Statement by
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

WSIS+20 Virtual Stakeholder Consultation on Rev2
Monday, 8 December 2025, 07:00–09:00 EST

As we engage with Rev.2 of the draft, ITU appreciates the continued progress in refining the text and welcomes the opportunity to reiterate and expand on key elements submitted under Rev.1, with the hope that they will be fully reflected in the next iteration as we head into the final mile. ITU also thanks the Co-Facilitators for their steady stewardship of this important WSIS+20 process and for the opportunity to present our observations.

In the Preamble, we would like to recall that ITU Member States resolved at its Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis in 1998 (Resolution 73) to hold a World Summit on the Information Society and to place it on the agenda of the United Nations.

ITU also served as the Secretariat for the two-phased Summit held in 2003 (Geneva) and 2005 (Tunis), as endorsed by UNGA Resolution 56/183, which accorded ITU a lead role in cooperation with all relevant organizations and partners.

As the United Nations' specialized agency for digital technologies, ITU has been at the forefront of global digital cooperation with the UN and all stakeholders for the past twenty years—building partnerships, strengthening capacities, and driving digital transformation in line with WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda.

We would encourage the use, wherever possible, of the agreed language from ECOSOC Resolution E/RES/2025/18. As this resolution has already been negotiated and adopted by Member States, it provides a solid and coherent basis for the WSIS+20 outcome document and would help ensure alignment between ECOSOC and UNGA processes, particularly on the integration of GDC commitments into the WSIS architecture.

On UNGIS (para 121), we underline its current effective functioning as an autonomous inter-agency mechanism built on mutual respect and trust, with ITU serving as its permanent secretariat. We have served in this role since its inception and have a dedicated WSIS team supported by ITU resolutions.

We would like to underscore the core mandate of the CSTD to continue inviting key UN agencies involved in WSIS implementation to present their implementation work.

On para 109 regarding the GDC, we suggest referencing the Working Group on Digital Technologies—co-chaired by ITU and ODET with Vice-Chairs covering all GDC objectives—which currently coordinates implementation of the GDC action points across the UN system. We note that this would also ensure consistency with GDC terminology and existing structures.

ITU remains committed to supporting an ambitious, coherent, and future-ready WSIS+20 outcome that continues to serve all stakeholders and ensures that digital technologies advance sustainable development for everyone.