

E

الأمم المتحدة

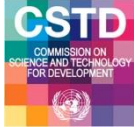


ازدهار البلدان كرامة الإنسان



Distr.
LIMITED

E/ESCWA/CL4.SIT/2024/WG.1/L1
20 May 2024
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



Arab Consultative Conference and Expert Meetings on the WSIS+20 Review and Global Digital Compact Processes

Hybrid in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 21-23 May 2024

Comprising:

- 1- **The 37th Meeting of the Arab Working Group on the Arab Information and Communication Technology Strategy** (closed on Days 1, 2, and 3)
- 2- **The Arab Consultative Conference** (open to all stakeholders, government sector, and private sector) **and Expert Meetings** (closed to the League of Arab States) **on the WSIS+20 Review and Global Digital Compact Processes** (Day 2)
- 3- **The 17th Meeting of the Arab Working Group on Internet Issues** (closed on Days 2 and 3)

Draft Agenda

Day One, Tuesday 21 May 2024

InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 1 Hall

(closed)

Separate Detailed Agenda of the 37th Meeting of the Arab Working Group on the Arab Information and Communication Technology Strategy will be provided by the League of Arab States.

Day Two, Wednesday 22 May 2024

InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 2 Hall

The open **Consultative Conference** aims at gathering the multi-stakeholders' views (Arab bodies and international organizations, Arab countries government representatives, the business sector, multinational companies, academic institutions, funding agencies, and other relevant and interested parties) on the World Summit on Information Society +20 review. It

will also include a consultation session on the global digital compact process in relation to the WSIS+20 Review.

After the Opening Session, the first session sheds light on the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), and presents the World Summit on Information Society, the Global Internet Governance Forum processes on one side, as well as the digital cooperation process, the Global Digital Compact, and the Summit of the Future Summit processes on the other side. This session paves the road for the following two consultation sessions: one on the WSIS+20 Review and one on the GDC and complementarity with the WSIS process.

Based on the open consultations, a closed joint workshop of government experts is dedicated to drafting the outcome document, which will be submitted to the WSIS+20 high-level event in Geneva in May 2024 and later on to the CSTD in 2025.

Opening Session Room: InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 2 Hall Zoom Link: D2S1	
8:30-9:00	<p>Welcoming Remarks/Opening Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Majed Sultan Al Mesmar, Director General, Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority, TDRA <i>(3-4 mins.)</i> • Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICT Policies, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, UNESCWA <i>(3-4 mins.)</i> • Mr. Khaled Mahmoud Wali, Director for ICT Development, League of Arab States, LAS <i>(3-4 mins.)</i> • Ms. Ana Neves, Vice-Chair, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, CSTD <i>(3-4 mins.)</i> <p>Keynote speech: H.E. Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union, ITU (live) <i>(3-4 mins.)</i></p>

Session One Room: InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 2 Hall Zoom Link: Link D2S1	
09:00-10:30	<p>Global Processes related to Information Society and Digital Development</p>
	<p>Facilitator: Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICT Policies - ESCWA, United Nations</p>
<p>Segment One – The United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Follow-Up on the World Summit on the Information Society Process</p>	
	<p>Keynote speech: Mr. Angel González Sanz, Head of Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD (live)</p> <p>Main Presentation: Mr. David Norman Souter, Managing Director, ICT Development Associates</p>

Segment Two – The World Summit on the Information Society Facilitation Process

Keynote speech/Presentation:

Gitanjali Sah, Head, The Global WSIS Secretariat (live)

Presentations:

- **Mr. Karim Mohamed Mahmoud Abdelghani, Programme Coordinator, International Telecommunication Union/Arab Bureau Office, ITU/ARO.**
- **Mr. Cedric Wachholz, Chief of Section, Digital Innovation and Transformation Section (CI/DIT), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (video message)**
- **Mr. Deniz Susar, Governance and Public Administration Officer, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (live)**
- **Mr. Torbjorn Fredriksson, Head, E-commerce and Digital Economy Branch, UN Conference on Trade and Development (live)**
- **Dr. Arash Rashidian, Director, Science Information and Dissemination Department, WHO EMRO (live)**
- **Ms. May Hani, Senior Programme Officer - Lead of Rural Transformation Team FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa**

