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Documentation of the Work of the Economic and Social Council

Conference B

Economic and Social Council Plenary

Committee Staff

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Agenda

I. Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs

II. Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education

III. Public-Private Partnerships for Inclusive Development

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
ECOSOC/1/1	Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs	31 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstenstions
ECOSOC/1/2	Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs	33 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstenstions
ECOSOC/1/3	Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs	28 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 2 abstenstions
ECOSOC/1/4	Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/2/1	Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/2/2	Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Economic and Social Council held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. Public-Private Partnerships for Inclusive Development
II. Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs
III. Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education

The session was attended by representatives of 34 Member States.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, III, I, beginning discussion on the topic of “Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs.” By Monday, the Dais received a total of 7 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics such as sustainable technology for women, building innovative technological infrastructure, education initiatives relating to technology skill sharing, and technological innovation within water sanitation along with many other sub-topics. The atmosphere of the committee was of inclusivity and diplomacy, and by the end of the session on Tuesday evening, delegates worked very diligently to improve their working papers either by including robust language or merging along similar ideas.

On Wednesday, 4 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 1 of which had several friendly amendments. The committee adopted 4 resolutions following voting procedure, 1 of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including financing for technological innovations and introducing new technology such as block-chain along with a variety of other topics. By the end of the session, the body moved on to the next topic adopting 2 resolutions by acclamation.

Code: ECOSOC/1/1
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: *Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs*

The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Affirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 on "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2015) which aims to reach all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, protecting human rights, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources, and to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth,

Keeping in mind the goal of SDG 5, we note that women bear the brunt of 40% to 80% of all agricultural production and are solely responsible for the support of nearly 30% of all rural families, while working 16 hours to each man's hour in developing states,

Emphasizing the 2018 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution on "Science, Technology and Innovation for Development" which aims to create an atmosphere of prosperity through strengthening the utilization technologies and designing, imagining, and implementing hand-held technology in rural areas, as well as applying, maintaining, and repairing existing technology,

Recalling the conference hosted by the International Institute of Sustainable Development in the ECOSOC Integration Segment on Resilience and Technology, which emphasizes that technology and innovation have been identified as two important enablers for building resilience, and that national policies and structures remain integral to implementation efforts,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 71/243 on "Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System" in which the assembly promoted women's empowerment and gender equality by enhancing gender mainstreaming as aforementioned in SDGs 5 and 10,

Acknowledging General Assembly resolution 72/228 on "Science, Technology and Innovation for Development" stating that technology should not only focus on the economic development of a country, but also the human development and empowerment of the different sectors of community,

Deeply concerned that in the Indian state of Gujarat, women spend an average of 102 minutes per day during the dry season and 52 minutes per day during the wet season collecting water, while the burden of water collection can be so heavy that many young girls must drop out of school to help their families (global water forum), proving a necessity for hand pump technology,

Confident that providing user-friendly technology such as fog-water harvesting which has been estimated to capture 12.5 billion liters of water in net screens in India (Singh, 2004) will empower women to become self-reliant and independent of men and other community members when working in their labor forces, and considering the goals of SDGs 5, 6 and 11,

Having studied the UN-Women's Gender-Road project in Cameroon, which facilitates rural women's access to productive resources, technical capacity building, access to financial resources and markets to accomplish SDG 4 on the Quality Education and SDG 5 on Gender Equality,

Fully aware that little consideration was given to the idea of training women to build, maintain, and repair technologies made for domestic and rural labor,

Noting with approval a women-led non-governmental organization (NGO) in the sub-Saharan region, which installed the first and largest fog water harvesting system which works to collect freshwater from fog and was awarded the 2016 UN "Momentum for Change," in line with SDG 3 on Good Health and Well-Being and SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation,

Bearing in mind the importance of public sectors such as technical and vocational schools and the private sectors such as technology companies that can provide resources to women-led civil society organizations and NGOs in their unparalleled contribution to female empowerment through the creation of technology,

Noting the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (2015) of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development which emphasizes the use of large varieties of risk-based and risk-mitigating financial intermediation from microfinance organizations such as CARE to international banking,

1. *Recommends* Member States launch initiatives which empower women through the ability to sustain technology relevant to daily tasks, to increase productivity, economic growth and improve quality of life by modeling after already created NGOs with goals oriented toward aiding and empowering women;

2. *Invites* the Gender and Science, Technology and Innovation (STIs) initiatives to cooperate with civil society organizations (CSOs) in goal to provide necessary training in the application, creation, maintenance, and repair of new user-friendly technology that will enable rural women to complete agricultural and domestic tasks like rice-pounding or water-fetching more efficiently:

    a. Forums held by the STI where we can invite women in rural communities to discuss about technologies deem necessary to accomplish agricultural and domestic labor in these communities;

    b. Classrooms coordinated by CSOs between schools and governments which provide women the resources and knowledge to imagine user-friendly technologies like hand-pumps to assist women laborers in rural communities such as;

    c. Awareness campaigns, webinars, and rollover programs where the implementers of technologies become the teachers themselves;

3. *Draws attention* to the UN Partnership Forum 2019 which aims to drive these partnerships through the implementation of all SDGs using inclusive development drawing on concrete recommendations from member states on ways to address existing gaps in SDG implementation;

4. *Affirms* commitment to creating frameworks which ensure that newly implemented technologies are sustainable for the societies in which they are introduced to, ensuring that the women who these technologies are made for are trained to use and maintain these tools in order to create a sustainable, independent usage of technology, by:

    a. Including a women specific focus in basic technological training to maintain and repair technologies catered to them;

    b. Partnering with local schools and rural businesses that could benefit from these technologies;

    c. Gaining perspectives on the types of user-friendly technologies that women in these fields need, such as hand-pumps;

    d. Creating new technologies alongside these women according to their everyday rural tasks, such as fetching water from rivers for daily tasks, agricultural duties, pounding rice, and various other innovative tools;

5. *Encourages* Member States to provide women with regionally relevant new and existing technologies such as hand-pumps, fog water harvesters, hand-pounding rice technology, and other user-friendly tools through:

    a. Implementation of awareness campaigns which will be presented as outreach programs in schools, as to be more easily accessible to local communities, women and girls;

    b. Incorporating training modules and development training that will focus on ensuring equal job opportunities to women within a more collaborative working environment, taking lead from the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) leadership training program which;

    c. Strengthening mechanisms similar to the Gender Equality Program to promote equal employment opportunities for women in technological businesses;

6. *Further encourages* voluntary fund by Member States to further support the SDG fund, which aims to implement these sets of goal, and other Micro Financing institutions such as CARE to assist finance these initiatives;

7. *Further recommends* incentives to encourage women to want to become involved in technology in rural and low income areas, such as:

    a. Offering free technical and vocational training seminars on how to use and repair technology with hands on workshops brought to villages, or free online seminars based on the accessibility of certain communities;

    b. Funding the creation of these technologies through partnerships with private businesses which supply technology essentials like parts, manuals, and experience;

    c. Discounted technologies offered to those willing to train in various technical courses in order to promote a technical and knowledgeable environment among female communities;

    d. Certifying women who complete more courses in technical training, providing them with useful skills needed for further job opportunities.

