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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/8** |
| **8 August 2025** |
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| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TOWARDS AN ALIGNMENT OF WSIS AND SDG PROCESSES | |
| **Purpose**  The document provides an update on the implementation of the WSIS process at the regional level in 2025 in collaboration with the ITU regional offices, UN Regional Commissions, and other regional bodies.  **Action required**  The Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **take note** this document.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*; UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/125*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/125)*,* [*A/RES/70/1*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/1)*,* [*A/RES/77/150*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/77/150)*; UN ECOSOC Resolution* [*E/RES/2024/13*](https://docs.un.org/en/E/RES/2024/13) *and Report* [*E/2025/31–E/CN.16/2025/4*](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecn162025d4_en.pdf)*; PP Resolutions* [*172 (Guadalajara, 2010)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Documents/Resolution172-PP10.pdf) *and* [*140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf)*; Council Resolutions* [*1332 (Modified 2024)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en) *and* [*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)*; RA Resolution* [*ITU-R 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, 40th, 41st, 42nd*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/Previous-meetings.aspx)*;* [*Final Report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG 41st and 42nd meetings*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0020/en)*;* [*Roadmap for ITU’s activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-INF-0006/en)*;* [*WSIS Stocktaking 2025 Report*](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktaking2025GlobalReport__DRAFT.pdf)*.* | |

Update on Regional Implementation of WSIS and SDGs – 2025

In alignment with United Nations General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/70/125](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/125), the regional dimension remains a vital pillar of the WSIS architecture, implemented through collaborative efforts by UN Regional Commissions, ITU regional offices, and regional technical organizations, in partnership with governments, the private sector, civil society, and academia. These initiatives align with the WSIS Action Lines and support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By integrating region-specific priorities into global digital strategies, the regional process promotes inclusivity, coherence, and responsiveness to local needs.

In close collaboration with UN Regional Commissions and partners like UNESCO, UNDP, ITU will continue to contribute towards the regional WSIS implementation reviews. Additionally, ITU will present regional insights drawn from key WSIS mechanisms — including the WSIS Forum, the WSIS Stocktaking database, and the WSIS Prizes — through the WSIS Stocktaking global and regional reports 2025, and the WSIS+20 Report.

As informed during the 42nd meeting of the CWG-WSIS&SDG (Doc. [CWG-WSIS&SDG-42/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0005/en)), ITU has actively contributed throughout 2024 and 2025 to a series of WSIS+20 regional review events, organized in collaboration with UN Regional Commissions, CSTD, and other UN partners. These platforms enable the assessment of regional progress, identification of gaps, and alignment of regional priorities with the GDC and the WSIS vision beyond 2025.

Key events in 2025 include the Digital Cooperation and Development Forum (DCDF) held in February in Amman, Jordan, organized by ESCWA, and the upcoming Africa WSIS+20 and GDC Consultation planned for October 2025 in Lusaka, Zambia (*TBC*). These meetings reaffirm the WSIS framework as a trusted UN-led multistakeholder coordination mechanism for digital development and underline ITU’s leadership in technical facilitation and policy engagement at the regional level.

ITU contribution to WSIS regional activities

ITU regional offices continue to drive WSIS implementation through the Kigali Action Plan (WTDC-2022) and its Regional Initiatives (2023-2025), which address specific regional needs in digital transformation, sustainability, and resilience. In 2025, regional offices supported WSIS Forum programming, contributed to WSIS+20 consultations, and advanced multistakeholder engagement through both the Regional Development Forums (RDFs) and UN Regional Forums for Sustainable Development (RFSDs).

In 2025, [ITU organized six Regional Development Forums](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/meetings/rdf/) across the regions, fostering dialogue among national authorities, industry, and development partners. These RDFs were aligned with WSIS outcomes and served as venues for sharing best practices, addressing common challenges, and promoting regional coordination in digital policy and implementation.

Complementing these efforts, CSTD regional consultations on WSIS at 20 were held across all five UN regions, enabling inclusive reflection on two decades of WSIS achievements and challenges. ITU participated in each of these consultations, helping channel regional perspectives into the CSTD report to ECOSOC and the broader WSIS+20 review process at the General Assembly.

UNGIS and regional coordination

Under the coordination of ECLAC as Vice-Chair of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) in 2024-2025 —and now ESCWA for the 2025-2026 cycle— UN agencies continue to strengthen coherence between global and regional digital policy frameworks. In 2025, UNGIS members actively contributed to WSIS+20 regional consultations and provided coordinated inputs to the WSIS+20 Elements Paper.

Regional engagement remains a cornerstone of WSIS implementation and has significantly shaped preparations for the WSIS+20 Overall Review and the Global Digital Compact. ITU, in close partnership with the UN Regional Commissions and regional stakeholders, will continue to advance regional priorities through the WSIS architecture, ensuring that digital development remains inclusive, regionally relevant, and globally coordinated.

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