Armenia , Belarus , Kyrgyzstan , Tajikistan on the agenda of the 40th CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/10](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0010/en).
   2. The detailed clarification was provided by the Chair:
      1. On request to introduce additional documents regarding the ITU Roadmaps C2, C4, C5 and C6, WSIS Special Initiatives, WSIS Fund in Trust, WSIS Stocktaking Process 2024 and WSIS Prizes 2024, Regional activities towards alignment of WSIS and SDG processes, and the Partnership on Measuring the ICT for Development, the Chair noted that the Comprehensive report document 5 provides information on the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in the context of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes, including the items mentioned in this multi-country contribution.
      2. On item World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2024, the Secretariat was invited to provide an oral presentation, while new documents have been uploaded to report on the Updates on the activities of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development (document 14), and on the ITU Council Contribution to the HLPF 2024 (document 13).
      3. The 39th CWG-WSIS&SDG Meeting concluded with the Chair, CWG WSIS&SDG Summary, which was posted on the 39th meeting webpage as document 22.
4. **Adoption of the time management plan**

The time management plan was adopted as proposed.

1. **Update on implementation and follow-up actions to relevant ITU and UN resolutions and processes**
   1. **UNGA Resolutions: Information and communications technologies for sustainable development and Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development**
      1. The Secretariat highlighted the references to the WSIS process and ITU’s activities in the UNGA adopted resolutions:

* UNGA Resolution A/RES/78/132 Information and communications technologies for sustainable development
* UNGA Resolution A/RES/78/160 Science and technology and innovation for sustainable development
  + 1. The Group noted the information provided by the Secretariat on the UNGA resolutions.
  1. **Preparation of the Summit of the Future 2024**
     1. **Updates by the Co-Facilitators:** 
        1. Co-facilitators of GDC H.E. Anna Karin Eneström, Permanent Representative of Sweden to UN, and H.E. Chola Milambo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zambia to UN, provided a briefing on the Global Digital Compact. The speakers were invited to share their intervention in written, which will be available as an information document once received.
        2. On the preparatory process for the Summit of the Future by H.E. Antje Leendertse, Permanent Representative of Germany to UN, and H.E. Neville M. Gertze, Permanent Representative of Namibia to UN

The Summit of the Future co-facilitators provided updates on the Summit of the Future. It was informed that the zero draft of the Pact for the Future is available online.

Supporting documents: [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/4](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0004) [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/5](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0005) and [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/6](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0006).

* + - 1. The Group appreciated the briefings by the Global Digital Compact Summit of the Future co-facilitators. The Chair reiterated on the existence of well-functioning UN process on digital cooperation, WSIS, which is a multistakeholder process and provides a good framework of WSIS Action Lines, highlighting the role of ICTs in achieving the SDGs.
      2. The Group requested the Secretariat to work closely with co-facilitators to explore opportunities to highlight WSIS as successful UN process on digital cooperation issues and take into consideration to incorporate the WSIS process as an existing mechanism when deliberating on the Pact for the Future.
      3. The Group invited the Co-facilitators to explore the possibilities to reflect WSIS process in the Pact for the Future. It was also proposed that ITU, as the specialized United Nations agency for information and communication technologies, should contribute within its mandate in the Pact for the Future.
      4. ITU is to continue to closely collaborate with UN agencies involved and other stakeholders in processes and events relevant to the WSIS+20 Overall Review and alignment with 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, GDC and the Summit on the Future.
    1. **Updates by the Secretariat:**
       1. ITU’s contribution to the Summit of the Future: The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0002/en), providing information on ITU’s involvement in the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future 2024. ITU’s input to the GDC consultations is available [here](https://www.un.org/techenvoy/sites/www.un.org.techenvoy/files/GDC-submission_ITU.pdf).
       2. Alignment of WSIS Process with Global Digital Compact and Summit of the Future: The Secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0003/en), outlining ITU's active engagement in aligning the WSIS process with the GDC and Summit of the Future, emphasizing collaboration, coordination, and information dissemination.
       3. The Group noted the documents with appreciation.
    2. **CSTD Roadmap on WSIS+20: follow-up and implementation**
       1. Chair of CSTD highlighted the work of CSTD, in particular towards its mandate to follow up on the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS and the WSIS+20 review. The speaker was invited to share their intervention in written, which will be available as an information document once received. Supporting information: [CSTD Roadmap for the WSIS+20 Review](https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/ecn162023_roadmap_p05_CSTDChair_en.pdf)
       2. The Group noted the information presented with appreciation.
    3. **Report by the Director-General on implementation of the WSIS outcomes - UNESCO’s roadmap towards the WSIS+20 review in 2025: follow-up and implementation:** [**UNESCO’s Roadmap Towards the WSIS+20 Review in 2025**](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379370)
       1. Representative of UNESCO presented the updates on the UNESCO’s roadmap on WSIS. The speaker was invited to share their intervention in written, which will be available as an information document once received.
       2. The Group noted the information presented with appreciation.