Code: ECOSOC/1/2
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: *Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs*

The Economic and Social Council,

Acknowledging the General Assembly resolution 70/1 on "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 14 Life Below Water, 15 Life on Land, and 17 Partnerships for the Goals, which will aid in economic, social and environmental development,

Viewing with appreciation General Assembly resolution 73/218 on "Information and Communication Technologies for Sustainable Development," which recognizes the potential of information and communications technology (ICTs) to achieve the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 66/288 "The Future We Want" (2012) which prioritizes sustainable development in developed and developing states to further inclusion and global efficiency,

Recognizing the Information Communication Technology (ICT) for Sustainable Development General Assembly resolution 73/218 "Administration of Justice at the United Nations" on the importance of integrating new technologies to developing countries to promote economic growth set forth by SDG 9 and 11,

Taking into account the General Assembly resolution 58/199 on "Creation of a Global Culture of Cybersecurity and the Protection of Critical Information Infrastructures" with a focus on the key elements to protect infrastructure which includes raising stakeholders' awareness and promoting national and international research and development,

Noting General Assembly Resolution 56/116, on "United Nations Literacy Decade Education for All: International Plan for Action" on the key role of education in bridging the digital divide,

Recalling ECOSOC resolutions 2017/22 and 2018/29 on "Science, Technology and Innovation for Development" and their emphasis on the promotion of local innovation capabilities for inclusive and sustainable economic development by bringing together local scientific, vocational and engineering knowledge, and mobilizing resources from multiple channels,

Reminding the suggestions in ECOSOC resolution 2015/10 on "2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme" that all Member States should mobilize and direct financial resources through multiple channels, including crowdfunding and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to strengthen the ICT infrastructure, including human resources capacities in developing states,

Conscious of ECOSOC resolutions 2018/29 and 2016/23 on "Science, Technology and Innovation for Development", as well as the General Assembly resolution 72/200 on "Information and Communication Technologies for Sustainable Development" and their significance in achieving multifaceted aspects of SDGs in terms of implementation and access,

Referencing with adoration the esteemed framework regarding sustainable development from the United Nations Development Programme including the SDGs and resources for innovation with responsibility guidelines,

Mindful of Resolution 98 from the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly which enhances the standardization and development of Internet of Things (IoT) related to wireless systems and applications,

Also stating that smartphones have helped individuals around the world as a technology that has enabled people to not only function more efficiently, but also allowing those individuals to operate with more mobility in terms of accessing information,

Noting further the definition on Digital Literacy from Information Paper No. 51 from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as “Digital literacy is the ability to access, manage, understand, integrate, communicate, evaluate and create information safely and appropriately through digital technologies for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.”,

Considering Deloitte’s report on Global Mobile Consumer Trends published in 2017, which found smartphone penetration to be 82% in developing countries, while the widely available 4G connectivity was often preferred over regular internet access, as well as evidence for the heavy use of smartphones in various aspects of everyday life,

Further acknowledging Green Cross International (GCI) for its mission to protect and promote ecologically friendly practices, and the public Productive Technical Education Center (CETPRO), for its efforts toward providing technical training for young people, adults and people with special educational needs with respect to the environment,

Realizing the cruciality of funding, such as the International Fund of Agricultural Development in aim to support the realization of these various projects,

Deeply convinced of the need for the management of desired voluntary funds from fellow Member States and their allocation based on regional specificities,

Observing the collaboration between the Nui Chua National Park in Viet Nam and local communities with the support of the United Nations Environment (UNEP) which educates citizens on marine conservation,

Referring to the guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on transforming food and agriculture to achieve the SDGs,

1. *Calls for* increased communication and cooperation between Member States and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, on matters concerning the promotion of the efficient use of land and sea on a global scale by:

    a. Establishing the extent of the technological knowledge gaps preventing sustainable practices in developing states before discussing further action plans to reduce these gaps;

    b. Actively cooperating on efficiently coordinating this effort on a local, as well as global scale;

2. *Proposes* a cooperation between Irish BT Young Scientists and Technologists Exhibition (IYSTE), Young Scientists Kenya (YSK), and the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) which will:

    a. Encourage IYSTE and YSK to form the Global Young Scientists Initiative for life on land and below water (GYSI) which will encompass young people enrolled in primary, secondary and tertiary education;

    b. Advise the IYSTE and YSK on best practices in implementing a global action plan;

    c. Expand programs allowing young people to carry projects related to new technologies and the achievement of the SDGs to respond to local and international problems, with a strong focus on:

        i. SDG 14 (Life below Water) and especially the protection of biodiversity and balancing of marine ecosystems;

ii. SDG 15 (Life on Land) and especially the conservation of forests and the containment of desertification;

d. Connecting these NGOs to the Sustainable Development Fund to coordinate any additional funding as needed;

e. Gather for a week per year where:

i. A panel of young scientists will assess the effectiveness of the program from a standpoint that originates from a micro-level perspective;
ii. The Committee on NGOs will consult on further strategic development of the program;
iii. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development will interpret the scientific advances and assess their validity in relation to SDGs 14 and 15;
iv. The IYSTE will share relevant results with the Technology Facilitation Mechanism Platform in order to make them accessible to all countries;

3. *Suggests* a renewed debate focusing on optimizing the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights through the activities of the World Trade Organization, with the aim to provide an improved framework for the activities of the GYSI:

a. Increasing the transparency of the protection mechanisms for intellectual property, reducing the risk for conflict among scientific programs;

b. Streamlining the patent application process, thus facilitating the protection of intellectual property for less experienced young scientists;

c. Further discuss funding for young scientists applying for patents, as not to disadvantage applicants lacking appropriate financial means;

4. *Recommends* a meeting between the Knowledge Transfer Beyond Boundaries (NABU) and the Environment Conservation Organization - Foundation for Afforestation Wild Animals and Nature (ECO-FAWN) NGO's, both of which have special consultative status, to discuss the use of a skill-sharing and knowledge-sharing platform accessible to the majority of the population of all Member States via smartphone in order to:

a. Democratize and share worldwide knowledge to reduce intellectual inequality through the invitation of the Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition and Drone seed organizations to foster conversation on their use of various technologies such as:

i. technology to designate protected areas in which deep seabed mining should be reduced which addresses SDG 14, specifically the emphasis on encouraging and preserving biodiversity in oceans;
ii. the use of high-resolution Light Detection and Ranging imagery to supply critical information about tree health, forest stock, water features, and hazards to properly distribute tree seeds from drones to the most ideal site for planting which acknowledges SDG 15, highlighting the importance of forestation;

b. Facilitate the sharing of sustainable best practices and technologies in the areas of:

i. SDG 14, especially best practices and technologies to protect marine biodiversity such as sensor tag aimed at tracking animal movements in deep sea environments;
ii. SDG 15, more specifically in sharing sustainable agricultural and industrial practices;

c. Initiate a program in partnerships with relevant UN Bodies such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO), which aims to develop a unified

network providing information and data exchange on the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of the ocean;

d. Address a report to ECOSOC during the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) about the progress made concerning the spread of skills and knowledge concerning specifically SDGs 14 and 15;

e. Maximize efforts toward digital literacy through ensuring access to education through:

i. Creating a skills development training framework through e-learning such as Massive Online Open Courses, especially for teachers and education staff that focuses on the use of new technologies and how to utilize it;
ii. Promoting inclusive connectivity, innovation and the foundation of network and development;
iii. Prioritizing infrastructure development that includes internet networks, community-based infrastructure and data centers;
iv. Emphasizing the usage of IoT devices for the needs of disabilities and the marginalized groups;

