

# **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 2025 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

<p><b>DISCLAIMER:</b> The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the UN Trade and Development.</p>
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**The Director**

DIRECTORATE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION

Ms. Rebeca Grynspan  
Secretary-General  
UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
Palais des Nations  
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Paris, 30 October 2025

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Dear Ms. Grynspan,

Thank you for the invitation to OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann to contribute to the preparation of the UNCTAD Secretary-General's report assessing progress made in 2025 in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Although the OECD is not specifically part of the Tunis Agenda and the Tunis Commitment and therefore has no formal follow-up commitments, I am delighted to provide updates on relevant OECD initiatives, below, which may inform your update on progress made in 2025 in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.

The **Global Partnership on AI (GPAI)**, which entered into a new integrated partnership with the OECD in July 2024, held its ministerial meeting on 3-4 December 2024, during which members adopted the [Belgrade Ministerial Declaration](#). The Partnership, which brings together 44 countries around the world on an equal footing, is open to new members who share the values reflected in the OECD AI Principles. To this end, GPAI members have established an application process, publicly available [online](#).

As part of the GPAI workplan, an **AI policy toolkit** is being developed to support countries, including emerging and developing economies, in the implementation of the OECD AI Principles. This toolkit aims to support policymakers in designing and implementing innovative and effective AI policies that reflect countries' priorities and capacities, and that align with the human-centric values embodied in the AI Principles, including in the OECD Recommendation on AI. A [scoping note](#) was presented at the 2025 OECD Meeting of the Council at Ministerial Level in June.

In February, the OECD participated in the **Artificial Intelligence Action Summit** held in Paris, France and organised several side events. Among these were a [GPAI Ministerial](#) meeting held on 9 February and the launch of the [reporting framework to monitor the application of G7 Hiroshima AI Code of Conduct](#). Developed as a direct outcome of the [G7 Hiroshima AI Process](#)—initiated under the Japanese G7 Presidency in 2023 and further advanced under the [Italian G7 Presidency](#) in 2024—this framework is the first international, voluntary tool designed to help organisations report on their practices for fostering safe, secure, and trustworthy AI. Between February and June 2025, twenty organisations from diverse sectors and regions voluntarily submitted



their responses under the Reporting Framework. The recently published report, [How are AI developers managing risks? Insights from responses to the reporting framework of the Hiroshima AI Process Code of Conduct](#) (September 2025) present preliminary findings from this first round of submissions.

The OECD has revamped its **OECD.AI policy database**, launching a more intuitive and powerful platform now called the [OECD.AI Policy Navigator](#). Developed in consultation with national contact points and policymakers, the new platform covers more than 1,300 initiatives from more than 80 jurisdictions and international organisations. With a redesigned interface, the Policy Navigator enables policymakers and researchers to find relevant AI policies and initiatives more quickly and effectively.

Work on emerging technologies has advanced through the **Global Forum on Technology (GFTech)**, including three policy primers on [quantum technologies](#), [immersive technologies](#), and [synthetic biology](#). The GFTech hosted the event, [Entangled future: Collaborative pathways towards responsible quantum technologies](#), held in April in Madrid, Spain. The event brought together over 200 participants from 30 countries—including policymakers, technology experts, and other stakeholders—to discuss the opportunities and risks of quantum technologies, their national implications, and the need for international cooperation to ensure their responsible development.

We also continued to advance broad access to **high-quality connectivity**. This includes closing territorial connectivity divides, with a recent report [Closing broadband connectivity divides for all: From evidence to practice](#), seeking to better understand spatial connectivity divides across OECD Member countries and partner economies. The report presents the available analytical data to measure spatial (territorial) connectivity divides and provides evidence-based policy recommendations to bridge them.

We also support countries in [Enhancing the resilience of communication networks](#). In recent work, we examined the challenges policymakers face in protecting networks from failures, malicious actions, and natural disasters, and provided insights for shaping robust policies to strengthen network resilience. The OECD also continues to regularly release **broadband statistics** via its [Broadband Portal](#), a publicly available resource (last updated in [October 2025](#)).

I am also pleased to report that in June, the OECD Council adopted the revised [OECD Recommendation on Digital Technologies and the Environment](#). The 2010 Recommendation on Information and Communication Technologies was visionary for its time in examining the relationship between ICTs and the environment. The revision responds to recent technology and policy developments, incorporating updated terminology, a focus on the role of private sector and international cooperation and an emphasis on holistic and standardised measurement, and a whole-of-government approach.

The OECD [Data Free Flow with Trust \(DFFT\) experts community](#) held its second plenary meeting in January 2025. The community's workstreams currently focus on cross-border payments, enhancing legal certainty across data governance frameworks, health data governance, and privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs). In this context, the OECD co-organised an Expert Workshop and a High-Level Roundtable on PETs and AI with Canada and Japan, held on 16 June 2025 in Ottawa. Insights from these discussions informed the June 2025 report [Sharing Trustworthy AI Models with Privacy-Enhancing Technologies](#) (June 2025).



The OECD participated in the 2024 and 2025 editions of the **Internet Governance Forum (IGF)** held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in December 2024 and in Lillestrøm in June 2025. In 2024, the OECD hosted an open session on [Harnessing AI innovation while respecting privacy rights](#) and participated in the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Meridian workshops titled [Towards a global, risk-adaptive AI governance framework](#) and [Revitalizing Trust: Harnessing AI and Technology for Responsible Digital Governance](#), respectively. In 2025, the OECD also hosted an open forum on [Collaborating for Trustworthy AI: An OECD Toolkit and Spotlight on AI in Government](#).

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 policy. Thank you for your continued interest in our work and its relevance to WSIS.

Kind regards,

Jerry SHEEHAN