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| Contribution by the secretariat |
| UPDATE ON ITU’S CONTRIBUTION TO UN SECRETARY-GENERAL OUR COMMON AGENDA |
| **Purpose**This document highlights the updates on ITU’s contribution to UN Secretary-General Our Common Agenda.**Action required**Members are invited to **note** the document. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References**<https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda>  |

1. **Stance on Our Common Agenda (OCA):** As strongly suggested by Member States during the CWG-SFP, ITU has committed to work very closely with the UN Secretary-General and his executive office, and other UN agencies on the acceleration of digital cooperation and digital issues in OCA. Among the proposals contained in OCA, ITU has been following up around fifteen that particularly relate to universal connectivity and digital transformation, including those on the Global Digital Compact (GDC), Outer Space, Transforming Education, UN2.0, as well as the discussions at the High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism and overall preparation of the Future of the Summit.
2. **Specifically related to the GDC:** As a member of the UN core (inter-agency) group on this subject, ITU has been actively providing its inputs in the process to the development of the GDC. ITU submitted its own inputs to the GDC online platform, facilitated by the UN Secretary-General’s Tech Envoy, and has actively participated in a series of intergovernmental processes, organized by the GDC co-facilitators of Rwanda and Sweden, made relevant interventions throughout the GDC consultations.

ITU places great emphasis on the critical role of ICTs for sustainable development while minimizing potential risks. Our messages are based on discussions held during key ITU events, e.g., the consultations during PP 2022 and the Ministerial Roundtable in Bucharest, WTDC 2022 in Kigali, WSIS Forum 2023 in Geneva, as well as the outcomes of the last WTPF and relevant PP Resolutions. ITU’s messages/principles for future digital technology development include, for example but not limited to, connecting all people and all schools worldwide to the Internet, based on future-oriented policies and collaborative regulatory frameworks ensuring availability and inclusiveness.

Recently, an Issue Paper on GDC, prepared by the co-facilitators of Sweden and Rwanda, was released to Member States on 1 September. It highlights Member States’ support for the GDC that rests on the principles of the UN Charter, Agenda 2030, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The co-facilitators emphasize the goals of strengthening digital cooperation, closing the digital divide and ensuring an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future for all. The issue paper acknowledges the important roles played by IGF, ITU, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, WSIS, and other UN entities, structures, and forums, emphasizing that the GDC should not duplicate existing processes.

1. **Closely following up the OCA process:** ITU has also contributed to the preparation of the UN Secretary-General’s series of Policy Briefs on OCA, specifically focused on areas such as the Global Digital Compact, Outer Space, and Transforming Education, among others. Furthermore, ITU closely monitored the Member States’ statements and priorities regarding GDC and digital technologies during the preparatory Ministerial Meeting for the Summit of the Future on 21 September 2023.

We aim to ensure the optimal utilization of resources and expertise, fostering a collaborative approach towards achieving our shared goals. ITU’s commitments for OCA lies in promoting synergy among stakeholders, leveraging existing initiatives and facilitating meaningful progress in the field of digital cooperation.

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