*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**  **High Level Session on Digital Transformation**

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

3) **Relevance with the WSIS Action Lines – please specify the Action lines C1 to C11**
   **ALL**

4) **Key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (these will be reflected in the press release and Outcomes Document of the WSIS Forum 2018)**
   **This session was an opportunity for launching two country Digital Innovation Profiles (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia), one  Country Review (Moldova), a publication on Innovation Practices in Europe and the ITU report "Bridging the Digital Innovation Divide: A Toolkit for Strengthening ICT Centric Innovation Ecosystems" (now available in all 6 UN languages)**

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

   I. **Debated Issues**
   - Please capture highlights of the main issues debated and interactions with audience
   - **Index for accelerating digital transformation – to be defined and measured – metrics / KPIs are needed but is not easy to do [measure of impact of digital transformation on economic growth – need critical mass for good comparison]**
   - **Having regulator head as a former minister of ICT and prime minister – accelerates digital transformation – an example from a speaker**
   - **Getting children to study computer science to become the innovators of the future**
   - **Need to match skills needed by ICT industry and the skills developed by youth at the national level**
   - **To ensure good access to Internet through resilient effective infrastructure. Many countries are not there.**

- **Egovt services – tell us once only approach – data flow within government**
- **Women as a driver of digital acceleration**
- **Big data sharing & ownership to make strategic policy decision**

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

- **Governments and all Stakeholders to become more active on twitter and facebook to network and innovate**
- **New Strategy for development of new infrastructure including 5G action plan**
- **Broadband connectivity to rural areas and change laws to foster IoT – reduce taxes to facilitate device connections**
- **5G Strategy, Cybersecurity, What we can do to take everyone onboard – technology not a solution on its own**
- **Council of ministers to discuss Digital Innovation Profile and find new ITU collaboration projects**

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

"**We continue to support ITU membership to accelerate digital transformation through ICT entrepreneurship and innovation, while encouraging the empowerment of grassroots key stakeholders and creating new opportunities for them in the ICT sector** ", **Brahima Sanou, BDT Director, ITU**

" *Government initiatives are needed to support innovation including broadband initiatives and applying ICTs to economic sectors such as agroscience. Private investment needs to be leveraged with national quantified targets of investment in start-ups be it at early stage, technology transfer stage, accelerator phase, for SMEs and Entrepreneurs with high growth potential and those in need of funding for immediate expansion.*" **Konstantinos Masselos, President, Hellenic Telecommunications & Post Commission (EETT), Greece**

III. **Overall outcomes of the session highlighting**
- main conclusions reached during the discussion
- the vision for implementation of WSIS Action lines beyond 2015

**Digital Transformation needs to be understood, developed and measured.**

**Technology does not provide the solution for economic growth - digital transformation provides solutions**

IV. **Main linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals** SDG 9 and SDG 17
V. **Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting :** Measure Digital Transformation
VI. **Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2019 :** Innovation for Digital Transformation &  Rethinking resource optimizing and synergies in this context, Fostering Internet of Things through enablers like legislation

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