



Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Distri.: General
21 January 2024

AGENDA: Measures to Improve Infrastructures for Digital Economies in Developing Countries

SPONSORS: Argentina, Afghanistan, Cameroon, Colombia, Libya, Nigeria

SIGNATORIES: Canada, Republic of Korea, India, Japan, United Kingdom, United States of America

MAIN SUBMITTER: Ecuador

Resolution 0001 (2024)

Adopted by YMUN 2024 at its 16th meeting on 21 January 2024

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Keeping in mind that digital economy alienation in developing countries can affect the global economy,

Recognizing that neighbouring regional LEDCs need cooperation in terms of trade and improvement of technology to be able to become self-sufficient and run their own economy,

Guided by The Roadmap for Digital Cooperation 2020 that addresses measures to reduce the influence of challenges posed by digital divides, or threats, and humanitarian violence during digital transformation,

Alarmed by High-Level Thematic Debate on Connectivity and Digital Cooperation in 2021 that pondered the role of digital technology in our daily life and international society,

Recognizing the economy of developing countries has great potential and that the economy for all is important, not for certain people,

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 60-252, which highlighted the importance of bridging the digital divide and to assist developing countries, including least-developed countries,

Observing the statistics by Digital Divide Council, which shows that there are still 2,850 million people in 61 countries who cannot use Internet,

1. Urges LEDCs to actively engage in the utilisation of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), with their cost-effectiveness, and enhanced services through promoting collaboration and synergy between national governments and private industry stakeholders through exploring regional approaches for the establishment of fundamental digital infrastructures in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. forming long-term mutually beneficial relationships between private companies, those who account for more than 15% to nations' GDP, in the digital industry and governments of LEDCs through incentivising these various companies in the following ways, but not limited to:
 - i. granting lenient tariff policies for participating companies to obtain easier access to entry ports of partnered nations,
 - ii. creating a stronger basis for profit maximisation by strengthening companies' reputations through enhancing corporate social responsibility,
 - b. devising measures to ensure the transparency and sustainability of private investment enterprises that participate in PPPs from legislative policy by:
 - i. drafting and enacting comprehensive legal frameworks that explicitly outline the terms, conditions, and obligations of private industry stakeholders in PPPs, leaving no room for ambiguity and ensuring adherence to each LEDCs' established laws,
 - ii. creating independent oversight bodies or commissions responsible for monitoring and evaluating the transparency of PPPs within the LEDCs' government, providing regular reports to the public, and ensuring that private investment enterprises operate within the bounds of legal theory and legislative policy,
 - c. using financial investment from PPPs to install and improve digital infrastructure in LEDCs that faced operational challenges when funded by the government budget alone, by taking measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. implementing risk-sharing mechanisms within PPP agreements to alleviate concerns of private investors, thereby ensuring a more favourable investment climate and facilitating increased participation in digital infrastructure projects in LEDCs,

- ii. planning business from the design stage with consideration of operational efficiency when creating apps about the public sector because the private sector takes charge of design and other processes,
 - iii. increasing the number of mobile electronic, internet-connected devices among populations in LEDCs, which can contribute to the basis for the prosperity of the digital economy,
 - iv. offering financial incentives, tax breaks, or other favourable conditions to attract private sector participation in digital infrastructure development, enhancing the financial viability of PPPs for both the public and private stakeholders,
 - d. taking into account and referring to past successful cases of PPPs' financial, individual, and electronic aids for LEDC's government, such as the following examples:
 - i. The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), which provided certification to Argentine citizens for \$25 million military personnel for the "Argentine Resident and Migrant Registration Certification Program,"
 - ii. One Laptop Per Child (OLPC), the Libyan government's project that provides educational laptop computers to Libyan children to support access to internet services;
2. Calls upon the LEDCs to establish regional co-op that aims for a self-sufficient digital economy development while taking the regional and developmental features of the region into account through methods such as but not limited to:
- a. constructing a trade cycle to uphold its economy within a nation by forming a monetary circulation between LEDCs for the following purposes, such as but not limited to:
 - i. expanding regional trade opportunities, where multiple LEDCs can trade necessities that the other regional nation may need for everyday living and bring profits to both sides,
 - ii. sharing development progress among the LEDC countries to obtain technological information,
 - b. establishing a combined strategy between digital technology and originally specialised industry that accounts for the majority of the GDP of the LEDCs to help the country be integrated into digital economy,
 - c. prioritising to foster the regional-based enterprises that conduct businesses developing or using digital technology by measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. inviting development advisor from NGOs to the indigenous enterprises with the purpose of establishing sustainable, self-sufficient profit structure,

- ii. lowering taxes for regional-based enterprises contributing to connectivity and internet accessibility which aligns with the agenda, fostering economic growth and technological advancements in this region,
 - d. designing a regular investigation program using statistics to collect essential data on to react to the changeable nature of the digital era by measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. surveying to evaluate individuals' level of adaptation utilisation efficiency,
 - ii. collecting data on the historical and present state of the digital industry,
 - e. establishing a framework to ensure balanced digital development between urban and rural areas to integrate the whole country into a global digital economy by measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. allocating resources gained from high levels of internet and proficient telecommunication networks in urban areas to rural areas,
 - ii. developing easily accessible platforms for digital education, allowing individuals in rural areas to have better access to reinforce their skills remotely;
- 3. Calls for active collaboration between member nations to strengthen digital economies through strategic partnerships with newly established research centres under the United Nations International Telecommunication Union (ITU), fostering a self-reliant approach that leverages shared expertise, promotes innovation, and accelerates the advancement of digital infrastructures through methods such as but not limited to:
 - a. collaborating on research projects to collectively address common challenges and advance technological innovations in crucial areas such as but not limited to:
 - i. the collective development of AI intelligence, cybersecurity, and digital infrastructure,
 - ii. implementing joint capacity-building programs aimed at enhancing the skills of local talent, ensuring a proficient workforce capable of contributing significantly to the growth of digital economics and innovation,
 - b. integrating and adhering to international standards for digital technologies, focusing on ensuring interoperability and facilitating the smoother integration of digital infrastructures for a cohesive and globally competitive digital economy by
 - i. creating standardised certification mechanisms for digital products and services to guarantee compliance with international standards, enhancing trust, and facilitating smoother cross-border interactions in the digital economy,
 - ii. collaborating with international partners to align technical specifications and standards for digital technologies, ensuring consistency and compatibility across borders to foster seamless integration and interoperability,