5. *Recommends* the theme of the 2020 ECOSOC Partnership Forum to "ICT Penetration in Developing Countries to Improve Communication," inviting representatives of concerned governments, the private sector, philanthropic organizations, civil society, academia, and more, in order to:

a. Discuss increasing worldwide smartphone penetration through global collaboration between privately owned cellular providers and civil and public stakeholders, by:

i. Supporting research on recyclable smartphones;
ii. Collaborating on the second hand smartphone industry;
iii. Exploring other affordable alternatives to spread smartphones in developing countries;

b. Consider PPPs with translation software companies in order to:

i. Facilitate worldwide exchanges and communication, thus further optimizing the reach of smartphone-reliant programs;
ii. Discuss incentivizing software companies through the prospect of increased data collection, especially from more remote areas and uncommon dialects;
iii. Ultimately prevent smartphone-related programs to become overly dependent on funding;

c. Take into consideration the reports of the Chair of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, as it highlights the problems and weaknesses of the implementation of technology in different regions, and can serve to come upon with innovative solutions to each region's context, and most important, to ensure the secure use of technologies by:

i. Holding a Conference on Software Security with experts to discuss the architecture of software to protect the successful function of facilities within communities in SDG 11;
ii. Promoting security checking routines on hardware infrastructures to avoid hacking in all its form as well as any other internal threat that might arise;

d. Enhance the regional cooperation through:

i. Forming bilateral and multilateral alliances to put into action the recommendations of the Commission, especially in a regional level;
ii. Providing policy recommendations on a regional level to protect the integrity of data;

iii. Promoting dialogue and foster partnerships, by fomenting regional and national forums once a year, where new strategies, programs and plans of action are discussed, and the exchange of information will facilitate the implementation of the recommendations;

e. Modernize the UN's communication and management systems so as to boost accountability and efficiency by:

i. Incorporating ICTs to facilitate smoother communication and record-keeping between lower bodies;
ii. Consulting with the private sector to build more efficient systems of management, taking advantage of the latest research in operations research and management science;

6. *Encourages* the utilization of the GCI's green energy to cooperate with local technical educational centers, such as the CETPRO with partnership to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to educate locals, with the aim to generate employment through promoting care and respect for the environment and biodiversity with respect to SDG 15;

7. *Strongly* encourages Member States and international financing institutions to contribute to the SDG Fund in order to support the success and management SDG-related initiatives through:

a. Attending of the annual meetings of the International Standards of Accounting and Reporting in order to:

i. Discuss long-term and short term economic as well as financial implications from implementing these programs;
ii. Suggest a system to utilize technologies like blockchain and machine learning in the reporting and risk assessment process;

b. Devotion to expertise on regional specificities, financial management will be deferred to the regional economic commissions overseen by ECOSOC, such as:

i. the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA);
ii. the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP);
iii. the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE);
iv. the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);
v. the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA);

c. Suggests a meeting between private and public entities under the auspices of the ECA, the ESCAP, the ECE, the ECLAC, and the ESCWA, in order to:

i. Discuss the organization of contests between various task forces sponsored by private entities, with the aim to resolve short term issues and challenges related to the SDGs;
ii. Allow private entities and civil society to actively take part in contributing to the SDG programme, thus also providing them with an opportunity for increased recognition and networking;
iii. Complementing the long-term work of the International Development Association which tackles issues such as the implementation of electrical services, better water and health services;

d. Evaluating to review all claims for funding and determine the level of need and importance as per Member State;

e. Coordinating with regional organizations and organizations that invest on a regional basis, such as the African Development Bank or the Belt and Road Initiative to facilitate technological investment in infrastructure by:

    i. Investigating opportunities to modernize and incorporate new technologies at the local level, with special emphasis on infrastructure reform;
    ii. Aiding in brokering PPP projects, where local government can utilize the newest private sector technologies to accomplish goals in infrastructure development;
    iii. Researching new methods to incentivize private involvement like social venture funds and government grants;
    iv. Recording spatial and geographical data, like the EU's Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community, that would allow for better implementation of sustainable infrastructure technology, such as renewable energy technologies, which are heavily dependent on geographic location;
    v. Geospatial data can further aid in modeling solutions for climate change adaptation policies, which requires the manipulation of infrastructure to reduce the effects of global warming on social and biological systems;

8. *Suggests* cooperation between the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and the ESCAP to conference with the UNEP focusing on ecosystem management plans, such as those in Viet Nam which ensure the preservation and sustainable use of the South China Sea's marine resources by inviting marine conservation volunteers from national parks and the local community to be educated on the incentives of the project and:

    a. Invite HLPF and the civil society to collaborate on ocean ecosystem conservation specifically highlighting:

        i. Strike a balance between conservation and livelihood;
        ii. Raise awareness of harmful fishing practices;
        iii. Make meaningful strides to remove invasive species that damage coral life;

    b. The engagement of Fishing Industry in collaboration with World Ocean's Day for a conscious, efficient, sustainable, and prosperous industry for the eradication of perpetual harmful fishing practices that:

        i. Cultivate bycatch through innovative tools and materials promoted within the event;
        ii. Harm coral reefs with substantial aggravation of the ecosystem;
        iii. Deplete endangered species and populations by overfishing;
        iv. Unintentionally introduce invasive species with conscientious transportation methods;

9. *Encourages* investment in more sustainable and efficient agricultural systems and the sharing of knowledge between public and private actors of the agricultural sector to foster cross-sectoral exchanges of information, improve access to technological resources such as data management services, and connect small producers to markets by:

    a. Collaborating with the FAO and implementing its main guidelines on transforming food and agriculture to achieve the SDGs, in particular its recommendations on technology development and knowledge transfer;

    b. Inviting the Development Cooperation Forum to discuss ways to integrate small producers as full partners in all steps of production, as well as propose and support initiatives to:

        i. Foster diversified agricultural production for the sake of biodiversity conservation, soil quality and other benefits to local communities as per the Agricultural Innovations System;
        ii. Capitalize on ICT usage to mitigate the effects of climate variability;

iii. Utilize land line resources to ensure access of skill share to farmers living in rural and remote areas awaiting smartphone access;
iv. Consider further use of new technologies such as geographic information systems, global positioning systems and smartphone apps to overcome the challenges met in agri-PPPs;

10. *Strongly urges* Member States to harness the wider spread of telecommunication and social media technologies through:

    a. Reducing the price of information and communications technologies and broadband access while promoting more programs and strategic plans to Member States on a global scale;

    b. Creating connectivity with the local community in ICT construction including:

        i. Cooperation with CSOs in the monitoring, designing and reporting process of such construction;
        ii. Hiring laborers in various regions to aid in growing the local economy and train workers in the utilization of the latest technologies in the process;

    c. Building inter-collaboration with organizations to reduce the digital divide by:

        i. Boosting PPP's through innovative upgrades in giving access to skills development training;
        ii. Incorporating a competency-based curriculum targeted specifically to the youth of developing countries that has a fundamental approach to technical skills and digital literacy;
        iii. Focusing on upgrading public ICT facilities for improvement on existing research and development programs;

    d. Utilizing peacebuilding and peacekeeping radio and communication systems to guarantee a safe and secure environment;

    e. Reducing the risk in public and private investments to further the implementation of ICT's more inclusively and to increase affordability.