1. **ITU’s activities related to WSIS process and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
   1. **Implementation of ITU-D, ITU-T, and ITU-R resolutions on WSIS** 
      1. Representatives from ITU sectors provided a verbal presentation on the implementation of activities mandated by the WSIS-related resolutions and Operational Plans of Sectors. The detailed information on the activities of the implementation of the ITU-D, ITU-T, and ITU-R resolutions on WSIS are listed in the ITU’s Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes. The interventions are available as the information documents.
      2. The Group noted the interventions with appreciations. The Chair requested BDT to provide information on WSIS Action Line C2 in the ITU Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines C2, C4, C5, C6.
   2. **WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0004/en) highlighting the updates on the preparation towards the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event, scheduled to take place from 27 to 31 May 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland, with remote participation, including the Open Consultation Process and calls to action.
      2. The Membership and all stakeholders are invited to contribute to the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event, its Open Consultation Process and all 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 will be presented in the 2024 session of the Council.
   3. **Comprehensive report detailing the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in the context of the WSIS implementation and 2030 Agenda**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0005/en) and provided information on the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in the context of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes.
      2. 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.
      3. 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.
      4. The Group noted the document with appreciation.
   4. **Interagency coordinating mechanism: United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)** 
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0006/en) and provided updates on the activities of the UNGIS.
      2. The Group noted the document with appreciation.
   5. **Roadmap for ITU’s activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/7](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0007/en) and highlighted ITU’s activities and engagements that are advancing the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
      2. The Group noted the document with appreciation.
   6. **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2024**
      1. The Secretariat delivered an oral briefing, providing updates on WTISD 2024: Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development. The updates on the preparations towards WTISD 2024 will be uploaded online, once available.
      2. The Secretariat is to share further updates on the WTISD 2024 on the CWG WSIS&SDG webpage. The Membership is 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.
   7. **Updates on the activities of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/14](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0014/en) and provided updates on the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development activities in 2023.
      2. The Group noted the document and thanked the Secretariat for the updates.
   8. **ITU Council Contribution to HLPF 2024**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/13](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0013/en) and provided updates on the ITU Council Contribution to the HLPF 2024.Supporting documents: [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0002/en) and [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/INF/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-INF-0003/en)
      2. In accordance with PP Resolution 140 (rev. Bucharest, 2022) and considering time constraints related to the deadline for the submission of the contributions to the HLPF-2024 and the 2024 Council session dates the CWG-WSIS&SDG agreed to:
         1. request the Secretariat to publish on the CWG-WSIS&SDG webpage a draft ITU's contribution to the HLPF-2024 no later than 9 February 2024 for comments and suggestions,
         2. invite the CWG-WSIS&SDG membership to provide comments and suggestions to a draft ITU's contribution to the HLPF-2024 by no later than 19 February 2024,
         3. request the Secretariat to accommodate the comments and suggestions received in the ITU's contribution to the HLPF-2024 and hand it over to the 2024 Council Chairman in due time who is to submit the contribution within the established procedure no later than 27 February 2024,
         4. request the Secretariat to prepare draft ITU's contributions to the future HLPFs in due time and publish them no later than 30 days before the first annual meetings of the CWG-WSIS&SDG.
2. **Preparation to the Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS Beyond 2025**
   1. In accordance with the Resolution 1334 (mod.2023) CWG-WSIS&SDG agreed to:
      1. 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)
      2. 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.
   2. **Update on ITU SG’s WSIS+20 Roadmap**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/8](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0008/en) reflecting the updates on the implementation of the ITU Secretary-General’s roadmap ([ITU SGs WSIS+20 roadmap](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-C-0059/en)) on the role of ITU in the WSIS+20 review process and its preparations (presented at the PP-22), noting the leadership role of the ITU in WSIS since its inception.
      2. The ITU SG is to continue implementing the WSIS+20 Roadmap and to report on the further updates at the Council 24.
   3. **Update on the implementation of ITU Council Resolution 1334**
