

WSIS Forum 2020

“15 Years & Beyond: Building the Information Society of the Future”

Date: 4 August 2020, 14:00-15:00 CEST

Venue: Zoom Webinar

Registration: <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/252>

Background:

The world today looks very different from the one envisaged 15 years ago at the final session of WSIS and countries have taken significantly different paths since then. Digital divides remain a challenge, which hampers equitable reaping of benefits from the Information Society. This session will address the major changes in the Information Society both at the global and regional levels, and the directions in which it could evolve in the near future.

The session will first entail a keynote speech by Mr. David Souter on the overall progress towards the WSIS vision at the 15 year milestone. UNCTAD will present its analysis assessing the global dimension of the Information Society relative to 15 years ago and the way ahead, particularly from the development perspective. Representatives from the UN regional commissions will share their views on the changes and trends in the Information Society from the regional perspective.

Moderator: Mr. Peter Major, Chair, Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Keynote Speaker: Mr. David Souter, Managing Director, ict Development Associates

Speakers:

- Ms. Shamika N. Sirimanne, Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD
- Mr. Jean-Paul Adam, Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management Division, UNECA
- Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, UNESCAP
- Mr. Ayman El Sherbiny, Chief, ICT Policy Section, UNESCWA
- Mr. Markus Pikart, Project Coordinator, UNECE
- Mr. Sebastian Rovira, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECLAC

Open Discussion