Code: ECOSOC/1/3
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Guided by the Chapter X of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) which established the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) mandate that focuses on the coordination of the activities of various specialized agencies, regional and functional commissions, and civil society actors that commission reports and studies, and encourages cooperation in an international forum,

Reaffirming the urgency emphasized in the General Assembly resolution 72/228 “Science, technology and innovation for development” (2018) to provide access to education through technology and innovation,

Noting with satisfaction the General Assembly resolution 72/215 “Agricultural Technology for Sustainable Development”, which urges Member States to multiply efforts to implement sustainable agricultural technologies and their adequate transfer, especially to marginalized communities in developing countries like smallholder farmers,

Recognizing the General Assembly resolution 72/242 (2018) “Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals” that emphasizes the central role that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) plays as a platform for sharing and cooperating, and the need for governments, private sectors, international organizations, civil society, technical and academic communities and other relevant stakeholders to be aware of the impact of the latest developments in rapid technological change in achieving the SDGs,

Emphasizing the potential of the Technology Bank for Least-Developed Countries, established by General Assembly resolution 71/251(2016) “Establishment of the Technology Bank for the Least-Developed Countries”, as well as the World Bank, to enable technology-sharing as well as building, boosting and brokering technologies to increase production and distribution of technology between Member States,

Recognizing the *2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda* and its three revolutionary pillars focused on a global framework for financing development, imposing seven action areas, and monitoring the data with follow ups,

Taking into account the 17 SDGs and its 169 targets, 48 of them are closely related to technology and information and communications technology (ICT) and are of great importance in achieving the SDGs, such as sustainable agriculture, and protecting the rights of the individual on an ethical level,

Commemorating the approach of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) whose innovative facilities provide technical support to a variety of frontier technology environments,

Reminds all Member States of the *Paris Agreement* (2016) and its essential role in the protection of the planet, by encouraging renewable energy solutions, and creating the Technology Mechanism promoting technology development and transfer,

Bearing in mind the Plan of Implementation of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, especially part III which stresses the promotion of sustainable production in order to harmonize empowerment of communities and long-term economic development with the preservation of the ecosystem,

Acknowledging the essential role of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda, through the sharing of information among Member States and other stakeholders,

Acknowledging the *Technology and Innovation Report 2018*, released by the UNCTAD, which highlights the uneven distribution of technological researchers between developed countries and less-developed countries,

Emphasizing the aim of the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) to increase knowledge sharing and mutual learning through data analysis and collaboration between diverse set of international actors and activities,

Noting that the expansion of ICT infrastructure for knowledge sharing should be managed responsibly to promote SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and others, as the Internet and social media have the potential to facilitate the spread of violent rhetoric and terrorist organizations,

Highlighting the strength of the United Nations Virtual Reality (UNVR) project whose aim is to use ICTs, specifically through the use of virtual reality, to raise awareness for technological inequalities in the international community by focusing on the grueling conditions that people are facing in SDGs,

Recognizing the importance of science, technology, innovation (STI) and ICTs to ensure equal opportunities and information access for all, specifically focusing on sharing technical expertise with developing Member States through educational frameworks and guidelines,

Having considered the work already achieved by the CSTD in its successes and failures, emphasizing the work already done by the CSTD, and looks forward to pursuing it,

Emphasizing the necessity for the utilization of multilateral banks, Member States and other existing frameworks, databases, and indices for sharing technology and providing funding to achieve all the SDGs,

Observing the World Economic Forum which outlines the need of 4 billion people without access to the Internet which prevents the spread of knowledge on sustainable development, including infrastructure and technological development set forth by SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,

Recognizing the efforts of the United Smart Cities program and their work on implementing and utilizing technologies to achieve sustainable cities with the use of the smart city profile to provide a basis of identifying Member States who have the capacity to develop them,

Noting further some Member States have private firms whom wholly own vital and unique technologies that are required to achieve the SDGs,

Acknowledging the event on New Technologies and Mobile Solutions for Development: Business Driving Innovation for Social Good that was held by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs to emphasize the need of technology and digital devices to accomplish the SDGs,

Recalling the report *Fast-Forward Progress: Leveraging Tech to Achieve the Global Goals*, which places a strong emphasis on the power of ICTs to advance the SDGs through technology-sharing initiatives,

Emphasizing the statement by the World Bank that 1 in 7 people lack electricity, with many of them being in rural areas, which is a main concern of SDG 7 on Affordable and Clean Energy which aims to provide clean energy in all Member States,

Bearing in mind that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development stresses the significance of the establishment of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in harnessing new technologies to result in improved productivity, accountability, affordability, transparency, and overall quality of work,

Noting with satisfaction the work of Lydec, a utility company which has contributed over 300 million dollars to proper sanitation and electricity in developing towns,

Encouraged by the Climate Investment Funds Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program in Low-Income Countries (2017) helping developing countries implement renewable, environmentally-sound and energy efficient technologies,

Drawing attention to existing frameworks, such as the Belt and Road Initiative, the Middle Corridor and Asian Investment Bank, in place in the Middle East, Africa and Asia to fund technologically advanced infrastructure projects, share technologies and incentivize aid for trade initiatives,

Acknowledging SDGs 5 and 10, that respectively aim to achieve gender equality by eliminating the gap on social, economic and cultural matters through collaboration of technologically focused businesses with the UN-Women's Strategic Plan 2018- 2021 that outlines the supportive efforts to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030, while promoting inclusive development and economic growth, especially to vulnerable groups and respecting every Member State's sovereignty,

Noting with concern in the *Beijing Platform for Action* the ongoing economic and technical global inequality specifically concerning women, and which promotes the increase of participation and access of women to expression through the media and new technologies of communication,

Taking into account the varying stages of development of Member States, where some Member States are unable to have proper access to technological advancements due to economic and financial incapability and lack the means to implement sustainable technologies which includes agricultural and infrastructural technologies,

Recognizing that 29% of the world lacked access to safely managed drinking water in 2015, as stated by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the efforts of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as The Ocean Cleanup organization and their actions to clean the world's oceans, with specific regard to SDG 6 which focuses on clean water and sanitation,

