WSIS+20 ZERO DRAFT MATRIX - INTERNET SOCIETY ANALYSIS (v1)

The Internet Society welcomes the opportunity to submit our comments on the WSIS+20 Zero Draft. We commend the co-facilitators' leadership and openness in facilitating stakeholders' participation in the WSIS+20 review process, including providing feedback on the Zero Draft. We believe that continued openness and transparency throughout the negotiations on the text will be essential for a successful review. We strongly encourage the co-facilitators and member states to deepen their engagement with non-governmental stakeholders as negotiations advance. It is vital that the review genuinely reflect the views of all stakeholders.

In this review, it is important that member states formally recognize that the tremendous growth in global Internet connectivity and digital transformation has been enabled by the more than 75,000 globally distributed interconnected independent networks using open standards developed by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and other Internet standards bodies, advancements in Internet security technologies and applications such as end-to-end encryption that are available to all users, and the stewardship of essential Internet resources such as IP addresses, domain names and the Domain Name System (DNS) by the Internet technical community. All of this was achieved through multistakeholder mechanisms and collaboration across borders and disciplines. This this global cooperation between many stakeholders, in many countries, from many cultures, is more essential than ever if we hope to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

We would also like to thank the co-facilitators for the Zero Draft, which provides a good starting point. We are pleased to see that stakeholder feedback from consultations on the Elements Paper, and the co-facilitators' engagement with the WSIS community, has been taken into account. This includes reflecting the general consensus that the resolution must reaffirm critical WSIS commitments around a people-centered, inclusive and development-oriented information society multistakeholder Internet governance and make the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) a permanent forum of the United Nations. These commitments are non-negotiable. Further, with 20 years proven track record, it is time for UN member states to affirm that Internet governance will always be multistakeholder.

For two decades, the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) has served as the world's primary multistakeholder platform for dialogue on Internet governance. The IGF's strength lies in its structure. What began as a single global meeting has evolved into a dynamic, year-round ecosystem

supported by over 170 national and regional IGFs (NRIs), as well as a growing track of intersessional work. This growth has been driven by the needs of participants–governments, technical experts, civil society, business, and academia–each finding value in a space designed for neutral, globally accessible cooperation. We would like to see stronger recognition of NRIs' role in advancing multistakeholder collaboration in regions and within member states, and a commitment to continue to expand those efforts. Further, the IGF secretariat should be strengthened to ensure its continued evolution and to provide additional support for NRIs and intersessional activities.

We encourage the co-facilitators and UN member states to consult closely with non-governmental stakeholders during negotiations of the text of the resolution to ensure that those stakeholders' perspectives on the 20-year review of the WSIS framework are included, and to recognize the important role that they have in how the Internet is developed, operated, managed and governed. We welcome strengthening the accountability for the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and calls to further develop the arrangements from the Tunis Agenda and the Summit of the Future to continue to support the implementation of the WSIS vision and objectives and the integration of the Global Digital Compact (GDC).

On Enhanced Cooperation, we note that the WSIS+10 outcome document observed that there were divergent views regarding the process for implementation of enhanced cooperation. Noting that the GDC reaffirms that Internet governance must continue to be global and multi-stakeholder in nature and should continue to follow the provisions set forth Tunis Agenda and Geneva Declarations, including in relation to enhanced cooperation. We observe that this has best occurred via bottom-up participatory processes. A robust example is the vast number of national and regional IGFs and schools of Internet governance that continue to emerge every year. We would like to see an ongoing commitment from all stakeholders to support these national and regional efforts and ensure that their outcomes are brought to the Internet Governance Forum.

We see important areas in which the Zero Draft should be strengthened. While the draft acknowledges the IGF's value and provides a permanent mandate, it stops short of outlining a clear pathway for securing sustainable, long-term funding, instead opting to ask the Secretary-General to come back later with a proposal. As we noted in our response to the Elements Paper, financial sustainability is critical to preserving the IGF's independence, relevance, and capacity to support stakeholder engagement globally. Existing IGF funders, such as the Internet Society, and other stakeholders should be part of any long-term funding discussion and its mandate. Further, the draft fails to recognize important milestones

in the evolution of multistakeholder governance, the 2014 NETmundial principles to guide Internet governance and the 2024 NETmundial+10 Multistakeholder Statement: Strengthening Internet governance and digital policy processes.

There is still considerable work to be done to realize an enabling environment that will support meaningful connectivity and an open, globally connected secure and trustworthy Internet. In this context, it is imperative that the draft more explicitly call out the elements that help provide an enabling environment such as measures to foster investment, innovation, and technological development. These include open access to data, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure sharing models, and community-based approaches. Further, insufficient recognition is given to community-centered connectivity initiatives which have emerged to provide Internet access to communities where commercial options are not available or viable. We also believe that technical capacity building is essential for bridging digital divides and note that much of this capacity building is provided by the technical community.

We encourage the co-facilitators to build on this momentum by addressing the remaining gaps and ensuring the WSIS+20 outcomes reinforce an open, inclusive, and sustainable digital future. The Internet Society remains committed to supporting this process and contributing to its success. The comments above provide some overarching reflections on the Zero Draft. They are complemented by the matrix below, which offers specific paragraph-level feedback and suggestions aimed at further improving the final resolution text. In the interests of facilitating agreement on the text, many of the proposed improvements leverage already agreed language from the WSIS+10 outcome document, the Global Digital Compact, ECOSOC resolutions, and other previously agreed documents.

This document represents the ongoing effort carried out by the Internet Society to identify how the language proposed in the WSIS+20 Zero Draft aligns with the vision of an open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy Internet for everyone. The paragraphs have been identified as containing positive (POS), needing improvements (IMP), or concerning (CON) language. The rationale offered in this document is the result of the collaboration among the Internet Society staff, community members, and partners.

