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 **23rd of March**
(the last day of the Forum)

1) **Title of your session:** Towards a single Africa Digital Market: Challenges and Opportunities

2) **Name of Organization/s organizing the session:** Rwanda (Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority-RURA)

3) **Relevance with the WSIS Action Lines – please specify the Action lines C1 to C11**
   -C6-enabling environment
   -C11-International and Regional Cooperation
   -C2-Information and Communication Infrastructure

4) **Key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (these will be reflected in the press release and Outcomes Document of the WSIS Forum 2018)**
   -Announcement of the Transform Africa Summit taking place in Kigali from 7-10 May 2018
   -Strong commitment by ITU to help African leaders drive progress towards a single digital market for Africa
   -Envision a single digital market keeping in mind that Africa is open for business and is the place to go

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

   I.   **Debated Issues**

- Please capture highlights of the main issues debated and interactions with audience

  -How can Africa leverage partnerships with the rest of the world to build a strong ICT industry within the continent and move away from being only consumers to providing solutions on the continent?

  -African countries being at the forefront in harnessing the agenda to drive the transform Africa initiative

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

  - Some specific initiatives for partnerships were also discussed like Regional Integration for ICT development at a continental level

II. **Quotes**

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

  1) "It is only through partnerships and collaboration that Africa will leapfrog to Digital transformation" Hon. Jean De Dieu Rurangirwa-Minister of Information Technology and Communications-Rwanda

  2) "Africa is a huge continent with massive opportunities where continued engagements will benefit both the Government and Private sector and other Stakeholders" Nyirishema Patrick-Director General of Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority-RURA

III. **Overall outcomes of the session highlighting**

- main conclusions reached during the discussion

  -Africa to focus on Business and Innovation

  -Priorities and programs towards Africa's transformation

  -Good will from African Leaders to leverage partnerships

- the vision for implementation of WSIS Action lines beyond 2015

  -Continuous partnerships of paramount importance in realizing this agenda

IV. **Main linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals**

-Partnerships to achieve the goal

V.   Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting

-Information technology has served as a big change agent in different aspects of business and society. It has proven a game changer in resolving economic and social issues

VI.   Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2019
-Business and Innovation

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