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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/20** |
| **10 September 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Chair, Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG |
| SUMMARY OF THE 43rd MEETING |
| **Purpose**This report highlights the main outcomes of the 43rd  meeting of the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG held on 9-10 September 2025 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 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).**Action required**The Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **consider** and **approve** the report.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*; 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 2024)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/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* [*40th*](http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*;* [*Final report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG 39th and 40th Meetings*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0017/en)*;* [*CWG-WSIS&SDG 41st and 42nd Meetings*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0020/en)*;* [*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%2B10Report.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%21%21MSW-E.docx)* [*Draft WSIS+20 Report: ITU's Twenty Years Contribution to the Implementation of and Follow-Up to the WSIS Outcomes and Its Role in Achieving the SDGs*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0060/en)*;* [*Summit of the Future Outcome Documents*](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sotf-pact_for_the_future_adopted.pdf)*;* [*Commission on Science and Technology for Development Report on the twenty-eighth session (7–11 April 2025)*](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecn162025d4_en.pdf)*;*  [*Zero Draft of the WSIS+20 Outcome Document*](https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/2025/WSIS%2B20_ZERO_DRAFT.pdf)*.* |

1. **Introduction**
	1. The ITU Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG) held its 43rd meeting on 9-10 September 2025. The work of the CWG-WSIS&SDG is conducted under the mandates of ITU [PP Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf), and 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), including the Terms of Reference of the CWG-WSIS&SDG annexed to Resolution 1332.
	2. The meeting was attended physically and virtually by more than 70 delegates, representing ITU Member States and Sector Members. The meeting considered 19 documents and 4 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)), Ms. Janet Umutesi (Rwanda, remote), and Ms. Susanna Mattsson (Sweden), were present.
2. **Opening Remarks**
	1. Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, ITU Deputy Secretary-General, emphasized ITU’s crucial role in the WSIS process, the WSIS+20 Review, and global digital governance.
	2. He thanked the Chair, Vice-Chairs, and the group for their commitment towards the work of the group.
	3. The Deputy Secretary-General expressed appreciation to the Swiss Confederation for co-hosting the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 (7–11 July 2025), describing it as both a significant milestone and a valuable opportunity to reflect on progress and chart the path forward. He also commended South Africa’s leadership as Chair, which helped guide strategic discussions and shape a forward-looking Chair’s Summary, emphasizing the shared vision for a digital future that is inclusive, connected, and resilient.
	4. The DSG also highlighted the WSIS Prizes 2025, congratulating all winners and champions, and emphasizing how the projects demonstrate tangible, on-the-ground impact and reflect what WSIS is truly about.
	5. He welcomed the release of the Zero Draft of the WSIS+20 outcome document, which is a critical juncture in the preparatory process, and encouraged all stakeholders to actively engage and provide their written inputs by 26 September, in line with the roadmap set by the Co-Facilitators.
	6. The Chair thanked the Deputy Secretary-General for his continued commitment, acknowledged the Secretariat and Group members for their contributions, and emphasized the importance of collaboration and consensus in the work ahead.
3. **Adoption of the Agenda**
	1. The agenda reflecting the distribution of the documents was adopted.
4. **ITU’s activities related to the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (implementation of ITU PP Resolution 140, Council Resolutions 1332 and 1334)**
	1. **Comprehensive report detailing the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in the context of the WSIS implementation and 2030 Agenda, including: the WSIS Forum, WSIS Action Lines Roadmaps, Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2025, Giga, Partner2Connect**
		1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0002/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 group noted the document with appreciation.
		3. The group acknowledged all the activities, actions undertaken by Union to implement WSIS and 2030 Agenda, highlighting the crucial role of WSIS Action Lines in advancing the SDGs.
		4. The group noted ITU’s active engagement and efforts towards the WSIS+20 Overall Review process, including close collaboration with UN agencies involved an all stakeholders.
