**Session Outcome Document**

**Bridging Visions: Aligning the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and WSIS+20 Overall Review by the UN GA**

**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs / Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government**

**Monday, 7 July 2025 | 14:00–14:45 (UTC+02:00)**

**<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Agenda/Session/254>**

**Key Issues discussed: Looking Beyond 2025**

* WSIS frameworks are broadly seen as the natural institutional foundation for implementing the Global Digital Compact (GDC).
* Participants stressed the need to avoid redundancy and streamline digital governance through existing mechanisms like IGF, WSIS, and UNGIS.
* The session highlighted WSIS’s credibility, especially in inclusive governance and digital inclusion, over the past 20 years.
* GDC reaffirms WSIS principles, and many called for upgrading rather than replacing its mechanisms.
* Stakeholders emphasized building system-wide coherence through hybrid governance (government + multistakeholder engagement).
* Speakers urged WSIS to evolve to address emerging topics such as AI, cybersecurity, and platform and data governance.
* CSTD proposed a joint implementation roadmap with four key areas: digital inclusion, safe digital environment, SDG support, and developing country participation.
* Concrete tools like the WSIS Stocktaking Database and ICT Development Index were recommended for GDC tracking.

**Tangible Outcomes of the session**

* Clear reaffirmation across UN, regional, and stakeholder levels that WSIS mechanisms remain fit for GDC implementation.
* A proposed joint roadmap aligning WSIS+20 with GDC priorities.
* EU Commission announced plans to share a non-paper outlining a roadmap approach using existing WSIS action lines.
* Encouragement of written submissions and inputs to inform the WSIS+20 zero draft document.

**Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Action Plan for the WSIS+20 Review and Beyond**

* Develop roadmaps to guide implementation and coordination through the existing WSIS action lines and processes.
* Use IGF and WSIS as central platforms for monitoring, review, and multistakeholder engagement.
* Continue to keep WSIS action lines with technology neutral
* Ensure inclusive, bottom-up governance models that reflect multistakeholder voices and avoid tokenism.
* Provide political and resource support to strengthen WSIS’s role as the backbone of GDC delivery.