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| Contribution by People’s Republic of China | |
| RECOMMENDATIONS ON ITU'S CONTINUED ADVANCEMENT OF THE WSIS AND SDG PROCESSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS MANDATE | |
| **Purpose**  The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) process have been fully implemented by the United Nations system, providing a framework for countries around the world to cooperate in building a better digital future. This document aims to review the relevant important resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the ITU, comment on the ITU WSIS+20 Report, and offer suggestions on the relevant work of the ITU.  **Action required**  The Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **consider** this document and **take action** where appropriate.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  *UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/1*](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/70/1)*,* [*A/RES/59/220*](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/59/220)*,* [*A/RES/60/252*](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/60/252)  [*PP Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61-3-2023)  [*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)  *Council documents* [*C25/108*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0108/en)*,* [*C25/8*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0008/en)*,* [*C25/61*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0061/en)  *Council Working Group documents CWG-WSIS&SD-43/*[*6*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0006/en)*, 43/*[*8*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0008/en)*, 43/*[*11*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0011/en)*, 43/*[*15*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0015/en) | |

**Background**

The United Nations system is fully implementing the processes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (A/RES/70/1, A/RES/59/220, A/RES/60/252). At the same time, efforts are made to promote the coordination and integration between the WSIS and SDGs processes (A/RES/70/125).

The WSIS process aims to implement a series of outcomes of WSIS (2003-2005). These outcomes, with 11 Action Lines, established a framework for creating a people-centered, inclusive, and development-oriented global information society through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Organizations such as ITU and UNESCO are collaborating to advance the WSIS process, each contributing their specialized expertise.

The SDGs, which are at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are a comprehensive and universal set of 17 goals and 169 targets. The SDGs move beyond a singular focus on economic growth and aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity and peace for all people by promoting inclusive economic growth, social development, and integrated environmental protection.

In accordance with Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council Resolution 1332 (Modified 2024) and Resolution 1334 (Modified 2023), ITU commits to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and achievement of the SDGs under its responsibility, focusing on telecommunications/ICTs. Specifically, the **Secretary-General** should 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. The **ITU regional and area offices** should strengthen coordination and collaboration at the regional level with the United Nations regional economic commissions and the United Nations Regional Development Group, as well as all United Nations agencies, in particular those acting as facilitator for WSIS action lines, and other relevant regional organizations, especially in the field of telecommunications/ICTs, with the aim of incorporating ICTs in the United Nations development assistance frameworks; etc.

**Discussion**

ITU plays a crucial role in implementing the outcomes of the WSIS and achieving SDGs by leveraging its telecommunications expertise and multi-stakeholder collaboration to provide ICT development assistance, promote emerging technologies and bridge the digital divide. Through these efforts, ITU aligns with the UN General Assembly's call for global development, fosters international cooperation with governments, organizations, businesses and academia, which has produced significant results as noted in various SG reports highly appreciated by the Council (e.g., C25/108, C25/8, C25/61).

With less than five years to go before the 2030 deadline for the SDGs, the United Nations has started the preparation for WSIS+20 overall review. The urgency and relevance to accelerating the implementation of the WSIS and SDGs have reached an unprecedented level, which is of great significance for promoting the global sharing of the benefits of digitalization, especially for bridging the digital divide in developing countries.

The updated version of the ITU WSIS+20 report has added Section III "Detailed Report", providing more specific supporting evidence for a thorough understanding of the report. The report lists "Supporting sustainable global development" as a future direction and recommendation beyond 2025, which helps to provide useful reference for CWG-WSIS&SDG discussions.

**Proposals**

1. The ITU continues its good practice and supports the United Nations in advancing the SDGs process based on the WSIS framework in accordance with its mandate and resource conditions. To develop and implement the future directions for WSIS beyond 2025, including priority areas to be addressed to achieve the SDGs objectives, with a particular focus on the Action Lines under the ITU responsibility.
2. Members of the ITU continue to support the ITU's work in implementing WSIS outcomes and achieving the SDGs, including participating in the WSIS+20 consultations at the United Nations General Assembly and providing examples of good practice on using ICT tools for sustainable development. Members are encouraged to strengthen cooperation through ITU and work together to build a better digital future.

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