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| **Council Working Group on WSIS and SDG37th meeting – Virtual meeting, 22-23 September 2021** |  |
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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-37/15-E** |
| **9 September 2021** |
| **English only** |
| Contribution by the Russian Federation |
| Proposals for the work of CWG-WSIS&SDG |
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**I Introduction**

The Plenipotentiary conference in its Resolution 140 (rev.Dubai, 2018) resolved:

*…that ITU should continue its work on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and realization of the WSIS vision beyond 2015…*

*… that ITU should continue to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which ITU helps achieve the SDGs, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by all UN WSIS action line facilitators, working through CWG-WSIS…*

Plenipotentiary conference 2022 shall not only consider and analyse 4-years ITU activities on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and achieving SDGs, but define what ITU as the initiator and leading UN agency of the WSIS process should do within the preparation to the UNGA high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2025, as well as to look forward for further WSIS activities on supporting implementation the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at least up to 2030. The PP Resolution 140 should be revised to reflect new environment, including the impact of COVID-19, and ITU’s role in the preparation to 2025 UNGA overall review.

Having analysed input documents we recommend that the REPORT on ITU’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WSIS OUTCOMES (2021) that is under preparation should follow the structure suggested in the previous CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting and also include information about the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development activities.

CWG-WSIS&SDG in its report to the Council 2020 agreed to request the secretariat to change the way in which it plans, monitors and reports on the activities related to the implementation of the Action Lines for which the ITU is the lead facilitator, and requested that for each area of activity, the secretariat should, on an annual basis:

• Undertake an evidence-based analysis of the current situation;

• Describe the targets to be achieved;

• Review the effectiveness of existing actions to achieve these targets;

• Appraise options for further action to achieve those targets, explaining which are the best options;

• Seek the advice of the Council Working Group on the options available;

• Report on the actions taken and on their effectiveness;

• Develop revised plans as appropriate;

• Present this in a format that is easy to understand, using a consistent format.

These recommendations were endorsed through the consultation by correspondence on outcomes of discussions of the second Virtual consultation of councillors in 2020 (doc. DM-20/1022). But they have not been taken into account within the preparations towards this meeting.

Resolution 1332, revised by Council in 2019, instructs the Secretary-General to “…3 prepare a final and comprehensive report on the ITU activities for WSIS implementation and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda together with proposals for further activities and submit it to Council 2022 through CWG-WSIS&SDG;”

The report shall include information on all ITU activities, achieved results related to the implementation of the goals and tasks set by PP Resolution 140 (Rev.Dubai, 2018) and Council Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2019), as well as proposals for further activities.

CWG-WSIS&SDG will have two meetings (September 2021 and January 2022) before Council 2022 and PP-22 and shall prepare to Council 4-years report on its activities and consider the abovementioned report of the SG before its presentation to Council 2022.

Based on Council Decision 556 the draft Report of the Secretary General shall be published at CWG-WSIS&SDG web-site in the middle of December 2021.

Covid 19 has highlighted the role of Digital in all aspects of economic and social recovery. ITU’s leadership and coordination of the WSIS Process has been appreciated by the UN Agencies and multi-stakeholders.

WSIS continues to be a good example of a real digital cooperation platform provided by the UN, involving a multi-stakeholder effort, where, while Governments remain at the centre, the involvement of the private sector, technology companies, civil society and other stakeholders is essential for achieving the SDGs. With the emergence of new activities and process within the UN, ITU should put a special emphasis on maintaining its leading role in the WSIS Process.

**II Proposals**

1. The Report on ITU’S contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes should include particular achievements over the period under consideration and the same for achieving SDGs, separately from the report to HLPF.
2. In preparation to the next CWG-WSIS&SDG meeting the secretariat should follow recommendations, approved by the consultation by correspondence on outcomes of discussions of the second Virtual consultation of councillors in 2020 (doc. DM-20/1022).
3. To recommend the secretariat to reflect in the 4-year final report:
* feedback on each items of the relevant operational parts of the PP Resolution 140 (Rev.Dubai, 2018) and Council Resolution 1332 (Rev. 2019);
* ITU efforts on the involvement of regional organizations to WSIS&SDG process;
* results and recommendations of WSIS Forums on implementation of WSIS ALs and achieving SDGs;
* special emphasis on the ITU cooperation with other WSIS&SDG stakeholders especially on implementing ICT for SDG actions through the UN's "Delivering as One" approach, ITU participation in UNGIS and Broadband Commission, CSTD, HLPF, WSIS Forum and IGF and etc.
1. To recommend the secretariat to include links to relevant documents on WSIS&SDG matters of abovementioned organisations at the WSIS&SDG web-site.
2. To invite the secretariat to provide updates on the activities of the Broadband Commission.
3. To invite the secretariat to provide a report on the special initiatives to align the WSIS Process with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. Under the WSIS&SDGs umbrella to invite the membership and the secretariat to analyse ITU’s role in digital cooperation to support the implementation of the SDGs between now and 2030 building on WSIS process and submit proposals for discussion at the next group meeting.
5. To invite membership and RTOs to share views on possible amendment of PP Resolution 140 at the next group meeting.
6. In line with, and learning from the experiences of the process implemented by WSIS+10, to recommend the secretariat to work in close collaboration with UNGIS a multi-stakeholder Open Consultation Process led by UNGIS on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes (WSIS +20) in 2025 to preliminary set its phases and provide the next group meeting in January 2022 with relevant information.

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