POS	IMP	CON	WSIS+20 ZERO DRAFT TEXT	INTERNET SOCIETY COMMENTS
			Introduction	
x			1. We reaffirm our common desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilise and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.	**Retain language.** It is crucial that the Zero Draft reaffirms the first paragraphs of the Declaration of Principles and the WSIS+10 outcome document as they set out the common vision for the Information Society. Note: Reaffirms the Declaration of Principles and the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 1. We...declare our common desire and commitment to build a people-centered, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilise and share information and knowledge...respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
x			2. We further reaffirm our commitment to the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.	**Retain language.** These commitments are essential to achieve the WSIS vision of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society.
x			3. We reaffirm the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its	**Retain language.**

	inception, and recognise that effective participation, partnership and cooperation of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organisations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders, with balanced representation of all countries has been and continues to be vital in developing the Information Society, including the implementation of Summit outcomes.	This reaffirmation of values and principles of multistakeholder cooperation and engagement is essential for the future of the Information Society. It reaffirms the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 3. We reaffirm, moreover, the value and principles of multistakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its inception, and recognise the effective participation, partnership and cooperation of...all relevant stakeholders...
x	4. We reaffirm that the full inclusion of developing country governments and other stakeholders is critical to achieving the WSIS vision. Addressing this requires attention to capacity building, the sharing, transfer and development of technology, and financial resources to promote equitable access and innovation. We will address the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).	**Retain language.** We welcome the focus on the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The language offers clear linkages to the GDC and builds on the WSIS+10 outcome document which states: 7. We acknowledge that particular attention should be paid to address the unique and emerging information and communications technology challenges facing all countries, in particular developing countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing

				countries and small island developing states and middle-income countries...
x			5. We recognise that many developing nations face barriers to participating fully in global digital governance and policy-making processes due to financial, technical, and institutional constraints. We encouragegovernments and other stakeholders to ensure that decision-making processes concerned with the Information Society enable full and effective participation by developing countries.	**Retain language.** This echoes the call made in paragraph 9 of the Tunis Agenda to assist developing countries, which states: 9. We call upon the international community to promote the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, including ICTs, to adopt policies and programmes with a view to assisting developing countries to take advantage of technology in their pursuit of development through, inter alia, technical cooperation and the building of scientific and technological capacity in our efforts to bridge the digital and development divides.
	x		6. We welcome the tremendous growth in connectivity and development of the Internet, social media and other applications that has taken place since the World Summit. These improvements have enhanced the ability of governments, businesses, civil society and other organisations and individuals to develop and deploy applications and digital resources that can play a central role in driving economic growth, social development and innovation.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document text to highlight the value of the contribution of both public and private sectors and reflect on the evolution of ICTs and development without naming specific aspects like social media.** Notably, paragraph 4 of the WSIS+10 outcome document states: 4. We welcome the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both public and private sectors, which

				have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interaction, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion. This language (above) could replace paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Zero Draft.
		x	7. We note that the widespread availability of the Internet has transformed traditional structures of public discourse. This has had significant impacts on societal behaviour, policy-making processes and the dynamics of information reliability and public trust.	**Strike to streamline the text as recommended in the comments above concerning paragraph 6 of the Zero Draft, by aligning with the language reflected in the WSIS+10 outcome document.** 4...while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion.
x			8. We recognise that digital development and digital inclusion are critical instruments in enabling progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and encourage close alignment between the World Summit process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We reaffirm the importance of cooperation to ensure that the benefits of digital cooperation are fairly distributed and do not exacerbate existing inequalities or impede the full achievement of sustainable development.	**Retain language.** It is important to recognize the role of digital development and digital inclusion in enabling progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda.

x			9. We recognise that the outcomes of the World Summit are anchored in international law, including international human rights law, and reaffirm that all human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and fundamental freedoms, must be respected, protected and promoted online and offline.	**Retain language.** We welcome the inclusion of the agreed language from the GDC, which states: 8(c). This Compact is anchored in international law, including international human rights law. All human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and fundamental freedoms, must be respected...
	x		10. We are committed to fostering an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promotes human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, fundamental freedoms and the rights of the child, the rights of persons with disabilities and the right to development.	**Align with the GDC.** We propose adding: "We recognize that governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community, academia and international and regional organizations, in their respective roles and responsibilities, are essential to advancing an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future.", as stated in the GDC: 8(k). Governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community, academia and international and regional organizations, in their respective roles and responsibilities, are essential to advance an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future. Our cooperation will be multi-stakeholder and harness the contributions of all;
	x		11. We recognise that the achievement of universal meaningful and affordable access to information and	**Align with the GDC.**

		communications technologies and the Internet, including the ability of people in all communities to create, access and use digital technologies, is fundamental to achieving a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society.	We propose adding "connectivity" after "meaningful" as both connectivity and access are fundamental for unlocking the full potential of digital and emerging technologies. This aligns with the GDC, which states: 10. We acknowledge the pivotal role of universal and meaningful connectivity and affordable access in unlocking the full potential of digital and emerging technologies.	
x		12. We are concerned that there remain critical digital divides between and within countries in access to and use of digital technologies. These constrain the achievement of WSIS goals, restrict the achievement of economic and social development, threaten to increase social and economic inequalities and may be exacerbated by new technological developments. Bridging them requires measures concerned not just with connectivity but with the affordability of networks and devices, the availability of relevant content and services in local languages, and the development of digital skills, literacy and capabilities.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document.** We propose adding "strengthening enabling policy environments and" after "Bridging them requires" as this is an important aspect needed to close digital divides. This aligns with the WSIS+10 document, which states: 6....through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments and international cooperation to improve affordability, access, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment and appropriate financing.	
x		13. We reaffirm that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and their full, equal and meaningful participation in the digital space, are essential to close the gender digital divide and advance sustainable development. Our cooperation will empower all women and girls,	**Retain language and add language.** We appreciate that the GDC commitments on gender equality and empowerment are reaffirmed in the zero draft. It is also an opportunity to commit to empowerment of youth, which are	

			encourage leadership of women, mainstream a gender perspective and counter and eliminate all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence that occurs through or is amplified by the use of technology.	currently estimated to be 16% of the global population (https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/youth). The GDC states: 8(d). Gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and their full, equal and meaningful participation in the digital space are essential to close the gender digital divide and advance sustainable development...
x			14. We are committed to addressing the access and specific information and technology challenges facing children, adolescents and young people, the elderly, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples and marginalised communities, and to the needs of future generations.	**Retain and add language.** We strongly support the commitment to address the challenges faced by these communities. We propose adding "We are committed to empowering these communities to be able participate effectively in achieving the WSIS and Sustainable Development Goals."
x			15. We recognise that the pace and power of emerging technologies are creating new possibilities but also new risks for humanity, some of which are not yet fully known. We recognise the need to identify and mitigate risks and to ensure human oversight of technology in ways that advance sustainable development and the full enjoyment of human rights.	**Retain language.** We appreciate the linkages to the GDC, which states: 3. We recognize that the pace and power of emerging technologies are creating new possibilities but also new risks for humanity, some of which are not yet fully known. We recognize the need to identify and mitigate risks and to