		5. The group was encouraged to contribute to the WSIS Fund in trust.
		6. The group noted the success of the P2C annual meeting, commended efforts to strengthen the linkages between WSIS Action Lines and the Partner2Connect pledging platform, acknowledged new pledges submitted by the WSIS community, and encouraged continued mobilization of pledges for the P2C platform. The group took note of the active collaboration between WSIS and P2C communities, also through organizing sessions at annual WSIS Forum and P2C events.
		7. The group noted that ITU continues its role on the Steering Committee of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. At the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025, the Partnership presented progress on mapping core ICT indicators to the WSIS Action Lines, Global Digital Compact, and the Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC) framework to identify data gaps. The WSIS+20 zero draft called for a review of ICT statistics and tasked the Partnership with reporting progress to CSTD in 2026 and 2027. ITU will contribute its own assessment and host core indicator data on the ITU DataHub. Findings will also be reported to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2026 to inform national statistics offices.
		8. The group acknowledged the efforts of the Partnership in assessing where the indicators are lacking and needed for monitoring the progress of the implementation of WSIS Action Lines.
		9. The group appreciated the celebration of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) 2025 on 17 May 2025 under the theme of “Gender Equality in Digital Transformation”.
		10. The group acknowledged the contributions of Member States and partners, and encouraged continued engagement with the ITU160 campaign throughout the year.
		11. The group noted the progress made by Giga and recognized the synergies between Giga and WSIS, particularly with WSIS Action Lines C2 (Infrastructure), C4 (Capacity Building), and C7 (e-Learning), as well as the direct connection to WSIS Target 2, which aims to connect universities, colleges, secondary schools, and primary schools with ICTs.
	2. **WSIS Stocktaking 2025**
		1. The Secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0003/en) and provided information on updates of WSIS Stocktaking 2025.
		2. The group took note of the document and highlighted the ITU’s mandate of maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database as a unique global platform for collecting information and annual reporting on ICT-related initiatives and projects.
		3. The group appreciated the work of the ITU in preparing and publishing the annual [WSIS Stocktaking Global Report 2025](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktaking2025GlobalReport__DRAFT.pdf), the [WSIS Stocktaking+20 Report](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktakingPlus20Report__DRAFT.pdf), and the [WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2025](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktakingSuccessStories2025Report.pdf), the regional reports, and the WSIS Photo contest 2025.
		4. In addition, the group appreciated the Secretariat’s efforts towards linking the WSIS Stocktaking database with the Global Digital Compact (GDC) objectives.
		5. The group reaffirmed the importance of the WSIS Stocktaking process, which serves as a global repository of ICT-related projects and initiatives aligned with the WSIS Action Lines and the SDGs, highlighting the contributions towards GDC implementation.
		6. The group called for the enhancement of the WSIS Stocktaking process, including the development of improved tools for data analysis and impact measurement to support evidence-based digital policy-making.
		7. The group was encouraged to continue submitting contributions to the WSIS Stocktaking database and to actively promote the database with all stakeholders.
	3. **WSIS Prizes 2025**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0004/en) summarizing the outcomes of the WSIS Prizes 2025, which recognized ICT-based projects that advance WSIS Action Lines and the SDGs.
		2. The group noted the document with appreciation.
		3. The group congratulated the WSIS Prizes 2025 Winners and Champions for their achievements, and acknowledged their contributions to advancing inclusive and impactful digital transformation.
		4. The group commended the WSIS Prizes for promoting excellence in ICT for development and calls for the expansion of outreach to ensure broader global participation and recognition of diverse digital innovation.
	4. **Interagency coordinating mechanism: the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0005/en) and provided updates on the activities of the UNGIS, highlighting its contributions to ECOSOC, the Internet Governance Forum 2025, the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025, and its joint inputs to the WSIS+20 review process.
		2. The group noted the document and appreciated ITU and other UN agencies involved for their commitment to leveraging WSIS as an existing framework for digital cooperation and recognized that ITU serves as the permanent secretariat to UNGIS.