Taking into account the Stockholm forum on gender equality through the promotion of access to traditional and digital education in order to achieve technological sustainability, and acknowledges the UNDP and UNICEF joint report *Bridging the Gender Digital Divide*, as well as UN-Women, for the integration of women within the ICTs and Development, increasing equality in the emerging technologies,

Recalling the Low-Income Food Deficit List of 52 countries and the efforts expressed in Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) 2018 document *Transforming Food and Agriculture to Achieve the SDGs*, which highlights the importance of creating a knowledge chain on technological advancements in agriculture and the crucial role of smallholder farmers to facilitate the conversation on the technology specific to their needs in farming,

1. *Recognizes* the potential for efficient collaboration and cooperation between the UN Development Operations Coordination Office (UN DOCO) and the Global pulse to strengthen the technical and logistical support for the UN Development group will be more regional and expanded;

2. *Encourages* all Member States to share data and knowledge about emerging technologies through the use of the STI Forum and other online platforms modeled after the Statistics and Survey Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to raise awareness towards the technological inequalities around the world;

3. *Emphasizes* its support for the effective and comprehensive implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Technical Assessment Findings to the working of the TFM, especially calling attention to the specific recommendations to ensure the integrated online platform is:

a. The platform supporting the actual transfer of technology through matchmaking going beyond the platform being an information repository;

b. The platform including contributions from private corporations regarding technology transfer;

c. The platform to include the content of national networks as well as other educational databases to serve as primary facilitator on knowledge regarding green technologies;

4. *Further takes note* of the importance of continued cooperation between the TFM and ECOSOC, and in this spirit commissions the president of ECOSOC, in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on STI for the SDGs STI Forum to report on possibilities for increasing the efficiency of the STI Forum, with an emphasis on:

a. Requirements for the STI Forum to produce, additionally and as an integral part of its summary report, action oriented and readily implementable recommendations applicable to the UN System to be put before the ECOSOC;

b. Reiterates ECOSOC Council to deliberate upon and encourage implementation of the recommendations of the STI Forum through its subsidiary bodies;

c. Requests for the subsidiary bodies of the ECOSOC to present to the High-Level Political Forum implementation plans for the recommendations that have been deliberated in the ECOSOC;

5. *Recommends* the STI Forum to increase the number of meetings per year similar to the DCF in pursuit of more accurate data to attract further interaction from Member States, NGO's, and stakeholders by better tracking funds, and to publish semesterly reports of the progress in terms of taking steps in utilizing technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda;

6. *Recommends* to extend the annual session of the STI Forum to a total of four days to deliberate on and to ensure the dissemination and implementation of Existing and Emerging technologies in equal measure for the benefit of all people, as an integral part of the existing structure and program of exhibitions and workshops, especially with a focus on developing nations, in line with the recommendations on the potential improvement of the efficiency as outlined through the proposed workflow on implementation of the recommendations of the STI Forum, specified in the preceding clause;

7. Recommends that guidance on Strengthening the TFM be included in the ECOSOC Annual Report to the General Assembly;

8. *Further recommends* a study implemented by the UN Institute for Training and Research of the technological developments made by Member States with the inclusion of the aspect of development into the Voluntary National Review in order to create a Sustainability Index, which will:

a. Focus on innovations made in renewable energy, agriculture, and infrastructure;

b. Observe which Member States have the capacity to develop and have access to a secure Internet, cell towers, and computers;

c. Focusing on the reasons that Member States are facing issues with the development and implementation of sustainable technology based on their Sustainability Index;

9. Strongly supports the collaboration of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development and the World Health Organization to enhance cultural tolerance and integration of vulnerable groups through the usage of technology specifically focusing on:

a. Member States and global citizens to utilize ICTs like social media, television, the Internet and the UNVR project as a model, to create a greater awareness for cruciality of the importance of the SDGs and how technologies can catalyze this process. Through these awareness campaigns, we endeavor to encourage its audiences to donate to these NGOs;

b. Increasing the role of social media and online platforms to create awareness campaigns advocating for the advancement of vulnerable groups;

c. Collaborating with existing social platforms such as UN-Women Virtual Learning School to advance gender equality and integrate gender issues innovative solutions based on technology, and meet the needs of women and girls;

d. Granting online content and education to those living under the line of poverty and providing Indigenous communities with materials in their native languages in order to eliminate language barriers;

10. *Strongly encourages and invites* Technologies and Practices for Small Agricultural Producers Platform (TECA) of the FAO to work with ECOSOC as a collaborative and coordinating partner in the facilitation of a conference, recommended by ECOSOC to discuss new and innovative technologies oriented around sustainable development by:

    a. Promoting a coalition of “lead farmers” that would transfer hands-on field knowledge about innovative green agricultural practices learned at a TECA conference, including, but not limited to:

        i. Environmentally friendly agricultural mechanization;
        ii. Irrigation technology;
        iii. Renewable energy technology such as solar, hydro-power, clean coal technology, and geothermal technologies;

    b. Ensuring the diffusion of information and skills learned at the conference through various platforms, such as community meetings, whereby lead farmers have the opportunity to share their learnings and diffuse the benefits of environmentally-sound technologies, and innovate new technology designed specifically to benefit smallholder farmers;

    c. Utilizing the TECA Platform to assess the specific technological needs of each community to better facilitate technology transfer most useful to the community;

    d. Promoting the empowerment of women in the agricultural sector by ensuring a proportional number of seats at the conference to women as lead farmers and encouraging lead farmers to ensure the spread of knowledge to women smallholder farmers;

    e. Encouraging the conference to take into account the Sustainability Index to develop tailored strategies based on the core issues of the country, and to ensure that the concerns of smallholder farmers and their communities are strongly considered in conference discussion;

    f. Strongly suggesting the invitation and participation of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Food Programme at such a conference to provide expertise and ensure funding is sufficient to leverage resources for technical assistance and to achieve long-term results in small farms across each Member State;

11. *Urges* the CSTD to consider blockchain technology as a resource that can assist in achieving various SDGs by:

    a. Utilizing blockchains for their transparency and accountability in aiding information and data sharing by:

i. Spreading this technology in order for developed countries to share information with developing countries to avoid brain drain;
ii. Forming a secure data sharing network to enable everyone to exercise their right to information;

b. Recognizing the capabilities of blockchain's in assisting the achievement of various SDGs such as SDGs 13, 1, and 7 through:

i. Using blockchain technology and particularly its transparency and incorruptibility to create a Carbon-credit database, in which each block represents a company, they shall publish reports regarding the amount of their pollution emission in their respective block, the chain will allow to point out those who are the biggest and the smallest polluters;
ii. Alleviating poverty by increasing the partnership between United Nations High Commissioner for refugees (UNHCR) and CSTD, which could help to identify stateless people to seek refuge, education and employment, by creating digital blockchain identity;

c. Suggesting the UN CSTD to produce a report on behalf of ECOSOC on the following topics such as:

i. To what extent can Blockchain technology contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
ii. How to develop Blockchain technology on a large scale and especially in developing countries;

