WSIS Forum 2018 OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Template for Submission of Executive Summaries for

Thematic/Country Workshop/ Action Line Facilitation Meetings/ Interactive Sessions/ High Level Dialogues/Publication Releases/Briefings

Deadline: Thursday 22 March, 2018
Exception: For sessions on Friday 23 March, please send at the latest 2 hours after the session
Please note that the WSIS Forum 2018 Outcome Document will be released on the <u>23rd of March</u>

(the last day of the Forum)

1) **Title of your session :** Ljubljana OER Action Plan Follow up

2) **Name of Organization/s organizing the session:** UNESCO

3) **Relevance with the WSIS Action Lines –** E-learning (Action Line C7)

4) **Key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (these will be reflected in the press release and Outcomes Document of the WSIS Forum 2018)**

5) **Main outcomes highlighting the following:**

   I. **Debated Issues**
   - Please capture highlights of the main issues debated and interactions with audience
- The objectives of the session was to introduce the Ljubljana OER Action Plan to discuss its implementation strategies. In particular, it focused on examining elements form the Ljubljana OER Action Plan adopted at the 2nd World OER Congress 2017 and their contribution to a UNESCO OER Recommendation to be developed in the 2018/2019 period further to a decision of the UNESCO General Conference at its 39th Session (November 2017). The five areas for action highlighted in the Ljubljana OER Action Plan are:: 1) the capacity of users to access, re-use and share OER; 2) issues relating to language and culture; 3) ensuring   inclusive and equitable access to quality OER; 4) changing business models; and 5) the development of supportive policy environments.

  During the session, Zeynep Varoglu, Programme Specialist, ICT in Education, Knowledge Societies Division, Communication and Information Sector, outlined the Ljubljana OER Action Plan and its follow up, including the decision of the 40th UNESCO General Conference in CI Commission to develop a draft OER Recommendation. Mr Gasper Hrastelj, Deputy Secretary-General, Slovenian

National Commission to UNESCO presented the Ljubljana OER Action Plan from a Governmental Perspective and Dr Sophie Touzé, President of the Board of Open Education Consortium (OEC) presented on the Ljubljana OER Action Plan from an Institutional and NGO Perspective.

This presentation was followed by an interactive session which focused on discussion on key issues, actions and actors for each of the 5 areas identified above in the Ljubljana OER Action Plan. In the report back session, participants presented the outputs of their working group sessions on the five areas of action.

- Please highlight key achievements and challenges shared by the audience and/ or panelists

The issues highlighted in the debates were: the importance of regulatory bodies and governments in supporting the use and development of OER.

II. **Quotes**
- Please provide two important quotes from the session and the names & organization of the person you are quoting

The government has started to initiate a nationwide movement for OER In countries, and this movement needs to provide enough guidance for the people working on it .

- Ali Alyafei, Ministry of Education, United Arab Emirates

III. **Overall outcomes of the session highlighting**
- main conclusions reached during the discussion : OER provides an innovative means to reach the goals of SDG4.
- the vision for implementation of WSIS Action lines beyond 2015 : OER provides an innovative development in the area of e-learning

IV. **Main linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals :** SDG4 'Inclusive Quality Lifelong Learning'
V. **Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting :** Importance of OER for achieving SDG4
VI. **Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2019**

Please complete this document and send to Matthew L. Greenspan, Matthew.Greenspan@itu.int AND Gitanjali Sah, Gitanjali.Sah@itu.int