		3. The group recognized the role of the UNGIS in coordinating the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS and digital matters.
		4. The group requested the secretariat to coordinate with UNGIS and provide information on how UNGIS intends to respond to the outcomes of the WSIS+20 review.
	5. **Roadmap of ITU actions related to the SDGs**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0006/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. **Update on the implementation of the WTDC, WTSA and RA resolutions on WSIS**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/7](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0007/en) updating the group on the implementation of activities mandated by the WSIS-related resolutions and Operational Plans of ITU three Sectors.
		2. The group noted the document and the progress made by the three Sectors in implementing their respective WSIS Resolutions and emphasized their active involvement in the WSIS+20 Review Process.
		3. The group encouraged continued coordination among the Sectors and General Secretariat through the WSIS&SDG Taskforce to ensure effective implementation of the WSIS process.
	7. **Regional activities towards an alignment of WSIS and SDG processes**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/8](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0008/en) on the implementation of the WSIS process at the regional level in collaboration with the Regional Offices, UN Regional Commissions, and other regional bodies.
		2. The group noted the document and encouraged the secretariat to continue working closely with the ITU Regional Offices, UN Regional Commissions, and the regional telecommunication organisations.
		3. The group recognized the efforts made towards strengthening alignment with activities at the regional level, particularly the outcomes of the WSIS+20 events organized by the UN Regional Commissions.
		4. The group was invited to participate in the regional events organised by ITU and regional organisations on WSIS and SDGs.
	8. **Report on PP Resolution 214 (Bucharest, 2022) – Artificial intelligence technologies and telecommunications/information and communication technologies**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/9](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0009/en) which provides a comprehensive report of ITU’s Artificial Intelligence (AI) activities, in line with the [ITU Resolution 214 (Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-214-E.pdf) on artificial intelligence technologies and telecommunications/information and communication technologies.
		2. The group noted the document and appreciated ITU’s ongoing activities and initiatives related to artificial intelligence.
	9. **Updates on the activities of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development**
		1. The secretariat presented updates on the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/10](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0010/en)) summarizing the latest activities of the commission, including the State of Broadband 2025 reports and the Data Governance Toolkit.
		2. The group noted with appreciation the activities of the Broadband Commission and commended its 15 years of successful advocacy, thought leadership, and contributions through the annual State of Broadband report.
		3. The group requested the secretariat to provide an update at the next CWG meeting on the progress of the Broadband Commission’s targets.
	10. **G20 South Africa 2025**
		1. A representative from South Africa provided updates on South Africa’s leadership as G20 President in 2025, outlining key priorities and initiatives related to digital transformation and sustainable development.
		2. The group congratulated and commended South Africa for its presidency of the G20 and the successful meetings held in 2025.
		3. The group noted the importance of the shared aims between the WSIS Process and the G20 in addressing digital development issues.
	11. **Contribution by China on recommendations on ITU's continued advancement of the WSIS and SDG processes in accordance with its mandate**
		1. China presented a contribution ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/17](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0017/en)) on recommendations on ITU's continued advancement of the WSIS and SDG processes in accordance with its mandate.
		2. The group thanked China for their contribution and supported the proposals in the document, with the exception of one Member State that only noted the document.
		3. The group acknowledged that the ITU continues to advance the implementation of the WSIS framework to support the United Nations in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. **WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 outcomes**
	1. The secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/11](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0011/en) highlighting the key outcomes of the WSIS+20 High-Level Event held from 7 to 11 July 2025 in Geneva, Switzerland.
	2. The group noted the document with appreciation.
	3. The group thanked the Swiss confederation for successfully co-hosting the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025.
	4. The group appreciated the Chair’s summary and congratulated South Africa on successfully chairing the Event.
	5. The group took note that the outcomes of the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 were transmitted through a letter from the Chair of the CSTD to the President of ECOSOC to inform ECOSOC of the multistakeholder consultations as part of the ongoing discussions related to the WSIS+20 Review.
