

Commission on Science and Technology for Development twenty-eighth session

7 - 11 April 2025, Room XIX, 3rd Floor, E-Building, Palais des Nations
Times indicated in the programme are in CEST



*Delegates are informed that the 28th annual session will be held in person. Any interventions in the first three days and at the closing plenary on the last day concerning the adoption of the provisional agenda and of the outcomes of the session (report, resolutions) need to be made from the conference room.

<p>10:00-10:40</p>	<p>Opening plenary Agenda item 1 Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters Chairperson: <i>H. E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening statement by <i>Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</i> • Special Address by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union</i> ◦ <i>H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, President of the Economic and Social Council & Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York (Video speech)</i>
<p>10:40 – 13:00</p>	<p>Ministerial Segment on the role of science, technology, and innovation in advancing sustainable, inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind: Contribution of the Commission to the 2025 theme of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development and the implementation of its 2024 Ministerial Declaration</p> <p>Moderator: <i>H. E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special address on Pact of Future and STI by <i>Mr. Guy Ryder, Under-Secretary-General for Policy, United Nations (Video speech)</i> • Briefing of the outcome of STI Forum 2024 and preparation of the STI Forum 2025 by <i>H.E. Ms. Elina Kalkku, Co-chair of the STI Forum 2025, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations in New York (Video speech)</i> • Presentation of the Technology and Innovation Report 2025 of the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by the Secretariat: <i>Inclusive Artificial Intelligence for Development</i> <p>Ministerial speakers from CSTD members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Ms. Aminata Zerbo Sabane, Ministre de la Transition digitale, des Postes et des Communications électroniques, Burkina Faso • H.E. Mr. Sergio Gonzalez Guerrero, Minister of Production, Peru • H.E. Mr. Ernesto Rodríguez Hernández, First Vice Minister of Communications, Cuba • H.E. Mr. Mahdi Elyasi, Deputy Head of the Vice Presidency for Policy Making and Development, Science, Innovation, and Knowledge-Based Economy, Iran • H.E. Ms. Gabriela Montenegro, Secretaria Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Guatemala • H.E. Mr. Yahya bin Salam Al-Mandhari, Acting Undersecretary of the Higher Education Sector, Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation, Oman • H.E. Ms. Leah J. Buendia, Undersecretary for Research and Development, Department of Science and Technology, The Philippines

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr Omari Kipanga, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Tanzania • Ms. Allison Schwier, Acting Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, United States of America <p>Ministerial speakers from CSTD observers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Murtala Muhammed, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana • H.E. Ms. Nilsa Sandra Miquidade, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Digital Transformation, Mozambique • H.E. Mr. Konstantin Mogilevskiy, Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education, Russian Federation
13:00-14:00	<p>Opening of CSTD Exhibition on Women in STI for Sustainable and Inclusive Development, Gallery, 3rd Floor, Building E</p> <p>Master of Ceremony: <i>H. E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) - H.E. Mr. SHEN Jian, Deputy Permanent Representative, Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of China • Special Address by representatives from exhibitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Ms. Leah J. Buendia, Undersecretary for Research and Development, Department of Science and Technology, The Philippines - Ms. Claudia Fuentes Julio, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations Office at Geneva - Professor Atsufumi Yokoi, Vice President for Global Engagement Strategy of Okayama University, Japan <p>Followed by reception offered by the Permanent Mission of China (same venue)</p>
14:00 - 15:00	<p>Side event: Inclusive Artificial Intelligence for Development, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (Room XXII, 1st Floor, Building E, Palais des Nations)</p>
15:00-18:00	<p>Agenda item 3</p> <p>Science and Technology for Development</p> <p>Panel on diversifying economies in a world of accelerated digitalization</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ms. Ana Cristina Amoroso das Neves, Vice-Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Report of the Secretary-General by the secretariat <p>Panellists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Erika Kraemer-Mbula, Professor of Economics, University of Johannesburg • Mr. Jason Slater, Chief Digital and Innovation Officer, UNIDO • Ms. Nandini Chami, Deputy Director, IT for Change <p><u>Interactive discussion</u></p> <p>Ministerial participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Sergio Gonzalez Guerrero, Minister of Production, Peru