				ensure human oversight of technology in ways that advance sustainable development and the full enjoyment of human rights.
x			16. We also recognise that building confidence and security in ICTs is critical to ensuring the implementation of WSIS goals, and that advancing digital inclusion requires a predictable and transparent enabling environment that encompasses policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that support innovation, protect consumer rights, nurture digital talent and skills, promote fair competition and digital entrepreneurship, and enhance consumer confidence and trust in the digital economy.	**Retain language.** We welcome the agreed language from the GDC, which states: 19. Advancing digital inclusion requires a predictable and transparent enabling environment that encompasses policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that support innovation, protect consumer rights, nurture digital talent and skills, promote fair competition and digital entrepreneurship, and enhance consumer confidence and trust in the digital economy.
			Information and communications technologies for development	
	x		17. We are convinced that information and communications technologies have demonstrated great potential to contribute to advancing human welfare and prosperity and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Their rapidly increasing capabilities and growing pervasiveness have enabled tremendous growth in the range of applications for development deployed by governments, the private sector and other stakeholders,	**Align with the approach taken in the WSIS+10 outcome document, by integrating the section "Social and economic development" into the section "Information and communication technologies for development" of the zero draft.** To improve the structure and streamline, we suggest reverting to the original WSIS+10 format by joining the sections together. This would help in removing redundancies, avoiding overlaps with other sections, and improving the overall structure of the document. Our

			creating new opportunities to improve productivity, prosperity and quality of life.	comments on the next paragraphs in this section are built upon this streamlining suggestion.
		x	18. We are deeply concerned, however, that the capacity of these technologies to support development remains constrained by digital divides and inequalities between and within countries, regions and communities. A third of the world's population still does not make use of the Internet, while many people with access make little use of it for reasons that include lack of affordability, limited content including content in locally relevant languages, and limited digital skills. Strengthened international cooperation and enabling policy environments are required to address gaps in access and affordability, digital skills, financing and technological resources.	**Strike paragraph 18 of the zero draft.** We appreciate the reference to digital divides and note that this topic is covered elsewhere in the document. We suggest streamlining this section by focusing substantively on ICT for development. We therefore recommend removing this paragraph and integrating the paragraphs from the "Social and economic development" section.
	x		19. We recognise the work of the United Nations Group on the Information Society to develop a matrix aligning the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Digital Compact and urge all stakeholders to align these commitments in their work for digital development.	**Streamline by moving the paragraph to the "Follow up and review" section of the Zero Draft.** While we appreciate the need to emphasize the need to align the outcomes of WSIS, the SDGs, and the GDC commitment, we recognize that the UNGIS's work is addressed in paragraphs 141 and 142 address. To avoid redundancies and streamline the document, we recommend that this language is reflected in the relevant section.
	x		20. We acknowledge that developing digital public goods and digital public infrastructure are critical drivers of	**Proposed additional language:** "We acknowledge...increase investment in their successful [governance and] development with

inclusive digital transformation and innovation and recognise the need to increase investment in their successful development with the participation of all stakeholders. Digital public goods include open-source software, open data, open artificial intelligence models, open standards and open content that adhere to privacy and other applicable international laws, standards and best practices and do no harm, empower societies and individuals to direct digital technologies to their development needs and can facilitate digital cooperation and investment. Resilient, safe, inclusive and interoperable digital public infrastructure has the potential to deliver services at scale and increase social and economic opportunities for all. We recognise that there are multiple models of digital public infrastructure, and we recognise that each society will develop and use shared digital systems according to its particular priorities and needs.

the participation of all stakeholders. Digital public goods [may] include open-source software, open data, open [data] models, open standards and open content that adhere to privacy and other applicable international laws, standards and best practices and do no harm, empower societies and individuals to direct digital technologies to their development needs and can facilitate digital cooperation and investment...We recognize that there are multiple models of digital public infrastructure, and we recognize that each society will develop and use shared digital systems according to its particular priorities and needs. [In this regard, we note the Universal DPI Safeguards Framework under the United Nations, as an evolving, multi-stakeholder initiative providing guidance and guardrails for the design, implementation, and oversight of digital public infrastructure, to ensure it is safe, inclusive, trusted, and responsive to users' interests]"

It is crucial to acknowledge the important role of all stakeholders in developing digital public infrastructure and digital public goods, their governance, and safeguarding fundamental rights. This paragraph should also note the UN's evolving and important multistakeholder work to outline safeguards and guardrails. Finally, we recommend replacing "artificial intelligence models" with "data models", which is more technically accurate.

Bridging digital divides

	x		22. We note that the growth of information and communications infrastructure and services since the World Summit has been achieved through a combination of private sector and public investment.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcomes to include other strategies and approaches contributing to the growth, which includes:** 38...public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end. Further, the paragraph should also acknowledge the important contributions of other stakeholders in expanding connectivity and access to services, notably the deployment of Internet Exchange Points, community networks and the development of open standards. Proposed language: "We note that the growth of information and communications infrastructure and services since the World Summit has been achieved through a combination of private sector and public investment. [We also recognize the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end, including the sustained engagement of civil society, the technical and academic communities, and other stakeholders, whose efforts in building local Internet exchange points, community networks and open technical standards have been central to expanding connectivity and enabling inclusive access.]"
x			23. We are concerned, however, about substantial and persistent digital divides between and within regions,	**Retain language.**

	countries and communities. The proportion of people using the Internet in high-income countries (93 per cent) is three and a half times that in low income countries (26.5 per cent), with the proportion below 20 per cent in some countries. The proportion of the population accessing the Internet in urban areas worldwide is estimated to be almost 83 per cent, while that in rural areas is less than 50 per cent	We appreciate the inclusion of data to make the digital divide clearly visible for the work and commitments outlined in this document. To strengthen the paragraph, we recommend referencing the data sources.
x	24. We are particularly concerned by persistent gender digital divides. Only 77 per cent of women aged ten and over worldwide use a mobile phone compared with 82 per cent of men, while only 65 per cent of women are using the Internet compared with almost 70 per cent of men. Women and girls are also under-represented in education, employment and other areas of digital activity. All stakeholders have a part to play in addressing and rectifying these gender digital divides.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document to include more actionable language.** Relevantly, the WSIS+10 outcome document states: 27....We call for immediate measures to achieve gender equality in Internet users by 2020, especially by significantly enhancing women's and girls' education and participation in information and communications technologies, as users, content creators, employees, entrepreneurs, innovators and leaders...
x	25. We note that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities affirms the right of those with disabilities to access information and communications technologies, including the Internet, on an equal basis. We are concerned that persons with disabilities nevertheless remain less likely to access the Internet. We	**In consultation with our Accessibility Standing Group, we suggest considering strengthening the language by reflecting these aspects in the text:** - Persons with disabilities continue to face limited data on their connectivity and participation in society, and barriers to the