	6. The group appreciated the WSIS+20 consultations held during the event with the active presence of the WSIS+20 Co-Facilitators, H.E. Mr. Ekitela Lokaale, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, and H.E. Ms. Suela Janina, Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations, recognizing these consultations as important to the ongoing review process.
	7. The group appreciated all Member States for their active participation, particularly the involvement of ministers and regulators. The ministerial roundtable reaffirmed the continued relevance of WSIS as a platform for inclusive digital development. Ministers highlighted the need to maintain the UN-mandated WSIS process as the foundational framework for global digital cooperation, avoiding duplication.
	8. The group recognized the WSIS Forum’s continued importance as a key platform for digital development and emerging technologies.
	9. The group appreciated the annual UN-WSIS Action Lines Facilitators Meeting, held during the WSIS Forum and acknowledged that this meeting plays a key role in shaping a shared vision and roadmap for the WSIS Action Lines.
	10. The group appreciated the WSIS+20 co-facilitators for including the WSIS Forum in the Zero draft as outlined below:

*We applaud the work undertaken by the International Telecommunication Union in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme to establish the annual World Summit on the Information Society Forum, which has become a central platform for multistakeholder dialogue and collaboration in the implementation of the World Summit outcomes, the development of networks and coordination of initiatives on digital development, as well as the annual review of the Summit’s Action Lines. We call for the Forum to be continued annually.*

1. **Update on implementation and follow-up actions to relevant ITU and UN resolutions and processes**
	1. **Summit of the Future 2024: Follow-up**
		1. The secretariat provided an oral update on follow-up activities from the Summit of the Future 2024.
		2. The group noted the updates provided.
	2. **Global Digital Compact (GDC) integration with the WSIS process**
		1. **WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda-GDC Matrix (coordinated by UNGIS)**
		2. **ITU’s Action plan for follow-up on the GDC: updates**
			1. The secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/12](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0012/en), providing an update on ITU’s implementation of the Global Digital Compact, including recent initiatives, partnerships, and coordination efforts within the UN system.
			2. The group noted the document with appreciation, and all the activities, including ITU’s co-chairing of the UN Working Group on Digital Technologies (WGDT), and preparation of the GDC Implementation Map with the Working Group, building on the WSIS-GDC matrix developed by UNGIS.
			3. The group noted that the GDC Implementation Map has been submitted to ECOSOC as an annex to the UNSG’s Report on [Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS at the regional and international levels](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/a80d62_en.pdf).
	3. **High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) 2025: Outcomes**
		1. The secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/13](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0020/en) outlining the outcomes of the High-Level Political Forum 2025.
		2. The group noted the document with appreciation.
		3. The group noted that the secretariat will prepare the draft ITU Council input for the HLPF 2026 to be presented at the next CWG meeting.
		4. The group requested the secretariat to explore a formal mechanism to submit the outcomes of the WSIS review process to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in line with UNGA resolution A/RES/70/125, which states that “We recommend that the outcome of the high-level meeting be an input into the review process for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”
	4. **Internet Governance Forum 2025: Outcomes**
		1. Representatives from Norway and the IGF secretariat provided a briefing on the outcomes of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2025, held from 23 to 27 June 2025 in Lillestrøm, Norway.
		2. The group congratulated Norway on successfully hosting the IGF 2025 and noted with appreciation the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/INF/1](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-INF-0001/en).
		3. The group appreciated ITU’s continued contributions to the IGF and encouraged continued engagement and active participation in the forum.
2. **Preparation to the Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS Beyond 2025**
	1. **ITU SG’s WSIS+20 roadmap**
		1. The secretariat provided an update on the implementation of the [ITU Secretary-General’s WSIS+20 Roadmap](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-C-0059/en), highlighting key milestones and ongoing initiatives aligned with the WSIS+20 objectives.
