COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)

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Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2022 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 26th 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 21 June 2022 from UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebecca Grynspan addressed to OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann. In Secretary-General Grynspan's letter, she 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 since our last correspondence.

Further to my letter from last year, where I mentioned that the OECD Council adopted its revised Recommendation on Broadband Connectivity, I am pleased to share that the three analytical reports that supported the review of the Recommendation were published in September 2021 (OECD 2021a, 2021b, 2021c). Also last year, the OECD collaborated with the Italian G20 Presidency on the G20 Guidelines for Financing and Fostering High-Quality Broadband Connectivity for a Digital World, which drew on the OECD's Recommendation. I am also pleased to share that we released new statistics in July 2022 on the OECD Broadband Portal, a resource that is updated every six months. Also in July, we published the report Broadband Networks of the Future that examines how surging demand is shaping future networks, the underlying technological trends of networks of the future, and how policies and regulation should adapt.

Next month, my Directorate will host a "Going Digital Toolkit" booth at the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Addis Ababa, where we will also organise a workshop on "Fighting the creators and spreaders of untruths online". Members of my team have also been invited to speak in three other sessions during the IGF: "Addressing the gap in measuring the harm of cyberattacks"; "Dark patterns: online challenge in consumer protection" and "Realising Trustworthy AI through Stake holder Collaboration".

In December, the OECD's Committee on Digital Economy Policy will hold a Ministerial meeting with senior officials from over 50 countries and across all stakeholder communities to discuss key opportunities and challenges of digital transformation around four dimensions: economy, society, people and technology. I would be delighted to brief you on the main outcomes of this event should you be interested.

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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