Segment Three – The Internet Governance Forum Process over the Past Twenty Years

Overview of Digital Cooperation process. Introducing the Summit of the Future, its rationale, objectives, and the negotiation process of the permanent missions of Arab countries to the United Nations

Presentation: Ms. Anja Gengo, associate programme expert and a focal point for the national, regional and youth IGF initiatives., The United Nations Secretariat for the Internet Governance Forum

Segment Four – The Global Digital Cooperation Process and Summit of the Future

Overview of Digital Cooperation process. Introducing the Summit of the Future, its rationale, objectives, and the negotiation process of the permanent missions of Arab countries to the United Nations

Keynote speech: H.E. Ms. Anna Karin Eneström, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations in New York and H.E. Mr. Chola Milambo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations, Co-Facilitators for the Global Digital Compact (video message)

Keynote speech/Presentation:

Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, Founding Director, DiploFoundation and Head, Geneva Internet Platform

End of Session One

10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
-------------	--------------

Session Two Room: InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 2 Hall Zoom Link: Link D252	
11:00-12:30	CSTD's Consultation on the WSIS+20 in the Arab region
	<p><u>Facilitator:</u> Ms. Ana Neves, Vice-Chair, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development</p> <p><u>Discussants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Humaid Al-Basti, Senior Officer, Government Relations and International Cooperation, Strategy and Future Department, TDRA-Dubai, UAE• Mr. Ahmad Said, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt• Mr. Belaid Nouar, Head of telecom department, Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform, Morocco• Ms. Sihem Trabelsi, Chief Executive Officer, Tunisie Internet, Tunisia (live)• Mr. Mohamed Ben Amor, Director General, Arab ICT Organization.• Mr. Qusai AlShatty, Expert in Internet and information technology, CEO, Automated Systems Company, Kuwait <p><u>Interventions:</u></p> <p>Views from the different stakeholders participating in the consultation – governments, regional and international organizations, private sector, technical communities, civil society and academia.</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u></p> <p>Mr. Michael Anthony Lim, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD</p>
End of the first consultation session	

12:30-12:45	Coffee Break and Technical Break
-------------	----------------------------------

Session Three Room: InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 2 Hall Zoom Link: Link D253	
12:45-13:45	Consultation session on the Global Digital Compact and Complementarity with the WSIS Process
	<p><u>Facilitator:</u> Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICT Policies – ESCWA, United Nations</p> <p><u>Discussants:</u> <i>(in alphabetical order):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ana Neves, Vice Chair, CSTD • Mr. David Norman Souter, Managing Director, ICT Development Associates • Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, Founding Director, DiploFoundation and Head, Geneva Internet Platform <p><u>Panelists:</u> <i>(in alphabetical order):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Abdallah Bin Khadia, TDRA, UAE • Ms. Christine Arida, Strategic Advisor to the Executive President, NTRA, Egypt • Mr. Faycal Bayouli, Director, General Directorate of Communication Technologies, the Ministry of Communication Technologies, Tunisia • Ms. Haseina Laredj, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, Algeria (To be confirmed) <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Mr. Ahmad Farag, NTRA, Egypt</p>
13:45-14:00	Way Forward and Closing Remarks
End of the open consultations	

14:00-15:00	Lunch break
-------------	--------------------

Session Four Room: InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 1 Hall Zoom Link: Link D254	
	Closed Workshop for Arab Government Experts
15:00-16:30	Working Session 1
16:30-16:45	Coffee Break
16:45-18:15	Working Session 2
18:15-18:30	Concluding Remarks
End of day two & Closing of the Arab Consultative Conference and Expert Meetings on the WSIS+20 Review and Global Digital Compact Processes	

Day Three, Thursday 23 May 2024
InterContinental Dubai Festival City- Al Ras Ballroom, Al Ras 1 Hall
(closed)

Separate Detailed Agenda of the 17th Meeting of the Arab Working Group on Internet Issues will be provided by the League of Arab States

DRAFT