			call for concerted action by all stakeholders to promote accessibility and equal access to the Internet and digital resources as a priority.	enjoyment of universal rights such as education and health, which increasingly depend on digital technologies. - Concerns about insufficient alignment with international accessibility standards for websites and applications and concerns about limited representation in civil society processes.
x			26. We are further concerned that other groups that experience disadvantage are underrepresented online, including the elderly, ethnic and linguistic minorities, Indigenous Peoples, refugees and migrants. We urge all stakeholders to include the needs of people in vulnerable situations and those in underserved, rural and remote areas in the development and implementation of national and local strategies for digital connectivity.	**Retain language.** We strongly support the recognition of the needs of disadvantaged and underrepresented groups and that the focus that should be placed on those needs in the development and implementation of strategies for digital connectivity.
	x		27. We are particularly concerned that digital divides between and within regions and countries, and within societies, and the rapid pace of development of digital technologies, may exacerbate economic and social inequalities.	**Proposed language: "We urge all stakeholders to collaborate to close these digital divides."** We propose this language to encourage all stakeholders to focus their efforts on addressing digital divides, globally, regionally, and locally.
	x		28. We are determined to ensure the achievement of universal meaningful and affordable access to the Internet and digital services, including the availability of networks offering higher capabilities, the affordability of access, data and devices, the availability of content and services that respond to users' priorities and needs, the extent to which	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document.** Add "local" before "content and services" to recognize the importance of content that is locally developed, in local languages.

			these are multilingual, and the capabilities and resources required to make effective use of them, including information literacy, and to ensure that no one will be left behind in the Information Society.	This is included in the WSIS+10 outcome document which states: 23...local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of quality, and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development. Add "including accessibility for persons with disabilities" after "users' priorities and needs" to recognize the importance of accessibility for meaningful access to the Internet and digital services.
x			29. We are committed to achieving entry-level broadband subscription costs that are accessible to the widest section of the population.	**Retain language.** Affordable access remains a key issue in developed as well as developing countries. We support the reaffirmation of the GDC commitment, which states: 11(b)...We will aim for entry-level broadband subscription costs that are accessible to the widest section of the population
	x		30. We reiterate the need for the development of local content and services in a variety of languages and formats that are accessible to all people and recognise the vital importance of multilingualism to ensure the linguistic, cultural and historical diversity of all nations. We commend the work that has been done since the World Summit to	**Proposed language: "We commend the work that has been done since the World Summit to extend the multilingual nature of the Internet, including the introduction of Internationalised Domain Names and [Universal Acceptance]...**

			extend the multilingual nature of the Internet, including the introduction of Internationalised Domain Names, and urge all stakeholders to ensure that the Internet and digital services become fully accessible to all, including Indigenous Peoples and speakers of minority languages.	Ensuring that all domain names are treated equally and can be used by all Internet applications and services (i.e. Universal Acceptance) is essential for realizing a multilingual Internet.
x			31. We reiterate the need for all users of the Internet and digital services to develop the capabilities and capacities, including media, information and digital literacy skills, to develop and make more extensive use of information and communications technologies.	**Retain language.** The text fully aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 24. We underscore the need for further development of local content and services in a variety of languages and formats that are accessible to all people, who also need the capabilities and capacities, including media, information and digital literacy skills, to make use of and further develop information and communications technologies.
	x		32. We call on governments, multilateral development banks, relevant international organisations and the private sector to develop financing mechanisms and incentives to connect the unconnected to the Internet and to improve the quality and affordability of connectivity.	**Align with the GDC, to reference innovative and blended financing mechanisms.** Relevantly, the GDC states: 11(b). Develop innovative and blended financing mechanisms and incentives...to connect the remaining 2.6 billion people to the Internet and to improve the quality and affordability of connectivity.

			The digital economy	
		x	34. We note that there have been extensive changes in the business environment for ICTs and that digital platforms, including those for social media and e-commerce, have come to play a central role in the Information Society.	**Strike text.** While we don't oppose the inclusion of this language, if the text needs to be streamlined, we suggest removing this paragraph because it does not add substance to the section and is not actionable.
x			35. We recognise that equitable and meaningful inclusion in the digital economy requires efforts to tackle concentrations of technological capacity and market power in order to ensure that the benefits of digital cooperation are fairly distributed and do not exacerbate existing inequalities or impede the full achievement of sustainable development.	**Retain language.** We welcome the alignment with the GDC, which states: 8(f). Equitable and meaningful inclusion in the digital economy requires tackling existing concentrations of technological capacity and market power. Our cooperation will aim to ensure that the benefits of digital cooperation are fairly distributed and do not exacerbate exiting inequalities or impede the full achievement of sustainable development.
x			38. We are encouraged that growing use of digital services has created opportunities for enterprises in all countries, including micro, small and medium enterprises, to provide digital services to serve both domestic and export markets. We welcome the work of United Nations agencies and development partners to support small businesses in developing countries, including businesses led by women,	**Retain language.** This paragraph aligns with the GDC, which states: 21(a). Foster an open, fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory digital environment for all that enables micro-, small and

			to take advantage of these opportunities, and urge all stakeholders to foster an open, fair, inclusive and nondiscriminatory digital environment that enables micro, small and medium enterprises to thrive, including appropriate financial support and access to capital.	medium-sized enterprises to access and compete in the digital economy.
			Social and economic development	
	x		41. We recognise that information and communications technologies have contributed to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels for citizens, businesses and governments to share and augment knowledge and to participate in decisions that affect people's lives, livelihoods and social welfare, including the provision of public services, education, health care and employment, business and science.	**Retain language while streamlining the sections "Social and economic development" and "Information and communications technologies for development".** We would like to reiterate the suggestion made in our earlier comments to merge the section "Social and economic development" with the "ICTs for development". This would fully align with the WSIS+10 approach and support streamlining the document. We note that our comments to the text in this section (paragraphs 41-48) should be considered together with this overarching suggestion.
x			42. We recognise that information and communications technologies have fundamentally impacted the ways in which individuals and communities interact, consume and spend their time. While many of these impacts have been positive, others have raised concerns, including for human rights, health, employment and the welfare of individuals and communities.	**Retain language.** We support this language as it builds directly on the language from the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 17. We simultaneously recognize that information and communications technologies are fundamentally altering the

			way individuals and communities interact, consume and spend their time...
x		43. We are encouraged that many governments have established national strategies to leverage the opportunities of information and communications technologies for development, drawing on the framework of Action Lines agreed at the World Summit , and that they also provide a range of e-government services to citizens and businesses, giving access to information and advice and, in many cases, the opportunity to undertake online transactions.	**Streamline 43-45 to align with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which is effective and concise in recognizing the importance of various developments.** Relevantly, the WSIS+10 outcome document states: 16. We also recognize that information and communications technologies are contributing to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels among citizens, businesses and Governments to share and augment knowledge, as well as participate in decisions that affect their lives and work. As envisioned by the World Summit on the Information Society action lines, we have seen information and communications technology-enabled breakthroughs in Government, including in the provision of public services, education, health care and employment, as well as in business, agriculture and science, with greater numbers of people having access to services and data that might previously have been out of reach or unaffordable."
x		44. We recognise that digitalisation has enabled new ways of providing education and training in schools, higher and adult education including innovative educational approaches such as distance learning, open educational	**Streamline 43-45 to align with the WSIS+10 outcome document as noted above.**