      1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/9](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0009/en) and provided an update on the ITU Council Resolution 1334: ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.
      2. The Secretariat is to continue the implementation of ITU Council Resolution 1334, and report to the Council 24.
   4. **Multi-country contribution by Belgium, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden - WSIS+20 review process and the vision of WSIS beyond 2025: Contribution to the Summit of Future**
      1. The representative of the multi-country contribution presented the contribution [CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/12](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0012/en) which was calling for the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event should be used to:
3. Analyse the implementation, over the last 20 years, of the WSIS action lines attributed to the ITU;
4. Identify gaps and new developments within the mandate of the ITU that would require a review of WSIS action lines or targets.
   * 1. An ad-hoc group was proposed by the Chair to further discuss this multi-country contribution. The ad-hoc group was chaired by Ms. Susanna Mattsson, Vice-Chair of CWG-WSIS&SDG.
     2. During the ad-hoc, the Group agreed to invite the Chair of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 to prepare a Chair’s Summary to complement the outcome document of the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event.
5. **Other business:**
   1. **Multi-country contribution - Proposal on encouraging Member States' involvement in the participation of the ITU in digital-related activities**
      1. China presented the multi-country contribution - Proposal on encouraging Member States' involvement in the participation of the ITU in digital-related activities ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-40/11](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0011/en))**:**
         1. ITU crucial role in advancing digital initiatives aligned with WSIS and SDGs, bolstering its global influence through landmark activities, with Member States as vital contributors to the ITU's endeavours, emphasized by PP Resolution 140, and Council resolutions 1332 and 1334, highlighting the importance of their active involvement in shaping ITU's initiatives and implementing relevant WSIS outcomes. This contribution proposes the preliminary way forward on the matter above by inviting the Secretariat to inform the Member States of annual arrangement beforehand, so that the Member States can better anticipate the ITU’s activities and be better prepared to make contribution.
      2. The Secretariat informed the Group that the activities and events related to the WSIS Process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are based on mandates from the PP and Council Resolutions. Major events like the WSIS Forum, AI for Good, Girls in ICT Day and so on are listed in the Schedule of future conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union: 2023-2026. This document is presented and noted by Council. Digital being at the forefront of global discussions, ITU needs to be agile and make quick decisions regarding certain activities and events. Timelines for inputs and statements are usually short, requiring quick turnaround. These are within the mandates given to the General Secretariat and/or the Sectors within the PP and Council resolutions. In accordance with the CWG-WSIS&SDG Terms of Reference, the method used for facilitating such comments has been through “its regular meetings, circular letters, questionnaires or other appropriate methods of query". See the ToR for reference listed in the Annex of the Council Resolution 1332.
      3. The CWG discussed the multi-country contribution on encouraging Member States' involvement in the participation of the ITU in digital-related activities. The Group thanked the Secretariat for their work and asked them to continue to proactively inform the membership, to the extent practicable, about the Union’s contribution to the UN processes in accordance with PP Resolution 140, and Council Resolutions 1332 and 1334 with a view to further facilitate their participation.
6. **Approval of the Report:** The Group approved the Report of the 40th CWG&WSIS&SDG Meeting
7. The CWG WSIS&SDG Chair informed the Group that the Chair’s Draft Report of the CWG-WSIS&SDG 39th and 40th meetings will be prepared and will be made available on the CWG WSIS&SDG website by 16 February 2024.
8. **Concluding Remarks**
   1. Closing the meeting, the Chair extended her personal thanks to all the ITU Membership who participated in the work of the 40*th* meeting of CWG-WSIS&SDG and thanked the Vice-Chairs, Ms Khayala Pashazade (Azerbaijan), Ms Renata Santoyo (Brazil), Mr Ahmed Saleem (Iraq, remote), Ms Mina Seonmin Jun (Korea (Rep. of), remote), Ms Janet Umutesi (Rwanda, remote), and Ms Susanna Mattsson (Sweden), and especially all who contributed to the work of CWG-WSIS&SDG and WSIS Process. Appreciation was expressed towards Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General, ITU. Appreciations were also expressed for assistance to Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah, Chief of SPM, the Secretariat, Ms. Gitanjali Sah, Mr. Vladimir Stankovic, Mr. Michael Kioy, Ms. Ruth Sidabutar, Ms. Tala Debs, Ms. Ursula Wynhoven, Ms. Jeoung Hee Kim, Mr. Mario Castro Grande, Ms. Joanne Willson, Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Mr. Noriyuki Araki, Ms. Victoria Sukenik, Ms. Anna Polomska.
   2. The Chair extended her personal thanks to the guests: GDC co-facilitators H.E. Anna Karin Eneström, Permanent Representative of Sweden to UN, H.E. Chola Milambo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zambia to UN, Summit of the Future co-facilitator H.E. Antje Leendertse, UN CSTD Chair Ms. Ana Cristina Amoroso das Neves, and UNESCO representatives Dr. Marielza Oliveira and Mr. Cédric Wachholz.
   3. The Group expressed its thanks to Ms. Cynthia Lesufi, Chair of the CWG-WSIS&SDG, for her able chairship and guidance.

Cynthia LESUFI

Chair

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