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Ernesto Rodríguez Hernández, First Vice Minister of Communications, Cuba • H.E. Ms. Gabriela Montenegro, Secretaria Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Guatemala • H.E. Ms. Leah J. Buendia, Undersecretary for Research and Development, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines • H.E. Mr. Mahdi Elyasi, Deputy Head of the Vice Presidency for Policy Making and Development, Science, Innovation, and Knowledge-Based Economy, Iran
--	--

Tuesday, 8 April 2025

09:00-09:55	Side event: <i>Quantum Technology for the Development of Humanity</i> by Diplomatic Council, Germany (Room XXII, 1 st Floor, Building E, Palais des Nations)
10:00-13:00	<p>Agenda item 3 Science and Technology for Development <i>Panel on technology foresight and technology assessment for sustainable development</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>H.E. Ms. Leah J. Buendia, Vice-Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction of the Report of the Secretary-General by the Secretariat</i> <p>Panellists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Antonia Mochan, Deputy Head of EU Policy Lab, European Commission • Mr. John Mugabe, Professor of Science and Innovation Policy, Graduate School of Technology Management, University of Pretoria, South Africa • Mr. Rinie van Est, Research Coordinator, Rathenau Instituut, the Netherlands and professor of Technology Assessment and Governance, Eindhoven University of Technology • Ms. Maricela Munoz, Director, External Affairs, Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator, Geneva <p>Discussant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Caitlin Kraft-Buchman, CSTD Gender Advisory Board <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Interactive discussion</u></p> <p>Ministerial participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Sergio Gonzalez Guerrero, Minister of Production, Peru • H.E. Mr. Ernesto Rodríguez Hernández, First Vice Minister of Communications, Cuba • H.E. Ms. Gabriela Montenegro, Secretaria Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Guatemala • H.E. Mr. Mahdi Elyasi, Deputy Head of the Vice Presidency for Policy Making and Development, Science, Innovation, and Knowledge-Based Economy, Iran • H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Murtala Muhammed, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana
13:20-14:50	Lunch side event: <i>Regenerative futures: Policy pathways to economic diversification in the digital paradigm</i> by IT for Change and Global Digital Justice Forum (Room XXII, 1 st Floor, Building E, Palais des Nations)

15:00-
18:00

Agenda item 4

Report on technical cooperation activities in science, technology, and innovation (STI)

Moderator: *Mr. Bernardo Roca-Rey Ross, Vice-Chair of the CSTD*

- A. Lessons learned from the [UNCTAD project on Technology Assessment](#) in Seychelles, South Africa and Zambia *by Mr. Michael Lim, Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD*
- B. Achievements under the joint UNCTAD-AIR Centre project on [Harnessing space technological applications in sustainable urban development](#) *by Mr. Miguel Miranda, Chief Executive Officer, Atlantic International Research Centre*

Interactive discussion

- C. [Science, technology, and innovation parks: assessment and policy issues](#)

Ghana:

- H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Murtala Muhammed, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana
- Mr. Cephas Adjei Mensah, Director, Research, Statistics & Information Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana

Mozambique:

- H.E. Ms. Nilsa Sandra Miquidade, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Digital Transformation, Mozambique
- Mr. José Leopoldo Nhampossa, Administrator of the National Company of Scientific and Technological Parks, E.P. (ENPCT, E.P.), Mozambique

Mongolia:

- H.E. Mrs. Davaasuren Gerelmaa, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations Office, World Trade Organization and other international organizations in Geneva

Uzbekistan:

- Mr. Sarvar Djalalov, Director, InnoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab, Uzbekistan

Experience exchange about STI Park development:

- Dr. Julie Newman, Director of the MIT Office of Sustainability, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Professor Atsufumi Yokoi, Vice President, Okayama University