		resources and online courses. We are concerned, however, that the benefits of digitalisation are still not available to many children and young people as a result of digital divides in connectivity and educational facilities. We reaffirm our commitment to connecting every school to the Internet by 2030.	
x		45. We also recognise that digitalisation has enabled new ways of addressing health and medicine by facilitating dissemination of public health information, including information on reproductive rights and protection against communicable diseases, remote diagnosis to support local health workers, improved analysis of health data and improvements in clinical practice.	**Streamline 43-45 to align with the WSIS+10 outcome document as noted above.**
x		46. We note that information and communications technologies have had substantial impacts on diversity of cultural expression and development of the cultural and creative sectors. We urge all stakeholders to recognise the importance of ensuring the preservation of cultural heritage and access to recorded information in the digital environment.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document.** **We propose noting that ICTs not only impact but can "support" the diversity of cultural expression, as noted in the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states:** 19. We recognize that information and communications technologies are also increasingly a means to support the diversity of cultural expression and the fast growing cultural and creative industries, and we affirm that comprehensive, practical digital strategies are needed for the preservation

				of cultural heritage and access to recorded information in the digital environment in all its forms.
x			47. We recognise that information and communications technologies have helped governments and other stakeholders to address risks associated with natural disasters and facilitate humanitarian assistance at times of crisis through more consistent and remote monitoring of environmental and other hazards, enhancing and developing early warning systems and improving preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.	**Retain language.** This text directly aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 18. We recognize that information and communications technologies have become important to disaster and humanitarian response, and further reaffirm their role in enhancing and developing multi-hazard early warning systems, preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. We also encourage greater investments in innovation and technology development for long-term, multi-hazard and solution-driven research in the field of disaster risk management.
	x		48. We remain concerned, however, that equitable delivery of social and economic development programmes and opportunities is hampered by digital divides, particularly in countries and communities where access is constrained by poor connectivity and lack of affordability. More attention is required to digital inclusion and digital literacy, capacity building and financial mechanisms in order to achieve greater impact and ensure progress towards the achieving Sustainable Development Goals.	**Streamline the text to avoid redundancies.** While we fully support the concerns expressed, it appears to overlap with other sections such as digital divides, financial mechanisms, and capacity building. To avoid redundancies and ensure streamlining of the text, we suggest this paragraph be removed.

			The enabling environment for digital development	
		x	55. We acknowledge the importance of a positive enabling environment for investment, innovation and technological development in enabling the development and implementation of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society.	**Add language and strengthen the "Enabling environment" section by reflecting more of the language contained in the "Enabling environment" section of the WSIS+10 outcome.** We are concerned that the "Enabling environment" section does not incorporate specific references to existing measures that create and facilitate enabling environment. Most of the key instruments are not reflected. In particular, the section misses the references to important acknowledgements of various measures from paragraph 29 of the WSIS+10 outcome document. The omission of these key elements—such as fostering competition, transparent and non-discriminatory regulatory systems, infrastructure sharing, and community-based approaches—represents a significant regression from WSIS+10. These elements are essential for fostering investment, innovation, and technological development.
x			57. We recognise that certain policies have substantially contributed to bridging digital divides and the value of information and communications technologies for sustainable development. We commit to continuing to identify and implement best and emerging practices for the establishment and functioning of education, innovation and	**Retain the language.** This text directly aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states:

			investment frameworks for information and communications technologies.	28. We recognize that certain policies have substantially contributed to bridging digital divides and the value of information and communications technologies for sustainable development, and we commit to continuing to identify and implement best and emerging practices for the establishment and functioning of education, innovation and investment frameworks for information and communications technologies.
		x	58. We note the importance of legal and regulatory frameworks concerned with the deployment of digital services including those concerned with market structure, digital transactions, data protection and data privacy, consumer rights and intellectual property, human rights and environmental impacts.	**Align language with the WSIS+10 outcome document to address the important measures to facilitate enabling environments.** Relevantly, the WSIS+10 outcome document states: 29. We recognize the importance of the free flow of information and knowledge... We acknowledge that the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies in school curricula, open access to data, the fostering of competition, the creation of transparent, predictable, independent and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, facilitation of public-private, partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure sharing models, community-based approaches and public access facilities

				have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development.
		x	59. We support international, regional and national efforts to develop enabling environments for digital transformation, including predictable and transparent policy, legal and regulatory frameworks, and sharing of best practices. We commend the work in this context of United Nations Regional Commissions and other regional organisations. We call on all stakeholders, where requested, to provide technical assistance to developing countries, in line with national digital transformation policies and priorities.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document.** In line with our previous comments on this section, we suggest aligning the language of this paragraph with paragraph 29 of the WSIS+20 outcomes to recognize the importance of various measures that contribute to an enabling environment.
	x		61. We request the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and Action Line facilitators within their respective mandates and existing resources to work with all stakeholders to support the enabling environment for information and communications technologies and development and provide demand-driven policy advice, technical assistance and capacity-building, as appropriate, to realise them.	**Align with resolution E/CN.16/2025/4 (https://docs.un.org/E/2025/31).** 106. Calls upon all stakeholders to promote an enabling policy environment for investment and to foster public-private cooperation and partnership for sustainable investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, applications and services, content and digital skills, with the aim of ensuring the meaningful connectivity needed to advance the Sustainable Development Goals;
			Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs	
x			62. We reaffirm that strengthening confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies is a crucial driver for innovation and sustainable	**Retain language.**

			development. We reaffirm that building confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies should be consistent with human rights.	We support the language from the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 48. We affirm that strengthening confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies is a driver for economic and social innovation.
x			63. We commend the significant efforts that have been taken by governments, the private sector, civil society and the technical community to build confidence and security in the use of digital technologies and to protect infrastructure, services, transactions and other digital activity from the rising threat of cyberattacks.	**Retain language.** Aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 49. We welcome the significant efforts by Governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community and academia to build confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies
	x		64. We recognise that we must urgently counter and address all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, which occurs through or is amplified by the use of technology, all forms of hate speech and discrimination, misinformation and disinformation, cyberbullying and child sexual exploitation and abuse. We will establish and maintain robust risk mitigation and redress measures that also protect privacy and freedom of expression.	**Add language. Strengthen by acknowledging important safeguards as outlined in the UNGA resolution A/RES/78/213.** It is essential to include the proposed language recognizing that technical solutions, including strong encryption, pseudonymization, and anonymity, are necessary to ensure the enjoyment of human rights. These technical measures are fundamental to the confidentiality and integrity of the Internet and the essential ability to trust online.

