

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-seventh session
Geneva, 15-19 April 2024**

**The role of science, technology, and innovation in reinforcing the 2030 Agenda
and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of
sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions**

Statement by

Ms. Patricia Gruber
Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State
United States of America

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.

STAS' remarks at CSTD Ministerial Roundtable on the role of STI in reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty

Time: [2-3 minutes]

Monday, April 15, 2024, at 12:00 noon

- Thank you for the floor, Madam Chair.
- Good afternoon distinguished delegates and colleagues.
- Our collective acknowledgement that science, technology, and innovation are essential for development provides us with a tremendous opportunity to use this forum for strategic planning, sharing lessons learned and best practices, and providing foresight about critical trends.
- Madam Chair, in recent years, the compounding effects of multiple crises – the COVID 19 pandemic, climate change, and conflict and migration, exacerbated by the spillovers of Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine – have begun to erode STI gains, including the first global decline in life expectancy since the 1950s.
- The development and adoption of advanced technologies including smart automation and artificial intelligence has the potential not only to raise productivity and GDP growth but also to improve well-being more broadly, including healthier lives, longevity, and more leisure.
- Achieving these benefits— while reducing disruption and potentially destabilizing effects on society—will require an emphasis on innovation-led growth and careful management of the workforce and other transitions related to technology adoption.
- The Biden-Harris Administration is driven by a desire to establish international frameworks that will foster STI resulting in economic development while also mitigating potential threats to national security and the exercise of human rights.

- The United States has committed to STI cooperation through multilateral fora, such as APEC, G20 and the OECD Global Forum on Technology, and Global Research Council. For example, the United Nations General Assembly, led by the United States, adopted a significant resolution promoting "safe, secure, and trustworthy" artificial intelligence (AI) systems for sustainable development.
- Our recent co-sponsored workshop with the Philippines on Disaster Risk Reduction is evidence that our commission remains instrumental in fostering cooperation on pressing issues in STI. We continue to promote key opportunities, enhance security and integrity, and advance critical and emerging technologies.
- Finally, the United States emphasizes that successful implementation demands a focus on fostering robust networks—uniting countries, companies, and universities bound by shared values and dedication to realizing the 2030 Agenda and beyond. By leveraging science, technology, engineering, and medicine, we aim to develop and implement solutions for advancing the SDGs to benefit all individuals. This entails fortifying open and interoperable systems while championing freedom of thought and expression, which are fundamental to STI and democracy.
- Together, we can shape the global evolution of STI a manner consistent with these values.
- Thank you, Chair. The United States yields the floor.