- c. establishing power dynamics within partnerships to ensure that more economically developed countries (MEDCs) do not unduly influence decision-making processes and advocate for mechanisms that uphold the interests of all collaborating nations in ways such as, but not limited to,
 - i. implementing transparent decision-making structures by actively seeking support and guidance from neutral organisations such as international development agencies, independent oversight bodies, and reputable non-governmental organisations that prioritise equal representation and participation, reducing the disproportionate influence of MEDCs in collaborative endeavours,
 - ii. fostering global awareness and support for equitable partnerships, leveraging social media, advocacy campaigns, and international forums to exert pressure on MEDCs to adhere to fair collaboration practices,
 - iii. exploring alternative partnerships, such as engaging with regional economic organisations like the African Union and diversifying collaboration networks to reduce dependency on MEDCs, thereby increasing LEDCs negotiating power and mitigating the risk of excessive influence,
 - iv. strengthening existing regional alliances and cooperation among LEDCs to collectively negotiate with MEDCs, enhancing bargaining power, and creating a more balanced partnership landscape,
 - v. establishing clear guidelines and principles for collaboration that prioritise the socio-economic interests of LEDCs, ensuring that trade agreements, investment partnerships, and joint ventures align with their development goals;

- 4. Urges More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) to effectively monitor and enforce existing programs and technology such as the 2020 Roadmap for Digital Cooperation for their successful implementation by collecting data and ensuring appropriate usage using measures such as but not limited to:
 - a. formulating the International Task Force for Data Security and Surveillance (ITFDSS), a task force devoted to ensuring effective surveillance and data collection by requesting insights and guidance from existing surveillance organisations such as but not limited to:
 - i. the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), a UN branch that promotes and advocates the evaluation functions of the UN system,
 - ii. EvalPartners, an international organisation formed by the UN for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE), strives to influence key stakeholders to recognize the need for evaluation,
 - iii. the United Nations Monitors, for monitoring and promoting systematic

- management,
- b. offering real-time monitoring through IDIS AI Solutions, an AI Surveillance system using deep learning, for automatic and accurate intelligence collection regarding digital economic activities adhering to regional privacy policies for purposes such as but not limited to:
 - i. submitting monthly reports on data usage and digital economic activities in developing regions to the ITFDSS for analysing global trends of digital economies,
 - ii. ranking the monthly reports based on productivity and progress to differentiate the number of funds developing regions receive to ensure maximum adherence,
 - iii. automatically detecting and reporting cases of anomalies such as negligent maintenance of customer data to ITFDSS for corrections;
5. Encourages More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) to establish new data centres to invite Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) to get actively involved in the current digital economies by aiding the growth of their digital industry by means such as but not limited to:
- a. establishing a new global organisation entitled Digital Economic International Operate Model (DEIOM) which aims to make unification between nations through such ways but not limited to:
 - i. establishing the international definition of digital economy that encompasses the largely disparate laws and concepts of each nation,
 - ii. hosting annual conferences between member states aimed at fostering discussions to establish a consensus,
 - b. sharing MEDCs' infrastructure technology through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to enable LEDCs to eventually become independent as a part of current digital economies such as the following examples but not limited to:
 - i. South Korea's extensive fibre-optic networks, to allow faster data transmission between regions,
 - ii. India's technology DPI (digital public infrastructure), to augment data exchange to bolster digital productivity,
 - iii. Japan's green technology, an ultra-low power consumption and ultra-fast processing data technology that results in energy efficiency and affordability;
6. Approves the establishment of a coordinated system for international monetary and technological funding for LEDCs that are ranked below 100th place on the World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2023 for developments in digital economies through operations such as but not limited to:

- a. mobilising funds required to support various projects such as the 2020 Roadmap for Digital Cooperation aimed at progressing digital economies of LEDCs using measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. expanding the Better Than Cash Alliance, the existing monetary fund for digital economy development projects within Latin America to a global scale for implementation in global digital economy development projects,
 - ii. requesting the World Bank Digital Development Partnership, a global initiative aimed at aiding developing countries with digital economy developments for monetary aid,
 - iii. homaging effective systems such as Mexico's National Digital Strategy on other countries to minimise the process of trial and error and thus effectively manage funds,
- b. utilising the organised funds to support the aforementioned projects that require the mobilised funds for effective execution using measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. aiding developments of digital infrastructures such as cutting-edge ICT infrastructure, involving the deployment of high-speed internet networks,
 - ii. assisting the training of LEDC employees on digital economy management for sustainability,
 - iii. funding the implementation of security protocols and authentication measures to improve data security,
- c. incentivizing the MEDCs for providing funds towards LEDCs' digital economy development to ensure sustained funds and longevity of aforementioned projects that require funds using measures such as but not limited to:
 - i. holding diplomatic advantages such as priority in choosing digital-economy-related business rights when discussing on a global scale,
 - ii. establishing examples for positive global digital economy development, thereby obtaining influence on devising basic global development frameworks for digital economies.