		15. We recognise that we must urgently counter and address all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, which occurs through or is amplified by the use of technology, all forms of hate speech and discrimination, misinformation and disinformation, cyberbullying and child sexual exploitation and abuse. We will establish and maintain robust risk mitigation and redress measures that also protect privacy and freedom of expression[, emphasizing that, in the digital age, technical solutions to secure and protect the confidentiality of digital communications and transactions, including measures of strong encryption, pseudonymization and anonymity, are important to ensure the enjoyment of human rights, and urging that such measures not be undermined or subject to arbitrary interference.]
x	65. We recognise the challenges that States, in particular developing countries, face in building confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies. We reiterate the call made by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 for renewed focus on capacity-building, education, knowledge-sharing and regulatory practice, as well as promoting multistakeholder cooperation at all levels and raising awareness among users of information and communications technologies, particularly among the	**Clarify by incorporating proposed language.** We welcome retaining the language as reflected in paragraph 54 of the WSIS+10 outcome document but would like to highlight that the term "international norms" in cybersecurity can have different meanings. It can refer to voluntary, non-binding norms, for example, on responsible state behavior. This lack of clarity can lead to misinterpretation of the text, so we urge caution in using this term.

			poorest and most vulnerable. Targeted support for capacity building is needed to enable all countries, particularly developing countries, to improve cybersecurity governance, align regulatory frameworks with international norms and ensure effective cooperation between Computer Emergency and Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CERTs/CSIRTs).	We also suggest replacing the wording "ensure effective cooperation" with "support effective cooperation", as the CERTs/CSIRTs cooperation has a voluntary nature.
			Capacity development	
x			66. We note that lack of capacity is a major barrier to closing digital divides, and recommend that capacity development, including for innovation, be leveraged to empower local experts and local communities to benefit from and contribute to information and communications technology applications for development.	**Retain language.** We support this language as it builds on the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 36. We stress that capacity is a major barrier to closing digital divides, and we recommend that capacity development, including for innovation, be emphasized to empower local experts and local communities to benefit fully from and contribute to information and communications technology applications for development.
x			68. We recognise the importance of digital skills and lifelong access to digital learning opportunities, taking into account the specific social, cultural and linguistic needs of each society and persons of all ages and backgrounds.	**Retain language.** We support this language as it is aligned with the GDC, which states:

				12...We recognize the importance of digital skills and lifelong access to digital learning opportunities, taking into account the specific social, cultural and linguistic needs of each society and persons of all ages and backgrounds.
x			70.We recognise the need to scale up international cooperation and financing for digital capacity development in developing countries and to support the development of local content and content relevant to local realities online. The role of Regional Commissions and other regional bodies will be particularly important in this context.	**Retain language.** We support this language as it aligns with the GDC, which states: 12... We recognize the need to scale up international cooperation and financing for digital capacity development in developing countries and to support the development of local content and content relevant to local realities online...
			Financial mechanisms	
x			72. We recognise that harnessing ICTs for development and bridging digital divides will require further sustained investment in infrastructure and services, capacity-building, promotion of joint research and development and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, with public as well as private investment.	**Retain language.** The paragraph highlights the importance of financial mechanisms and builds on the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 35. We recognize, however, that harnessing information and communications technology for development and bridging digital divides will require greater and sustainable investment in infrastructure and services, capacity-building, promotion of joint research and development and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms. These mechanisms remain a

			primary focus for all countries and people, particularly developing countries.
x		73. We call on all stakeholders to promote an enabling policy environment for investment and to foster public-private cooperation and partnership for sustainable investment in ICT infrastructure, applications and services, content and digital skills, including the use of universal service funds and innovative financing mechanisms, with the aim of ensuring the meaningful connectivity needed to advance the Sustainable Development Goals.	**Align with the language on innovated and blended financing from the GDC.** Relevantly, the GDC states: 11 (b) Develop innovative and blended financing mechanisms and incentives, including in collaboration with Governments, multilateral development banks, relevant international organizations and the private sector, to connect the remaining 2.6 billion people to the Internet and to improve the quality and affordability of connectivity.
x		75. We recognise the critical importance of private sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, and we encourage Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation.	**Add language for stronger alignment with the WSIS+10 outcome document.** The language omits the recognition of the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches. The WSIS outcome document states: 38. We recognize the critical importance of private sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, and we encourage

			Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation. We also recognize the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end.
x		76. We recognise that development partners, including regional development banks, and public funding have also played an important role in financing information and communications networks and services, particularly supporting their deployment in areas that have been considered commercially unviable. Innovative mechanisms, including universal access funds and community networks, have contributed to extending connectivity in remoter areas.	**Align with resolution E/CN.16/2025/4 to replace the wording from "community networks" to "community-centred connectivity models".** This language better reflects the diversity of decentralized approaches crucial for inclusive access, in the resolution, which states: 99. Calls upon all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging all digital divides...including through participative and community-centred connectivity model, in accordance with national regulatory frameworks, with a view to narrowing the digital divides among and within countries towards building information and knowledge societies;
		Data governance	
x		94. We recognize that responsible and interoperable data governance is essential to advance development objectives, protect human rights, foster innovation and promote economic growth.	**Retain language.** The language is aligned with the GDC, and the focus on interoperability accurately reflects the critical challenge in global data governance.

x			95. We reaffirm the approach to data governance that was adopted by the General Assembly in the Global Digital Compact.	**Align with the GDC, which states:** 7(4). Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches". New text: "We reaffirm our commitment to advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approached.
x			96. We note the establishment of a working group of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to engage in a comprehensive and inclusive multistakeholder dialogue on data governance at all levels as relevant for development, including the development of recommendations towards equitable and interoperable data governance arrangements, which may include fundamental principles of data governance arrangements.	**Align with the GDC, which states:** 48....to report on its progress to the General Assembly, by no later than the eighty -first session, including on follow-up recommendations towards equitable and interoperable data governance arrangements, which may include fundamental principles of data governance at all levels as relevant for development; proposals to support interoperability between national, regional and international data systems; considerations of sharing the benefits of data; and options to facilitate safe, secure and trusted data flows, including cross-border data flows as relevant for development (all SDGs).
			Artificial intelligence	
x			97. We note the significant developments that have taken place in the Informaton Society with the emergence in the public sphere of artificial intelligence, which significantly advances the pace and scale with which artificial intelligence is expected to have an impact on many	**Retain language.** We appreciate that this review acknowledges the growing importance of artificial intelligence, and the impact this technology will continue to have on the Information Society.