		2. The group appreciated the updates provided in the ITU SG’s WSIS+20 roadmap.
	2. **Joint UN preparatory process on WSIS+20 review. Updates from:**
		1. The secretariat presented the document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/14](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0014/en) on the joint UN preparatory process on WSIS+20 review.
		2. The group noted the document with appreciation and appreciated the initiatives of ITU towards this preparatory process.
		3. **UNESCO**
			1. A representative from UNESCO highlighted the organization’s active engagement in the WSIS+20 process, including participation in the high-level events hosted by ITU in 2024 and 2025 and highlighted the outcomes of the UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building on AI and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector. UNESCO continues to collaborate closely with UN entities, regional commissions, and a broad range of stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia, the technical community, and international organizations. It was informed that WSIS will be included as an agenda item at UNESCO’s General Conference in November 2025. Emphasizing the importance of coordinated governance and rights-based approaches, UNESCO underscored the need to integrate the Global Digital Compact into WSIS architecture to ensure coherent and inclusive digital cooperation. The representative concluded by highlighting the excellent collaboration and partnership with ITU, stressing that no single organization can succeed alone, and collaboration remains essential.
		4. **CSTD/UNCTAD**
			1. A representative from UNCTAD informed that the ECOSOC resolution on "Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society’’ was approved on 29 July 2025, including a summary of discussions from 28th CSTD session. These were formally transmitted by ECOSOC to the UN General Assembly to support its deliberations on WSIS+20. A strong consensus emerged on avoiding parallel or fragmented digital governance structures, with a recommendation to align the commitments of the GDC with existing WSIS architecture. The representative highlighted the concrete proposal in the ECOSOC Resolution to task UNGIS with developing a joint implementation roadmap, to be presented at the 29th CSTD session in spring 2026. The importance of leveraging existing platforms—such as the WSIS Forum and the Internet Governance Forum—for effective and resource-efficient collaboration was also highlighted. CSTD reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the WSIS+20 review process.
		5. **UNDP**
			1. A representative from UNDP highlighted the organization’s close collaboration with ITU and other UN agencies to support WSIS implementation, focusing on translating global digital discussions into practical, country-level actions through its extensive network of over 170 country offices. UNDP supports the Action Line C4: Capacity Building and other WSIS Action Lines with initiatives such as digital public infrastructure development, AI policy training, and national digital readiness assessments, working closely with partners including UNESCO and various governments. The representative emphasized the integration of GDC commitments into WSIS outcomes to enhance coordinated action across the UN system. This integration is referenced in the WSIS+20 review zero draft and the ECOSOC resolution, which will guide coordinated UN system efforts going forward. UNDP stressed the need to galvanize synergies and consolidate collaborative work across the UN system to enhance impact. UNDP expressed readiness to continue supporting delegations in Geneva and New York moving forward.
		6. **UN DESA**
			1. A representative from UN DESA provided an update on the WSIS preparatory process, including the launch of the zero draft on 29 August with the deadline for submitting text inputs on 26 September, forthcoming consultations scheduled for October, and the anticipated release of the draft outcome document in early November. The representative also highlighted the establishment of the Informal Multistakeholder Sounding Board to facilitate the process. It was informed that [registration for the UN General Assembly high-level meeting](https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/wsis20) scheduled to take place on 16-17 December in New York will soon open, noting that all stakeholders are invited to participate, but non-governmental participants will require special accreditation.
		7. **UN Regional Commissions**
			1. A representative from ECLAC provided an update on the region’s key development challenges, emphasizing digital transformation as a critical solution when effectively utilized. As technical secretariat for the regional digital agenda, ECLAC focuses on connectivity, digital governance and security, and AI-driven innovation for sustainable development, supported by pillars like productive transformation, well-being, and state modernization. The representative highlighted ECLAC’s work through regional groups, digital tools such as the Digital Transformation Lab and Digital Development Observatory, and capacity-building programs including the School of Digital Transformation. The importance of aligning WSIS implementation with the 2030 Agenda, Global Digital Compact, and Pact for the Future was stressed. ECLAC affirmed its commitment to scaling technical assistance and partnerships to ensure the region’s priorities are reflected in global digital cooperation.
