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**Data for Development**

Statement by

Türkiye

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# **Statement of the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Türkiye**

## **Theme 1 “Data for Development” (16.04.2024)**

Mr./Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

Today's discussion on "Data for Development" is pivotal in the context of our rapidly evolving technological landscape. Data not only propels progress and innovation but also serves as a cornerstone in shaping the trajectory of our societies. In the realm of decision-making and attaining sustainable development, leveraging data effectively is paramount.

Data for development involves harnessing data-driven insights, analyses, and applications to propel sustainable development goals forward. It acts as a potent tool for comprehending and addressing societal needs, thereby augmenting the efficacy and efficiency of public services. Through data-driven decision-making, policymakers can allocate resources more effectively, fostering inclusive growth and enhancing citizens' well-being.

Furthermore, data serves as a catalyst for innovation and entrepreneurship, especially significant for developing nations. Cultivating an environment conducive to innovation empowers individuals and communities, fueling economic growth, job creation, and social advancement. This can unlock the latent potential of billions around the globe.

However, as we embark on this transformative journey, we must confront numerous challenges. Foremost among them is ensuring data privacy and security. With the proliferation of data collection and analysis, robust safeguards are imperative to safeguard individuals' and communities' rights and interests. This necessitates measures to protect personal privacy, mitigate the risks of data breaches, and prevent the misuse or abuse of data.

Additionally, bridging the digital divide is paramount to ensure equitable access to the benefits of data-driven progress. This mandates investment in infrastructure, capacity building, and digital literacy initiatives, enabling broad participation in the digital economy.

## **Check against Delivery**

In conclusion, data holds vast potential to revolutionize our world for the better, fostering sustainable development, inclusive growth, and individual empowerment. Yet, realizing this potential and safeguarding against its misuse and abuse requires collective action from governments, civil society, the private sector, and the international community. Through collaboration, we can harness the power of data to craft a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

Thank you.