			aspects of human societies, and also acknowledge concerns about the potential negative impacts on employment, labour, the environment, human rights and information integrity.	
	x		98. We reaffirm the approach to international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity that was adopted by the General Assembly in the Global Digital Compact.	**Align with the GDC, which better reflects the importance of global participation from all countries and of AI governance being multistakeholder in nature.** Relevantly, the GDC states: 50. We recognize the need for a balanced, inclusive and risk-based approach to the governance of artificial intelligence (AI), with the full and equal representation of all countries, especially developing countries, and the meaningful participation of all stakeholders
			Internet governance	
x			103. We reaffirm the working definition of Internet governance in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society as the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.	**Retain language.** This working definition has been the cornerstone for the Internet's governance model, and reaffirming this approach, as in the current version of this paragraph, is critical for the Internet's continued evolution, resilience and security. Aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states:

			58. We reiterate the working definition of Internet governance, set out in paragraph 34 of the Tunis Agenda, as the development and application by Governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.
x		104. We recognise that the management of the Internet as a global facility includes multilateral, transparent, democratic and multi-stakeholder processes, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities. We reaffirm the principle agreed in the Geneva Declaration of Principles that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations, within their respective roles and responsibilities, as set out in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda. We reaffirm that effective Internet governance must preserve the open, free, global, interoperable, reliable and secure nature of the Internet, and reject models of state-controlled or fragmented Internet architectures.	**Align with the GDC to recognize that Internet governance must continue to be global and multistakeholder in nature.** 27. We recognize that Internet governance must continue to be global and multi-stakeholder in nature, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities. We reaffirm that Internet governance should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis, including in relation to enhanced cooperation. We also strongly support the reaffirmation that effective Internet governance must preserve the open, free, global, interoperable, reliable and secure nature of the Internet. We welcome the rejection of the models of state-controlled or fragmented Internet

			architectures. These are important points that must be preserved in the future revisions of the document.
x			105. We recognise the need to promote greater participation and engagement in Internet governance discussions of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders from all countries. Measures are needed to ensure more effective participation by stakeholders from developing countries and under-represented groups, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states.	**Retain language.** Aligns with the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 61. We recognize that there is a need to promote greater participation and engagement in the Internet governance discussions of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant from developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and middle-income countries, as well as countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural disasters. We call for strengthened, stable, transparent and voluntary funding mechanisms to this end.
x			106. We recognize that the Internet is a critical global facility for inclusive and equitable digital transformation. To fully benefit all, it must be open, global, interoperable, stable and secure.	**Retain language.** The language fully aligns with the GDC, which states: 26. We recognize that the Internet is a critical global facility for inclusive and equitable digital transformation. To fully

				benefit all, it must be open, global, interoperable, stable, and secure.
x			107. We recognise that the open, interoperable nature of the Internet has underpinned the development of an extraordinary range of services and applications, reaching across the range of human society including governance, economy, development and rights. We reaffirm the need to promote international cooperation among all stakeholders to prevent, identify and address risks of fragmentation of the Internet.	**Retain language.** We appreciate the recognition of the open and interoperable nature of the Internet, as it is crucial for its development and functioning. We also support the reaffirmation of the need for cooperation among stakeholders to prevent and address the risk of Internet fragmentation.
	x		108. We reaffirm that Internet governance should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis, including in relation to enhanced cooperation.	**Align with the WSIS+10 outcome document, without reference to "enhanced cooperation", which states:** 8. We reaffirm that Internet governance should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis.
		x	109. We recall the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, established by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125, to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda.	**Strike paragraph 109 of the zero draft.** Enhanced Cooperation with regards to Internet Governance has been discussed in previous working groups that were unable to agree on a set of recommendations
		x	110. We reaffirm our commitment to improve the coordination of the activities of international and	**Strike paragraph 110 of the zero draft.**

			intergovernmental organisations and other stakeholders concerned with Internet governance.	We appreciate the commitment to improve coordination but believe this was address in paragraphs 105 and 107.
x			112. We applaud the successful development of the Internet Governance Forum, established by the Secretary-General following the World Summit on the Information Society, which provides a unique platform for multistakeholder discussion of Internet governance issues, including emerging issues, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.	**Retain language.** We welcome the recognition of the Secretary-General's establishment of the IGF in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda.
x			113. We welcome the evolution of the Internet Governance Forum from an annual meeting into an ecosystem that includes a wide range of intersessional and other activities. We particularly welcome the emergence of more than 170 National and Regional Internet Governance Forums, which have enhanced multistakeholder discussion of relevant issues in all continents, many sub-regions and a majority of Member States. We also welcome the establishment by the Secretary-General of the Forum's Leadership Panel.	**Retain language.** We strongly recommend this paragraph is retained and commend the strong reference to National and Regional Internet Governance Forums (NRIs). Further emphasis could be placed on the important role these NRIs play in Internet governance, by also noting the work of sub-regional IGF and Youth initiatives.
x			114. We recognise the successful steps that have been taken since the ten-year review of the World Summit to improve the working modalities of the Internet Governance Forum, increase and broaden the participation of governments and other stakeholders, particularly from developing countries and under-represented groups, build stronger relationships with other digital discussion fora, and	**Retain language.** Generally, aligns with the GDC commitments. 28 (b). Support the Internet Governance Forum, including through continued efforts to increase diverse participation from Governments and other stakeholders from developing

			enable more substantive outcomes that can achieve greater impact. We call for these measures to continue and request the Forum to report annually on progress towards their implementation to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.	countries and the provision of voluntary funding also to this end.
x			115. We decide that the Internet Governance Forum shall be made a permanent forum of the United Nations.	**Retain language.** We strongly support the permanent mandate for the Internet Governance Forum.
x			116. We call upon the Forum to report on outcomes of its annual meetings and intersessional work to relevant UN entities and processes, and call, in particular, on the UN Group on Information Society and all relevant UN agencies, Action Line Facilitators, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the WSIS Forum to duly take Internet Governance Forum outcomes into account in their work and proceedings.	**Retain language.** This is important to ensure that insights from the IGF are coordinated with other WSIS processes, and the UN as a whole. This helps avoid duplication, while also strengthening work on those areas of most urgent need.
			117. We further call upon the Forum to enhance its working modalities, including by reinforcing its intersessional work and supporting national and regional initiatives, and to apply innovative, open, inclusive, transparent and agile collaboration methods. We emphasize the need to broaden the participation of all relevant stakeholders, with particular attention to	**Retain language.** The intersessional work of the IGF, and its support to national and regional IGFs has been important innovations since the IGFs inception. We strongly support these developments and recognize the potential to strengthen their role in the IGF. However, as noted

