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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-42/4** |
| **10 January 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Report by the Secretary-General |
| UPDATE ON ITU SECRETARY-GENERAL’S WSIS+20 ROADMAP |
| PurposeThe document provides an update on the ITU Secretary-General’s WSIS+20 Roadmap (including 20 years of implementation of WSIS Action Lines).Action requiredThe Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **review** this document and **contribute** to implementation of the roadmap.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*;* [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*; UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/125*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F125&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/RES/70/1*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F1&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/71/212,*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F71%2F212&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)[*A/70/299*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F299&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/70/684*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2F70%2F684&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/RES/73/218*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2Fres%2F73%2F218&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*; UN ECOSOC Resolution* [*E/RES/2023/3*](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecosoc_res_2023d3_en.pdf)*;* [*Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf)*;* [*Resolution 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* [*Resolution 1332 (Modified 2024)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en)*,* [*Resolution 1334 (Modified 2023)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en)*;* [*WTDC Resolution 30 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf)*;* [*WTSA Resolution 75 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.75-2022)*;* [*WRC Resolution 61-3 (Rev. Dubai, 2023*)](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61-3-2023); *Reports of the CWG-WSIS&SDG meetings* [*33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th*](http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*,* [*40th*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0008/en)*,* [*41st*](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S24-CWGWSIS41-C-0018)*;* [*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)*;* [*ITU Council Contribution to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2024;*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0016/es)*[World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 - WSIS+20 Roadmap;](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0047/en)* [*[Reporting on the implementation of the WTDC-22 Kigali Action Plan (including regional initiatives), and contribution to the implementation of the WSIS Plan of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0047/en)*](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC21/Documents/Final_508076_WTDC-Declaration_Layout_En.pdf)*[.](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0047/en)* |

Following the updates on the implementation of the ITU Secretary-General’s roadmap provided in the [CWG-WSIS&SDG41/11](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS41-C-0011/en) this report continues to elaborate the ITU Secretary-General’s roadmap on the role of ITU in the WSIS+20 Review process and its preparations. It outlines ITU’s leadership in engaging stakeholders, assessing progress, and aligning WSIS Action Lines with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Background and Mandate

The roadmap emphasizes comprehensive preparations, including detailing activities, events, and reporting mechanisms, all aimed at informing the UN General Assembly Overall Review in 2025. Through collaborative efforts, it identifies priorities for advancing digital development beyond 2025 while fostering global partnerships and dialogue. Please see [CWG-WSIS&SDG41/11](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS41-C-0011/en) for the full list of relevant ITU and UN resolutions. Please note that the ECOSOC resolution [E/RES/2024/13](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2024/13) on assessing the progress of WSIS outcomes and SDGs emphasizes ITU’s role in advancing these initiatives, acknowledging ITU’s roadmap for the WSIS+20 review process, has been revised in 2024.

Hosting and co-organizing WSIS Forum

WSIS Forum and Multi-Stakeholder Engagement: The annual WSIS Forum, organized by ITU in collaboration with UNESCO, UNDP, and UNCTAD, embodies the WSIS principles of inclusivity and multi-stakeholder engagement. Over the past two decades, it has consistently served as a key platform for deliberating the WSIS process and the implementation of WSIS Action Lines. The Forum remains a vital venue for collecting inputs to the WSIS Review process, with its outcomes regularly presented at UN CSTD annual sessions. Its discussions and innovative formats have effectively adapted to meet the evolving needs and expectations of diverse stakeholders.

 **WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 Outcomes:** Following the Chair's summary presented by the Swiss Confederation, which emphasized that the time has come to think boldly and widely about a “**WSIS Plus**”, the outcomes of the Forum continue to inform preparatory efforts towards the WSIS+20 review. The discussions underscored a multistakeholder approach, using and further developing the existing mechanisms to addressing challenges such as AI governance and equitable digital infrastructure, including the WSIS Forum, IGF, UNGIS, and the WSIS Stocktaking platform.

 **Preparations for WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025:** The upcoming event will provide a platform for comprehensive stocktaking of the achievements and challenges in implementing the WSIS outcomes over the past two decades. Planning emphasizes synchronized alignment with outcomes from the Summit of the Future and the GDC.

Maintaining and Coordinating the WSIS Stocktaking Database and WSIS Prizes

 **WSIS Stocktaking Database:** ITU expanded its database in 2024-2025, integrating an additional 1200 projects that reflect innovative use of ICTs in achieving SDGs. The WSIS+20 Stocktaking Report, showcasing a 20-year analysis of WSIS Action Lines’ implementation, is on track for release during the WSIS+20 High-Level Event.

 **WSIS Prizes 2025:** The new edition is ongoing, reflecting increased global interest in leveraging ICT for sustainable development. Winners will be celebrated at the High-Level Event at the special ceremony, highlighting the 18 winner and 72 champions.

**WSIS+20 Joint Preparatory Process** (please read [CWG-WSIS&SDG42/12](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0012/en) on Preparation to the Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS+20 Review - WSIS Beyond 2025 for full information).

**Partnerships and regional engagement**

 ITU co-chaired the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) through December 2024, facilitating multistakeholder dialogues and joint strategies to ensure inclusive digital transformation.

 The ITU is working closely with UNGA, ECOSOC, CSTD providing updates on the implementation of the roadmap. ITU has also worked closely with co-facilitators of GDC and SOTF on the strengthening the alignment of WSIS process and GDC.

 The **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development**, under ITU's leadership as Chair of the Steering Committee (with UNCTAD and UNDESA as other members), continues to drive efforts to enhance the availability and quality of ICT statistics. This partnership works closely with stakeholders to explore new data sources and methodologies, ensuring accurate measurement of progress toward internationally agreed targets, including the WSIS and SDGs. New areas that the Partnership will look at is ICT in health and ICT in employment.

 At the **regional level**, ITU has maintained its role as a key facilitator for discussions on WSIS+20 and the future of the WSIS Process beyond 2025. These activities are coordinated and implemented through close collaboration between the UN Regional Commissions, ITU regional offices, regional technical organizations, and other UN agencies, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive approach to digital development.

Contributions to GDC

On 22 September, Member States adopted the Pact for the Future, which includes the Global Digital Compact (GDC). ITU contributed by providing opportunities, like WSIS Forum and UNGIS, for the GDC co-facilitators to interact with multistakeholders and other UN agencies. ITU actively provided inputs to GDC consultations as ITU and through UNGIS. The implementation mechanisms which exist in the WSIS process are already implementing the GDC objectives, as showcased in the WSIS-SDG-GDC Matrix produced by UNGIS.

Efforts towards strengthening the visibility and presence of WSIS in New York

Since 2022, the ITU has made several concrete initiatives to enhance the understanding of WSIS within the diplomatic missions to UN and other active stakeholders in New York, including the Ambassadors briefings, demystifying sessions, side-events at major UN gatherings, inputs to other UN processes.

WSIS+20 Action Lines Milestones, Challenges and Emerging Trends beyond 2025

The WSIS Action Lines serve as a key framework for advancing progress towards the achievement of SDGs. The ITU and other WSIS Action Line facilitators from UN agencies have worked on documenting milestones, challenges and emerging trends beyond 2025. Visit the dedicate webpage and read more about the WSIS Action Lines 20 Years of Implementation. The ITU, together with other WSIS Action Line facilitators from UN agencies, has prepared presentations highlighting key milestones, challenges, and emerging trends beyond 2025. The presentations are available here.

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