12. *Suggests* to Member States the importance of innovation strategies such as hydroponics or drought resistant crops for food security with technology to better the Low-Income Food Deficit countries to encourage a strategic objective and collaboration between regions in order to:

a. Call upon ECOSOC's Global Food Crisis between regional and international cooperation's to advocate the effects of high food prices and work for better price stability with technological advances with home resources such;

b. Promote irrigation technologies for better harvesting, conservation technologies, unsuitable climate issues affecting food production and agriculture by using wireless mesh technologies as mentioned in the High-Level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security (2008);

13. *Urges* the promotion and further improvement of technical and digital education, like cooperatives, community technical groups and online studying platforms like the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth online platform, that allows youths to learn skills, start their own businesses and become empowered subjects in order to achieve economic independence by:

a. Forming a secure data sharing network to enable everyone to exercise their right to information;

b. Recognizing the capabilities of blockchain's in assisting the achievement of various SDGs such as SDGs 13, 1, and 7 through:

i. Using blockchain technology and particularly its transparency and incorruptibility to create a Carbon-credit database, in which each block represents a company, they shall publish reports regarding the amount of their pollution emission in their respective block, the chain will allow to point out those who are the biggest and the smallest polluters;

ii. Alleviating poverty by increasing the partnership between UNHCR and CSTD, which could help to identify stateless people to seek refuge, education and employment, by creating digital blockchain identity;

c. Suggesting the UN CSTD to produce a report on behalf of ECOSOC on the following topics such as:

i. To what extent can Blockchain technology contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
ii. How to develop Blockchain technology on a large scale and especially in developing countries;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with UN-Women on the usage of ICTs to combat gender inequality through the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality for education and promotion of awareness by:

a. Promoting technological programs for families and gender equality education through online platforms and ICTs education;

b. Qualify ICTs educators with the implementation of the UNDP "Transforming institutions to advance gender equality" for the achievement of online gender balance in societies;

c. Implementing the *Convention of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW) with UN-Women for awareness in societies relating to issues such as use of technologies for commercial exploitation of women in societies by implementing policies incorporating the principles on equality and abolishing all discriminatory laws;

15. Recognizes the potential of the private sector in the advancement of the harness of renewable energy;

16. *Commends* every Member State to prioritize the vital task of the implementing new technology in the infrastructure of developed and developing nations to achieve the SDGs by:

a. Sharing technologies with developing countries that are vital to achieving the SDGs, such as water sanitation technology, efficient energy production technology and biotechnology through new and existing forums;

b. Cooperating in new technology research among allies at regional level to solve specific, shared issues, such as climate management, efficient solar production and eradication disease;

17. *Strongly urges* Member States and NGOs such as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) to provide recommendations for and contribute towards building a safe and secure ICT network and Internet through:

a. Monitoring of ICT spaces for the prevention of the spread of violent terrorist and criminal organizations;

b. Investing in cybersecurity infrastructure to combat hacking and cyber-warfare, particularly in developing countries, as performed by the Global Programme on Cybercrime;

c. Educational programs led by each Member State to inform its citizens about the danger of violent and extremist online rhetoric;

d. Use of the ITU's Global Cybersecurity Index to identify regions at risk of a cyber-attack;

e. Funding and support for the above initiatives from NGOs such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, and the Technology Bank for Least-Developed Countries;

18. *Reminds* all Member States of the utility of PPPs in providing funding for new technologies as set forth in the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (2015), while focusing on creating renewable energy solutions and better water sanitation systems by:

    a. Utilizing PPP models (Build-Operate-Transfer, Build-Operate-Own and Design-Finance-Build-Operate) to obtain funding and expertise from the private sector and concessional loans from the World Bank and IMF for the developing countries to enhance the research on clean and affordable energy for all;

    b. Partnering with companies in order to utilize private industry's advantage in implementing and researching new technology, noting that Member States:

        i. Identified by the Sustainability Index as most in need of funding new technologies for sustainable development are especially encouraged;
        ii. Should prioritize organizations which are a part of the UN's Global Compact, as such companies operate under the Global Compact's Ten Principles, 3 of which encourage environmental responsibility and developing and diffusing environmentally friendly technologies;

    c. Inviting the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe International Centre of PPP Excellence, which has already implemented People First PPPs, to consider adopting methods like the Global Compact's Ten Principles in order to encourage these PPPs to focus on sustainability technologies;

19. *Calls upon* the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDGs-F) to include guidelines regarding a reform of the SDGs Fund in its annual report, these guidelines should focus on the following points:

    a. The SDGs-F is a financial and service cooperative which registers calls for tender in order for States to publish projects they want to finance through foreign-state financing;
    b. The SDGs-F could use the Blockchain technology and a specific new cryptocurrency named SusCoin used for the SDGs-F transactions only to avoid corruption and misuse of loans;
    c. The SDGs-F should finance in priority projects located in developing countries;

20. *Advocates* for the expansion of ICTs, such as cell-phone and Internet access, through:

    a. Partnerships between Member States and NGOs such as NetHope that delivers 60% of all annual international, non-governmental aid to build ICT infrastructure;

    b. Providing technological equipment and infrastructural aid for developing countries and remote areas to allow the population to access educational knowledge on the Internet, using mobile phones and portable technologies;

    c. Calling upon all Member States to promote their technologies and the importance of ICTs through UNDP;

    d. Working towards creating long-lasting and efficient economies through cross-border investment and building of ICT infrastructure;

    e. Ensuring equal opportunities and access to information and online databases access to information and online databases through increasing Internet, cell service, cell service, and GPS access as well as access to computers in developing countries;

21. *Encouraging* the use and expansion of existing frameworks such as the Technology Bank for Least-Developed Countries, the IMF, the World Bank, and NGOs like the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program for funding and building technologically advanced infrastructure and technology-sharing by:

    a. Seeking funding and support from multilateral banks, such as the World Bank to fund new projects;

    b. Focusing on the cooperation on sharing information and researches on existing science and emerging technologies;

    c. Supporting new and existing frameworks meant to build connections between global regions, such as the Asian Investment Bank, Global Innovation Fund, Middle Corridor and Belt and Road initiative;

    d. Expanding such frameworks to encompass new Member States and regions;

22. *Supports* Member States to engage in the “bottom-up” approach towards sustainable development as seen through the UNDP’s Innovative Facility initiative in which delivers financial and technical support to UNDP Country Offices through its set of six overlapping signature solutions approach in order to adapt frontier technology and innovation in Member States for through reports offering transformative innovations, technological breakthroughs, incremental improvements, or efforts to address last mile challenges.