			underrepresented communities as well as Governments and other stakeholders from developing countries.	in the next paragraph, this will require additional and sustainable funding of the IGF Secretariat.
x			118. We call for the strengthening of the Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum, to enable it to continue its development, implement further improvements and support the work of National and Regional Internet Governance Forums and intersessional activities, and invite the Secretary-General to make proposals concerning future funding for the Forum.	**Proposed language: "...and invite the Secretary-General to make proposals, [developed in collaboration with existing IGF funders and other stakeholders,] concerning future funding for the Forum [that ensure stable, predictable, and sustainable financial support while preserving its independence.]** We welcome the call to strengthen the IGF Secretariat to enable continued development, implementation, and improvements needed, as well as the need to support the work of NRIs. However, we would like to see stronger language on the future funding of the IGF Forum. The historical reliance on ad-hoc voluntary funding (referenced in GDC Para 29(b)) has led to instability. To ensure the IGF's effectiveness while preserving its independence and essential multistakeholder character, the text must call for stable, predictable, and sustainable funding mechanisms.
			The development of the WSIS framework	
x			120. We recognise that multistakeholder participation has been crucial to the success of the World Summit's implementation framework, drawing expertise and experience from governments, international organisations,	**Retain language.** We commend the recognition of the role of multistakeholder participation.

			the private sector, civil society, the technical community and academia. We reaffirm the values and principles of multistakeholder cooperation and engagement that were established at the Summit, reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 70/125, and reinforced in the Global Digital Compact.	
x			122. We recognise the importance of ensuring alignment of implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact, building synergies between them to ensure their effective implementation and avoiding wasteful duplication of resources and decision-making processes. We recognise in particular the importance of enabling all countries and stakeholders to play a full part in achieving their fulfilment.	**Retain language.** We fully support recognizing the importance of aligning the World Summit on the Information Society, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Pact for the Future, and the Global Digital Compact.
	x		128. We call on Action Line facilitators to ensure close alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development when considering new work to implement the outcomes of the World Summit, according to their existing mandates and resources.	**Proposed language: "We call on Action Line facilitators to ensure close alignment with [the Global Digital Compact] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development when considering new work to implement the outcomes of the World Summit, according to their existing mandates and resources.** We welcome the need to align the action lines with the 2030 agenda and would like to see a call for close alignment to the GDC commitments as well.

x			129. We further request Action Line facilitators to develop implementation roadmaps for their Action Lines, including potential targets, indicators and metrics to facilitate monitoring and measurement, and to report on the outcomes of this review to the 30th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in 2027.	**Retain language.** The paragraph proposes an important improvement on how to enhance the measurement of the action line implementation.
	x		130. We recognise the importance of human rights to the implementation of all Action Lines and call on the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to play a part in the facilitation and assessment of all Action Lines.	**We propose strengthening the language by replacing the wording "call on" in relation to the Office of UNHCR with "request",** Proposed language: "We recognise the importance of human rights to the implementation of all Action Lines and [request] the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to play a part in the facilitation and assessment of all Action Lines.
x			133. We commit to strengthen international cooperation to close the current serious gaps on data for development and to increase its public availability. We will champion the responsible use and sharing of data within and between countries to advance progress across the Sustainable Development Goals.	**Retain language.** We believe this paragraph is valuable in emphasizing the importance of tracking progress, through open and publicly available data, in implementing the SDGs, and promote stakeholder accountability for implementing shared commitments.
x			136. To this end, we request the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, in cooperation with the Action Line facilitators, to undertake a systematic review of existing indicators and methodologies, and to report its findings to the 29th session of the Commission on Science and	**Retain language.** We welcome the request to undertake a systematic review of the existing indicators and methodologies to inform the future

			Technology for Development in 2026, with a further consolidated progress report to the 30th session of the Commission in 2027, in order to inform the future development of monitoring and measurement of the Information Society.	development of monitoring and measurement of the Information Society.
			Follow-up and review	
	x		140. We stress the need to ensure convergence between the implementation of the World Summit outcomes and the Global Digital Compact to avoid duplication and enhance synergies, efficiencies and thereby impact.	**Align with the language from E/CN.16/2025/4 to strengthen the text,** 4. Reaffirms the overarching World Summit vision to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society as the foundation for aligning the World Summit system and implementation of the Global Digital Compact, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
	x		141. We call for continuation of the work of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) as a platform for multistakeholder dialogue, partnership-building and review of progress on digital development. We request the UN Secretary-General to strengthen the agility, efficiency and effectiveness of UNGIS as the United Nations system's inter-agency stewardship mechanism for advancing policy coherence and programme coordination on digital matters, including by expanding its membership with further United Nations entities with responsibilities in	**Strengthen the call for multistakeholder advice by aligning with the language from the Tunis Agenda, which states:** 110. The coordination of multi-stakeholder implementation activities would help to avoid duplication of activities. This should include, inter alia, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices, and assistance in developing multi-stakeholder and public-private partnerships.

		matters of digital cooperation, such as the Office of Digital and Emerging Technologies and the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as multistakeholder advice to its work as appropriate.	
x		142. We note with appreciation the matrix prepared by the United Nations Group on the Information Society, which maps the Global Digital Compact objectives to existing World Summit structures, mechanisms and activities, offering a structured approach for effective follow-up and implementation of the Compact. We request that the United Nations Group on the Information Society develop a joint implementation road map, to be presented to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twenty-ninth session in 2026, to integrate the Global Digital Compact commitments into the World Summit architecture, ensuring a unified approach to digital cooperation that avoids duplication and maximizes resource efficiency.	**Per our earlier comment, we propose that paragraph 19 is streamlined here.**
x		145. We recognise the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in reviewing and assessing progress made in implementing the World Summit on Information Society outcomes, requests the Commission further to review and assess progress made	**We welcome the language recognizing the CSTD's role in assessing the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the GDC commitments. However, to strengthen coordination, we suggest recognizing the role of UNGIS, as proposed in paragraph 141 and 142 of the zero draft.**

		in implementing the Global Digital Compact commitments, and further call upon the Commission to advise ECOSOC thereon, including through the elaboration of strategic guidance and recommendations aimed at furthering the implementation of these outcomes and commitments.	
x		148. We request the General Assembly to hold a high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2035, involving the input and participation of all stakeholders, including in the preparatory process, to take stock of progress and challenges concerning the outcomes of the World Summit and identify areas of continued focus.	**Retain language.** The text closely aligns with the language of the WSIS+10 outcome document, which states: 72...We accordingly request the General Assembly to hold a high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2025, involving the input and participation of all stakeholders, including in the preparatory process, to take stock of progress on the outcomes of the World Summit and identify both areas of continued focus and challenges...