

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Science, technology and innovation for development

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

1 Seeking to accomplish Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 9, and 17 while engaging in 2 the development of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI),

Looking to ensure that least developed countries (LDCs) among us can access vital technologies and the exchange of information and otherwise best practices,

5 Affirming delegates' total commitment to increase global access to STI for development,

6 Emphasizing the need to eliminate disparity gaps in technological access,

7 Acknowledging the current state of the digital divide in developing nations,

8 *Reiterating* its call for the utmost urgency on tackling cybersecurity risks and technological war-9 fare,

Believing the importance that all Member States promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and intentions to prevent conflict from arising from the use of these technologies,

Having considered the use of recommendations and proposals of the Secretary-General, the ECOSOC's own reporting body, and other agencies,

15 *Considering* the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing economic growth and qual-16 ity of life globally,

Acknowledging the sophistication of cyber attacks that threaten global security and economic
 stability,

Emphasizing the goals of the Counter-Terrorism Cybersecurity and New Technologies (CTTECH) initiative, which advances the capabilities of law enforcement agencies of Member States to deter the misuse of emerging technologies by illegitimate groups,

1. Urges Member States to promote the responsible development, regulation and deployment of AI technologies, ensuring that their integration into the global economy contributes to sustainable and inclusive growth by:

(a) Facilitating the adoption of AI solutions in small and medium-sized enterprises to
 enhance productivity and innovation as well as diversify economies;

(b) Encouraging the development of AI applications is tailored to key industries, such as manufacturing, agriculture and finance;

29 2. *Calls for* the establishment of global educational initiatives and programs aimed at equip-30 ping individuals with the skills necessary to understand, navigate and leverage AI technologies with 31 special provisions for local concerns and necessary adaptations in different cultural and legal con-32 texts, with particular emphasis on ensuring access to AI-related education in underserved regions, 33 thereby fostering a workforce capable of adapting to the evolving technological landscape;

34 3. *Calls for* the establishment of a Global STI Education Fund, which looks to improve digital 35 literacy in educational systems, looking to develop:

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- (a) Widely accessible initiatives regardless of race, ethnicity, gender and socioeconomic
- 37 status;
- (b) Formulaic public-private partnerships with governments and private sector organi zations to create scalable and adaptable online courses that can teach data analysis, AI, coding and
 other emerging technologies;
- 41 (c) Existing online coding systems as a principal part of this education, which allows for 42 simple coding for children;
- (d) A framework that lays out basic expectations for digital literacy to avoiding phishing
 and other scams;
- 45 4. *Recommends* the creation of a new task force on cybersecurity and cyber defense that de-46 velops a cohesive plan and comprehensive report, such as:
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- (a) Drawing attention to political instability and limiting the effects of cyber-warfare;
- (b) Suggesting the creation of international law regarding certain applications of artificial intelligence in warfare, specifically seeking a comprehensive approach to preventing any misuse
 and broadly safeguarding global security;
- 51 5. *Urges* Member States to establish an international coalition for cyber defense to provide 52 assistance and responses to cyber attacks:
- 53 (a) Recommends the creation of a centralized coordination and communication system 54 to facilitate real time information sharing in the time of cyber incidents;
- (b) Encourages Member States to create a joint protocol that responds to large-scale cyber attacks affecting multiple nations;
- 57 (c) Advocates for the sharing of cyber threat intelligence among Member States to 58 strengthen cyber resilience globally,;
- 6. *Encourages* the passing of legislation towards ensuring intellectual property rights for innovation, particularly in less-developed countries by:
- 61 (a) Modeling legislation after currently existing copyright laws in developed nations that 62 ensure fair rights for those involved in the process of technological development;
- 63 (b) Complying with international extradition and investigation requests for violators of 64 copyright laws,;
- 7. Strongly encourages contributions towards high-end manufacturing across a larger variety of Member States, with a specific emphasis on key industries such as semiconductor manufacturing and other critical high-tech production markets in order to:
- 68 (a) Decrease global reliance on the wealthiest nations to the supply semiconductor 69 manufacturing by;
- (i) Promoting the diversification of global supply chains for critical industries by investing
 in semiconductor manufacturing in a broader range of countries;
- (ii) Fostering the development of regional semiconductor hubs in underserved regions
 by providing technical assistance, financing and access to advanced technologies;
- (b) Increase the viability and resilience of the global market for high-end technological
 goods by;
- (i) Encouraging the development and support of international initiatives that incentivize
 the creation of an interconnected global network of manufacturing facilities for semi conductors, solar panels, high-efficiency batteries and advanced robotics;;
- 8. *Recommends* the reformation of the existing Chief Digital Office under the ITU to become a dedicated United Nations Center for Digital Development (UNCDD), which should provide for a Global

81 STI Access Fund, which will seek to provide monetary assistance in support of the initiatives addressed 82 in this resolution, by:

(a) Creating partnerships with multinational corporations, academic institutions and
 non-governmental organizations to pool resources for sectors and conduct research for regions most
 in need of further development;

(b) Utilizing innovative funding mechanisms such as blended finance and development
 bonds as a further funding mechanism;

88 (c) Encouraging low-interest loans and grants for small businesses in developing coun-89 tries to integrate digital technologies into their operations;

- 90 9. *Endorses* the further development of infrastructure in developing nations, supporting the 91 provision of broadband internet services to underserved regions, by:
- (a) Requesting the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to oversee and
 monitor the implementation of this initiative, ensuring effective allocation of resources, progress track ing and alignment with SDGs;
- (b) Utilizing funding from partnered Member States and pre-existing United Nations or ganizations;

97 (c) Working towards data collection initiatives by mapping infrastructure availability to 98 provide resources based on need within individual nations;

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(d) Hoping to collaborate with the private sector to provide broadband connectivity;

- (e) Recommending establishment of minimum standards for broadband quality and
 affordability with;
- 102(i) Regular assessments by the joint Broadband Commission for Sustainable Develop-103ment of the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and United104Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to ensure services105meet speed, reliability and accessibility benchmarks;
- 106 (ii) The implementation of price caps and subsidies to guarantee affordability, espe-107 cially for low-income populations;

108 10. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate in the development and implementation of ethical 109 guidelines with special provisions for local adaptations in different cultural and legal contexts for the 110 use of Artificial Intelligence that prioritizes transparency, accountability and inclusivity by:

- (a) Encouraging the establishment of international standards to ensure the ethical use of AI;
- (b) Recommending the sharing of technical expertise and knowledge on the use of AI
 through the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM);

(c) Encouraging educational programs about the potential dangers of AI to increase
 public awareness about the risks and benefits of AI;

(d) Recommending the establishment of regulatory bodies to oversee the development
 of AI to ensure the ethical use of AI and prevent the misuse of AI.

Passed, Yes: 27 / No: 1 / Abstain: 1