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**High-level roundtable on “Impact of rapid technological change on the
achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”**

Statement submitted by

Poland

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THE IMPACT OF KEY RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES ON THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Statement - Poland

I would like to thank you Chair and the distinguished delegates for a very interesting discussion and sharing your expertise on this topic.

We all here are aware of the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals set in 2015 by the United Nations. ICT technologies are in my opinion crucial to achieve these goals, one after another.

UKE, is an electronic communications regulatory authority for the Republic of Poland. That is the reason why it is in the center of the technological revolution that we all face right now. This revolution affects everybody, including children, the young as well as adults and the elderly.

Every year UKE conducts the Consumer Survey. We ask individuals and enterprises about their usage of telecommunication services. In 2017 92% of Poles owned a mobile phone. 70% of them had a smartphone. The popularity of new technologies like IoT/M2M also increases rapidly. In 2015 only 1,5% of individuals used IoT/M2M devices. And in 2017 it was almost 11%.

Last year we expanded the study and asked parents and their children about the way the younger generation, uses mobile phones and the Internet. The results showed that 83% of children aged between 7 and 14 own a mobile phone, 83% of whom own a smartphone. As well 90% of children of the age mentioned use the Internet , of which 82% use it on a daily basis.

Our mission as the regulator is to serve everybody who uses telecommunication services. To do it in the best way possible, last year we adopted a new regulatory strategy, based on four main pillars. These are:

- 1) Number one is the protection of consumer interests.

This contains subjects like matching telecommunications services to consumer needs, improving the quality of telecommunications services, effective internet access in public places, accessible and user-oriented services, user-friendly postal market, easier pursuit of consumer claims, improving consumer through education and a new approach to the universal service.

- 2) Number two is the development of infrastructure and services.

That includes building an optimal environment for investments, availability of the 700 MHz frequency band for broadband systems, implementation of 5G in Poland and maximizing the effectiveness of the use of EU funds.

- 3) Number three of the pillars of our new regulatory strategy is competition through optimal regulation. By this we mean effective regulation, fair law and international professional cooperation.
- 4) Last but not least our fourth pillar is UKE 3.0 – the new model of the regulator is to work paperless (to be eco-friendly), also by providing online services and being a knowledge hub to society and business.

UKE also helps operators to prepare possible scenarios of how to develop the 5G in Poland and how to launch it more effectively. Our goal is that all consumers will benefit from the development of Industry 4.0. This will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover, UKE focuses on supporting the development of digital competences among children and young people. To that end, we run some educational campaigns. I will present them with pleasure when we talk about capacity building.

Thank you for your attention.