			2. A representative from ESCWA emphasized the UN Regional commission’s long-standing role in the WSIS process, working closely with member states to shape WSIS outcomes and advance digital agendas in the region. ESCWA has facilitated regional consultations on WSIS+20 and the Global Digital Compact, helping translate global digital goals into national and regional actions through reviews and forums like the Arab World Summit on the Information Society. The representative highlighted strong support for integrating WSIS Action Lines with the SDGs and the Global Digital Compact, underscoring the need for a substantial extension of the WSIS framework beyond 2030. ESCWA affirmed its commitment to partnership with ITU and continued collaboration to support regional digital development and global digital cooperation.
		8. The group thanked all UN representatives for the updates and ongoing activities towards the WSIS+20 Review.
		9. The group appreciated the contributions and engagement of UN Regional Commissions.
	3. **WSIS+20 co-facilitator’s Roadmap**
		1. The secretariat provided an update on the WSIS+20 Co-Facilitators’ roadmap, outlining the key milestones and planned activities leading up to the overall WSIS+20 review by the UN General Assembly in December 2025.
		2. The group appreciated the WSIS+20 Co-Facilitators engagement with all stakeholders, including their presence at IGF, UNESCO Conference on Capacity Building on AI and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector, and the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025.
		3. The group welcomed the release of the zero draft WSIS+20 Outcome Document, appreciated ITU’s contribution to the Elements Paper, and emphasized the importance of continued multistakeholder engagement to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive WSIS+20 review process. The group noted the omission of WSIS Stocktaking database from the zero draft.
	4. **WSIS+20 report on ITU's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the WSIS outcomes and its role in achieving the SDGs (updated with WSIS+20 HLE 2025 Outcomes)**
		1. The secretariat presented the updated WSIS+20 report [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/15](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0015/en), reflecting ITU’s contribution to the implementation and follow-up of WSIS outcomes and its role in advancing the SDGs, incorporating outcomes from the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025.
		2. The group noted the document with appreciation.
		3. The group welcomed the updated report and acknowledged its importance as ITU’s input to the UN General Assembly’s overall WSIS+20 review process, in line with the mandate established by UNGA Resolution 140.
	5. **ITU’s call for inputs on WSIS+20 Review**
		1. The secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/16](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0016/en), summarizing activities and events organized around ITU’s call for inputs on the WSIS+20 Review, including sessions held at the Internet Governance Forum 2025, and the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025.
		2. The secretariat presented a summary of the contributions ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/INF/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-INF-0002/en)) received through the call for inputs on the WSIS+20 Review, highlighting inputs from Member States, Sector Members, and other stakeholders. This summary was submitted to the ITU Council 2025, which noted the report and agreed to forward it, along with a compilation of all individual submissions, as an annex to the UN General Assembly.
		3. The group noted the document with appreciation.
		4. Recalling the discussion at the ITU Council 2025, the group noted that the Chair of CWG-WSIS&SDGs would transmit this document with all the individual submissions to the UNGA WSIS+20 Overall Review.
	6. **20-year implementation of the WSIS Action Lines: Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines facilitated by UN Agencies**
		1. The secretariat presented document [CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/INF/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-INF-0003/en), containing updated roadmaps from UN organizations serving as facilitators of the WSIS Action Lines.
		2. The group noted the document and appreciated the work done by UN-WSIS Action Lines facilitators to highlight the key milestones, challenges, and emerging trends beyond 2025 of the implementation of WSIS Action Lines in 20 years.
	7. **20-year Reports on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes**
		1. Following discussions held during the 42nd meeting of the CWG-WSIS&SDG, the secretariat provided an update on the WSIS+20 reporting process, in line with ITU Council Resolution 1334, and informed the group that the WSIS+20 year reporting template for Member States and other stakeholders is already available online.