National Model United Nations • NY – Working Paper Template (Resolutions)

Code: ECOSOC/1/4
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Harnessing New Technologies to Achieve the SDGs

The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Guided by Chapter Ten of the *United Nations Charter* which establishes the creation and mandated the power of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to serve as the primary body for policy dialogue on economic, social, cultural, educational, and health-related topics; to advise and coordinate the activities of Member States and other UN entities on matters within this mandate; and to lead the discussion on the implementation of the international development framework,

Affirming further the role of ECOSOC to provide policy guidance while focusing on the coordination of work reinforced by General Assembly resolution 57/270 (2002),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 72/228 (2018) which drives the importance of innovative technologies as we work to achieve the goals on the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Reaffirming the desire that each Member State is not only able to reach but is able to maintain the commitments agreed upon in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Noting the importance of a comprehensive approach to address and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the importance of addressing these numerous and multifaceted issues as an international community in unison and building on the principles of the UN, chiefly amongst them the principle of collaboration and the primacy of open dialogue as guided by SDG 17: Partnerships for Goals,

Noting with appreciation the extensive efforts of the collective international community both from the public and private sector and the efforts of civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to achieve the SDGs,

Noting further the importance of these efforts, whether pursued collectively, in partnerships, or within the boundaries of individual organizations such as non-government organizations and the private sector or public bodies such as national governments and other public organizations for the continued progress towards realizing the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* with special attention drawn to the Technology Facilitation Mechanism,

Re-emphasizing the call for communication and information technologies to become more accessible and shared between member nations, NGOs, and other stakeholders as part of the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda*,

Noting with deep concern that many states lack access to technology due to shortage of governmental, economic, and social infrastructures,

Noting further the inherent hindrance of this obstacle to ensure equal access to technologies for development according to the SDGs, impeding the ability of developing nations to trade both traditionally and especially in budding ecommerce platforms,

Fully aware that ecommerce is projected to reach global sales of 3.5 trillion dollars by 2021 and can play an integral part in reaching SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth,

Expressing its concern that current humanitarian work has shortcomings as experienced by the Banda Aceh province in Indonesia, where according to a study, 70% of the medicines donated following a devastating hurricane had foreign labels on the bottles that could not be understood by local workers, therefore, the medicine could not be dispensed; this highlights the need to share information and communication technologies that can prevent such occurrences,

Noting with concern the lesser extent to which regional programs are successful in achieving sustainable development working towards the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* are exchanged between organizations, programs, and projects facing the same challenges in their implementation and success,

Noting further the importance of harnessing new technologies as they are developed to address the most pressing issues facing the world while noting further that solutions to many aspects are not requiring the development of grand technologies but can be achieved to a considerable degree to existing technologies,

Noting with interest the rapid pace with which technology improves, the innovation arising from this rapid technological change, which enables Least Development Countries (LDCs) to meet the target of having universal internet access by 2020 as reported in the Achieving Universal and Affordable Internet in Least Developed Nations (2018) a critical step for least developed nations to reach SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure,

Re-emphasizing the central and integral role played by the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) in ensuring continuous discussion on the latest developments in the related fields,

Taking note with appreciation of the Independent Technical Assessment Findings “An Online Platform for the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism”, and other recommendations for the effective implementation and working of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism,

1. *Emphasizes* its support for the effective and comprehensive implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Technical Assessment Findings to the working of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, especially calling attention to the specific recommendations to ensure the integrated online platform is:

    a. A platform supporting the actual transfer of technology through matchmaking going beyond the platform being an information repository;

    b. A platform supporting matchmaking technology suppliers and technology demanders, and between technology transfer service providers and enterprises where there is limited supply of providers of such services;

    c. A platform including contributions from private corporations regarding technology transfer;

    d. A platform to include the content of national networks as well as other educational databases to serve as primary facilitator on knowledge regarding green technologies;

2. *Further takes note of* the importance of continued cooperation between the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and ECOSOC, and in line with this commissions the president of ECOSOC, in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the STI Forum to report on possibilities for increasing the efficiency of the STI Forum, with an emphasis on:

    a. Requirements for the STI Forum to produce, additionally and as an integral part of its summary report, action-oriented and readily implementable recommendations applicable to the UN System to be put before the ECOSOC;

b. Requests ECOSOC to deliberate upon and encourage implementation of the recommendations of the STI Forum through its subsidiary bodies;

c. Requests for the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to present to the High-Level Political Forum implementation plans for the recommendations that have been deliberated in ECOSOC;

3. *Recommends* to extend the annual session of the STI Forum to a total of four days to deliberate on and to ensure the dissemination and implementation of existing and emerging technologies in equal measure for the benefit of all people, as an integral part of the existing structure and program of exhibitions and workshops, especially with a focus on developing nations, in line with the recommendations on the potential improvement of the efficiency as outlined through the proposed workflow on implementation of the recommendations of the STI Forum, specified in the preceding clause;

4. *Recommends strongly* that guidance on strengthening the technology-facilitation mechanism (TFM) be included in the ECOSOC Annual Report to the General Assembly building upon the considerations of the preceding clauses of this resolution and especially the proposed streamlined workflow of the implementation of the STI Forum implementation as specified in above;

5. *Urges* the strengthening of inter-organizational collaboration on the utilization and harnessing of technologies, existing and emerging, between the subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC to their mandated ends, through the Inter-Agency Task Team under the TFM by boosting partnerships with CSOs, NGOs, and other stakeholders especially from developing countries, to make the mechanism more inclusive and action-oriented as recommended in the *Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals* (2018);

6. *Further recommends* member states to have a logical framework approach gathered from the different comprehensive reports of existing international organizations in which they focus on understanding and analyzing problems the society is facing when achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and that can be solved by technologies and cover aspects such as, but not limited to:

a. The culture meets program dilemma often faced when recommending a program or a study by using a country-specific approach in where the necessary points and parts of the program to be implemented; in this case, technologies are tailored to the setting of implementation;

b. Facilitating multilateral agreements wherethrough countries' equal status is recognized and therefore strengthening coordination between member states to ensure that these agreements and collaborations serve as key players in filling the lacking capacities of other sectors;

c. Project designs where end results focus on solving problems using a grassroots approach and adopting multifaceted and flexible structures that include the usage of technology in community involvement especially on the rural areas mirrored to the European Union program *Horizon 2020;*

d. To have a refined framework, it is encouraged to have a counter-preventive and preventive alternate plan that focuses not only locating loopholes, discrepancies but also highlighting the needed technologies that will kickstart the transformation of inputs to outputs;

e. Have a specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time-bounded goals that are beneficially oriented and has a widespread impact of improvements in all societies and sectors;

7. *Directs attention* to the need for a multilateral approach to development that encourages collaboration between member states, NGOs, and other stakeholders to create partnerships of equals in regard to

the dissemination of technologies, existing and emerging, especially where the implementation of such technologies can significantly further efforts towards achieving the SDGs relating to education, poverty eradication, economic growth as it relates to:

a. Ensuring the continued growth and development of LDCs through the implementation of technology innovations that meet not only the needs of those they intend to serve but do not further magnify the already steep digital divide by working with NGOs such as Solar Cookers International, Farm Africa, CropX amongst others;

b. Developing regional forums, under the auspices of the African Union, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the European Union, and others, or independently, to collaborate with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Electronic World Trade Platform (eWTP), as well as local artisans, entrepreneurs, small business owners, and other entities vital to economic development, to better harness the transformational power of internet mediated commerce to achieve sustainable economic development and the economic stability needed for this development;

8. *Ensuring* the availability of new technologies to developing countries in efforts to this technology, vital as it is to the sustained and sustainable development of these countries in the rapidly digitalizing world, by engaging with the educational sector to provide new and strengthen existing educational programs targeting students pursuing the studies in fields related to the technical careers of tomorrow, as implemented by Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Dubai, New York University in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai, amongst others, while giving due consideration to the inclusion of women and other marginalized groups.