Interactive discussion

Ministerial participants

- H.E. Ms. Aminata Zerbo Sabane, Ministre de la Transition digitale, des Postes et des Communications électroniques, Burkina Faso
- H.E. Mr. Ernesto Rodríguez Hernández, First Vice Minister of Communications, Cuba
- H.E. Mr. Mahdi Elyasi, Deputy Head of the Vice Presidency for Policy Making and Development, Science, Innovation, and Knowledge-Based Economy, Iran

09:00–09:50	Side event: <i>Workshop on building a WSIS plus fit for purpose</i> by Federal Office of Communications, Switzerland (Room XXII, 1 st Floor, Building E, Palais des Nations)
10:00–13:00	<p>Agenda item 2</p> <p>Review of 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 level, in particular WSIS+20 review</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mr. Peter Major, Vice-Chair of the CSTD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing by <i>H.E. Mr. Ekitela Lokaale, Co-facilitator of the intergovernmental consultations on modalities for the overall WSIS+20 review by the General Assembly and Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN at New York</i> • Implementation of WSIS Outcomes by ITU by <i>Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General, ITU (Video speech)</i> • Implementation of the Global Digital Compact and the WSIS process by <i>Mr. Amandeep Gill, Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies (Video speech)</i> • Implementation of WSIS Outcomes by UNESCO by <i>Mr. Tawfik Jelassi, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO (Video speech)</i> • Introduction of the annual Report of the Secretary-General and the secretariat's report on WSIS+20 by <i>the secretariat</i> • Review of the 20-year implementation of WSIS outcomes • General statement by high-level participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ H.E. Ms. Aminata Zerbo Sabane, Ministre de la Transition digitale, des Postes et des Communications électroniques, Burkina Faso ○ H.E. Mr. Sergio Gonzalez Guerrero, Minister of Production, Peru ○ H.E. Mr. Ernesto Rodríguez Hernández, First Vice Minister of Communications, Cuba ○ H.E. Ms. Gabriela Montenegro, Secretaria Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Guatemala ○ H.E. Mr Mohammad Mohsen Sadr, Deputy Minister of ICT and Head of Information Technology Organization of Iran ○ H.E. Mr. Alberto Rodrigues da Silva, Secretary of State for Modernization and digitalization, Portugal ○ H.E. Mr Thomas Schneider, Co-director of international relations and Vice director at OFCOM, Switzerland ○ Mr. Mohammed Khamis Abdulla, Hon'ble Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Tanzania ○ Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP (Pre-recorded message) ○ Ms. Allison Schwier, Acting Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, United States of America • Theme-focused discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theme 1: Development of information technology since WSIS ○ Theme 2: Implementation of WSIS outcomes ○ Theme 3: The inclusiveness of the WSIS implementation
13:20 – 14:50	Lunch side event: <i>Data, AI, and human rights: Frameworks and Use Cases for Responsible Deployment</i> by Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Room XXII, 1 st Floor, Building E, Palais des Nations)

15:00-17:30	Agenda item 2 (continued) Moderator: <i>Mr. Peter Major, Vice-Chair of the CSTD</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the 20-year implementation of WSIS outcomes (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theme 4: Digital Governance ○ Theme 5: Future priorities of WSIS
--------------------	---

Thursday, 10 April 2025

10:00-13:00	Parallel informal consultations on draft CSTD resolutions
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Parallel informal consultations (continued)

Friday, 11 April 2025

10:00-13:00	Parallel informal consultations (continued)
15:00-18:00	Closing plenary Chairperson: <i>H. E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Chair of the CSTD</i> Agenda item 5 Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-ninth session of the Commission Agenda item 6 Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, including its priority themes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the draft provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session Agenda items 2 and 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the draft proposals for resolutions • Adoption of the draft proposals for four decisions concerning the extension of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board, and concerning the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities, academic and technical entities, and business sector entities in the work of the Commission Agenda item 7 Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-eighth session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the draft report Closing of the session