## COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)

Twenty-third session Geneva, 23 to 27 March 2020

## Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2019 to implement the outcomes of the WSIS

## **Submission by**

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.



## The Director

DIRECTORATE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

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Dear Ms. Sirimanne,

I write in response to the letter dated 16 August 2019 from Secretary-General Kituyi addressed to the OECD Secretary-General. In Secretary-General Kituyi's letter, he requests a contribution from the OECD towards the report to be submitted to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD).

Although the OECD was not specifically part of the Tunis Agenda and the Tunis Commitment, and therefore has no formal follow-up commitments, we have always been willing to provide information on our work to enhance co-operation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet. As such, we would like to direct your attention to a few relevant OECD initiatives.

First, I would note that we recently launched in September 2019 "Southeast Asia Going Digital: Connecting SMEs", which examines barriers related to the access and use of communication services by Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the region, identifies good practices and provides sound policy analysis to foster an enabling environment for the digital transformation to flourish in Southeast Asia.

In addition, the recent report on "<u>The Road to 5G Networks</u>" is highly relevant to implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. The report examines what the future of 5G could mean for communication markets in terms of investment, good practices in spectrum management, competition, coverage and meeting the increasing requirements of the digital transformation, with a focus on case studies from OECD member countries.

I hope this information is useful in the preparation of the annual report. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the materials referred to above or our work on digital economy policy.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Wyckoff