Code: ECOSOC/2/1
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education

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The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Acknowledging the inclusion of access to education as a human right promised by the *United Nations Declaration of Human Rights* (1948),

Taking Note of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), stating that education is a human right and realizing that people with disabilities are faced with an unequal opportunity for acquiring education,

Emphasizing Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals regarding “Quality Education,”

Alarmed by studies conducted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which showed that over 263 million adolescents in 2016 were not receiving a formal education,

Stressing the importance of the Global Innovation Fund and the use of public-private-partnerships for financing the development of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs and expanding access to quality education,

Recognizing the efforts made by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Power of Women (UN-Women) to develop sustainable solutions to eradicate inequalities by promoting equal access to education,

Identifying the Additional Financing for the Technical and Vocational Education Project, a World Bank project in pursuit of developing more demand-led training systems that provide students of TVET institutions more market-relevant, practical training,

Noting with concern the tendency of vulnerable groups, including refugees and youths in conflict zones, to be deprived of their right to a high-quality education, secondary school,

Appreciative of the work of *Education 2030: Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action (2015)* which focuses on access to education from a global scope, specifically aimed at marginalized groups,

Acknowledging the facilitation of the current research and online communities contributing to TVETs such as the TVET Forum and the UNEVOC Network Portal,

Recognizing the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) mandate, no child left behind and the rights of all children to ensure that every child is protected, healthy and educated, focusing on the children left behind by wider economic and social progress,

1. *Encourages* the UNDP and the UN-Women to collaboratively support and finance the development of technical training programs that allow youth, generally ages 14-22, to engage in training within specific trades that will prepare youth for the workforce which will:

    a. Target youth that are in danger of dropping out after completing a primary school education;

    b. Target youth in low-income brackets, marginalized groups, as well as at risk populations;

    c. Provide additional support for local women who may be dually involved with household responsibilities as well as education;

2. *Strongly urges* Member States and non-governmental organizations to take into account the necessity of protecting the right to education of vulnerable groups by:

    a. Providing funding for technical, vocational, and tertiary education in the host countries of refugees through avenues including multilateral banks and charity for the purpose of promoting cultural integration;

    b. Promoting stability in conflict zones, particularly those affected by terrorist groups which recruit child soldiers and acknowledging the differences in the following groups: displaced persons, asylum seekers, and refugees;

    c. Promoting stability in conflict zones, particularly those involving terrorist groups which recruit child soldiers;

3. *Recommends* the expansion of UNICEF's program UPSHIFT which aims to educate disabled students to ensure educational parity with their peers through:

    a. The incorporation of tactile elements to enhance the learning of visually impaired students;

    b. The incorporation of sign language in classrooms to enhance the learning of hearing-impaired students;

4. *Reconsiders* the potential risks that can arise in member states who bolster high quantities of TVET institutions without accounting for the effects it can have on the overall quality of education both in the member state, as well as in the emerging working class by;

    a. Encouraging regional commissions to conduct a more focused review of the trends in that area;

    b. Further encouraging the knowledge sharing of TVET programs through the UNESCO-UNEVOC and its publications;

5. *Encourages* UNESCO to focus on expanding science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields and TVET programs by collaborating with the Global Partnership for Education and International Vocational Education and Technical Training to provide funding and educational resources to least developed countries;

6. *Encourages* all member States to provide free and compulsory education to all the population.

Code: ECOSOC/2/1
Committee: The Economic and Social Council
Topic: Ensuring Access to Technical, Vocational, and Tertiary Education

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The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Supporting fully the concept of triangular cooperation, laid down in General Assembly resolution 64/222 'Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation' (2009),

Recognizing the pioneer work of the Pole de Dakar platform, an Africa-based office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) International Institute for Educational, aiding the implementation and analysis of expertise and technological support regarding vocational training in Africa,

Re-emphasizing the potential of education to aid the process of Sustainable Development, set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs), in multiple areas,

Convinced that the combination of funding and expertise from developed countries and South-driven partnerships can lead to broader access towards Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and regional standards that can stimulate economic growth and development,

1. *Recommends* the establishment of the Triangulation for the Future: Global Collaboration on TVET Conference organized by the UNESCO International Centre for TVET (UNEVOR):

    a. The mandate of the conference being to deliberate on cross regional collaboration as relates to:

        i. Create regional standards supervised by regional organizations such as the European Union, African Union, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR);
        ii. Consider the special situation of refugees and migrants and ways to enable these vulnerable groups to use their educational degrees in their country of stay;

    b. The conference to convene at the UNESCO office in Paris within one year for the duration of three days, bringing together regional organizations, Member States, developed and developing, and non-governmental and civil-society organizations on the application, approval, and invitation of the Co-chair's to be appointed by the president of ECOSOC, with one representing developed countries and one representing developing countries;

2. *Calls on* the President of ECOSOC in coordination with UNEVOR to produce a report on a study on the application of TVET in aiding the advancement of the SDGs especially as relates to Goals 3, 5 and 7, to be published before the commencement of the Triangulation for the Future Forum;

3. *Recommends* the further proliferation of TVET centers in all regions and contingent on collaboration from the local community and national governments, based on the Pole de Dakar platform;

4. *Reiterates its commitment* to the importance of partnerships in the development of curriculums for vocational training and apprenticeships to ensure there is a correct match between the necessary needed skills and the curriculums of these educations to ensure that the education Member States are providing is suiting its needs;

5. *Calls on* the President of ECOSOC to initiate a report in cooperation with UNESCO and relevant regional and national bodies on actions to be taken on the international level before the aforementioned conference on partnerships for development of curriculum;

6. *Reiterates* its support for organizations working within the area of increasing equal access on the basis of merit to technical, vocational and tertiary education and training including the Global Apprenticeship Network, Project Access and others, and encourages the continued emphasis on sharing best practices, advocating and commitment to action around youth employability and skills development;

7. *Recognizing* the importance of basic and tertiary education for the effectiveness of innovation and urges all Member States to invest in the education of developing countries to:

    a. Invest in infrastructure;

    b. Share technologies to make resources more accessible to students;

    c. Make donations of electronic devices to students;

    d. Make schools accessible to disabled people;

8. *Calls Upon* the importance of integrating the utilization of Public-Private Partnerships in order to degravitating the barriers to education and make it accessible to all by:

    a. Creating employment opportunities for students;

    b. Extending the reach and effectiveness of government funds, encourage innovation in education, increase safety, efficiency, and capacity of physical educational infrastructure;

9. *Noting with deep concern* the gender inequalities regarding education, and demands educating people of the importance and need of educating all genders, specifically girls in all countries by:

    a. Building schools specifically for girls;

    b. Having centers educating people on the impact of educating girls on society and the next generation.