		2. The group appreciated the WSIS+20 reporting template provided by secretariat.
		3. The group appreciated Member States and stakeholders who have submitted the 20-year Reports on the Implementation of WSIS outcomes.
		4. The group requested the secretariat to plan the promotion of the reports to showcase the successful implementation of WSIS in 20 years.
	8. **Contribution by the Russian Federation on the proposals for the overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes and follow-up**
		1. Russian Federation presented a contribution ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/18](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0018/en)) on recommendations on ITU's continued advancement of the WSIS and SDG processes in accordance with its mandate.
		2. The group thanked the Russian Federation for the contribution and noted the document.
		3. The group welcomed the proposal to engage youth and suggested including it as an agenda item for the next Council Working Group meeting, particularly following the WSIS+20 review outcomes. The Chair encouraged the Member States to include youth in their delegations.
		4. The Chair congratulated the ITU for organising the youth special track at the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025, that brought together more than 300 youth, a high-level dialogue and several sessions on various topics impacting them including WSIS+20 Review.
		5. With reference to the proposal on expanding the activities of the CWG COP to include not only children but also youth, the Chair of the CWG on WSIS&SDG conveyed that she would bring this proposal to the attention of the Chair of the CWG on COP.
		6. The group supported the following proposals:
3. to support the actions of the ITU secretariat to reflect and promote the Union’s leadership role in the WSIS process as part of the UNGA Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes;
4. to extend the WSIS process until 2035, including the annual holding of the WSIS Forum and the IGF, reaffirming its commitment to the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action and the key action areas defined therein, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, as referred to in the WSIS+20 zero draft;
5. emphasize the importance and necessity of uniting the efforts of all stakeholders to accelerate a significant bridge in the digital divide in order to facilitate the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 (with the exception of one Member State).
	1. **Contribution by RCC on the declaration of the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications on the preparation for the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2025**
		1. RCC presented a contribution ([CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/19](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS43-C-0019/en)) on the RCC Declaration on WSIS+20, which reviews the achievements under the WSIS Action Lines, identifies remaining challenges from the Tunis Agenda, and recommends future actions. The declaration also highlights the key stages involved in the overall review process for 2024–2025, ensuring transparency throughout.
		2. The group noted the document with appreciation.
6. **Any other business**
	1. There was a proposal to streamline the agenda and consolidate the number of documents by the secretariat.
7. **Approval of the Report: The group approved the report of the 43rd CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting.**
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 43rd meeting of CWG-WSIS&SDG, and thanked the Vice-Chairs, Ms. Renata Santoyo (Brazil), Ms. Mina Seonmin Jun (Korea (Rep. of)), Ms. Janet Umutesi (Rwanda, remote), and Ms. Susanna Mattsson (Sweden), and especially all who contributed to the work of CWG-WSIS&SDG and the WSIS Process. The Chair also expressed appreciation to Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General of ITU, and acknowledged the invaluable support of Ms. Nur Sulyna Abdullah, Chief of SPM, the secretariat team including Ms. Gitanjali Sah, Mr. Vladimir Stankovic, Mr. Michael Kioy, Ms. Ruth Sidabutar, Ms. Tala Debs, Mr. Preetam Maloor, Ms. Jeoung Hee Kim, Ms. Esperanza Magpantay, Ms. Monika Gehner, Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Ms. Phillippa Biggs, Ms. Kaoru Mizuno, Mr. Emmet Ryan, Mr. Antonio Human, Ms. Adeleh Mojtahed.
	2. The Chair extended her personal thanks to the guests: Mr. Cedric Wachholz (UNESCO), Ms. Scarlett Fondeur Gil (UNCTAD), Ms. Yuping Chan (UNDP), Mr. Deniz Susar (UN DESA), Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny (UN ESCWA), and Mr. Marco Llinás (UN ECLAC).
	3. The group expressed its thanks to Ms Cynthia Lesufi, Chair of the CWG-WSIS&SDG, for her able chairship and guidance.

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