



*American Model United Nations*  
**Economic and Social Council**

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ECOSOC/II/6

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Science, technology and innovation for development

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

*The Economic and Social Council,*

1           *Recalling* the United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 2021/10 of 8 June 2021,  
2 the report of the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, titled “The Age of Digital Interdependence”,  
3 submitted to the Secretary-General on 10 June 2019 and further recognizing the Secretary-General’s  
4 report titled “Roadmap for Digital Cooperation”, presented on 11 June 2020,,

5           *Acknowledging* the technological gaps in internet access, digital literacy and access to emerg-  
6 ing technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain across developing and least devel-  
7 oped countries,

8           *Noting* with great concern the long-lasting effects of the persistent technological gaps, which  
9 led to global inequalities, disrupting labor markets and increasing unemployment in vulnerable re-  
10 gions,

11           *Recognizing* that the most vulnerable and underserved areas require global support based on  
12 unity and multilateral cooperation,

13           *Guided by* Sustainable Development Goal 9, emphasizing the need for inclusive and sustainable  
14 innovation and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable  
15 quality education in technological and digital literacy,

16           *Deeply concerned* with the massive flight of human capital involved with technological re-  
17 search out of the Global South and its negative effects on the information technology workforce and  
18 economic development of these states,

19           *Emphasizes* the importance of young researchers and their roles by supporting their scientific  
20 initiatives,

21           *Further emphasizes* the urgent need to bridge digital divides, particularly concerning the af-  
22 fordability of information and communications technologies (ICTs) and the internet while ensuring the  
23 benefits of ICTs, including emerging technologies, are accessible to all, ,

24           *Guided by* the international principles enshrined in the Recommendation on the Ethics of Arti-  
25 ficial Intelligence adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UN-  
26 ESCO) in 2022,

27           1. *Requests* the establishment of the Digital Equity Fund (DEF) as a multilateral initiative that  
28 leverages contributions from international organizations such as the World Bank’s Digital Development  
29 Partnership (DDP) and the United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (LCDs), with  
30 the key objective to:

31                   (a) Subsidize digital infrastructure projects in developing Member States and LDCs, pri-  
32 oritizing underserved areas;

33                   (b) Provide financial support for science, technology, engineering and mathematics  
34 (STEM) education initiatives with a focus on marginalized communities;

35                   (c) Facilitate access to emerging technologies, including AI and blockchain, through  
36 global partnerships with technology firms and academic institutions;

- 37 (d) Facilitate investment into higher education institutions in developing Member States,  
38 going towards;
- 39 (i) infrastructure development;
- 40 (ii) equipment needed for advanced technological research;
- 41 (iii) scholarships for lower-income undergraduate and graduate students;
- 42 (e) Create DEF evaluation framework to assess the impact of DEF programs and ensure  
43 transparency, accuracy and accountability in funding mechanisms;
- 44 2. *Urges* the creation of country-specific Digital Literacy Programs (DLP) through DEF, which will:
- 45 (a) Integrate STEM curricula into the national education systems of LDCs, collaborating  
46 with global organizations such as Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Teach For All;
- 47 (b) Provide teacher training programs focused on practical applications of frontier tech-  
48 nologies and innovative pedagogy;
- 49 (c) Offer scholarships for marginalized groups to pursue advanced STEM education;
- 50 (d) Open partnerships with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), schools and  
51 technical companies to launch online and offline courses on basic computer skills;
- 52 3. Encourages Member States to implement technological development policies that will in-  
53 centivize poorer families to educate their children through:
- 54 (a) The implementation of financial aid initiatives such as subsidies, providing free ed-  
55 ucational materials and community support initiatives about technology;
- 56 (b) Utilizing federal funding in order to make provisions for digital innovation tools ac-  
57 cessible to those in underserved communities;
- 58 4. *Recommends* the creation of the Digital Literacy Mentorship Program (DLMP), which will:
- 59 (a) Support young researchers of less developed countries to develop their digital liter-  
60 acy;
- 61 (b) Encourage developed Member States at the forefront of technological research to  
62 be open to sponsoring candidates from this program;
- 63 (c) Allow candidates to be sponsored by the Digital Equity Fund;
- 64 (d) Allow candidates to participate in mentorship at publicly-funded higher education  
65 institutions, to be assigned at the discretion of the host country;
- 66 5. *Calls upon* developed Member States to increase contributions to the Least Developed Coun-  
67 tries Fund (LDCF) by means of:
- 68 (a) Investing in grassroots organizations working on expanding digital education;
- 69 (b) Hoping to advance access to technological resources through electronic waste re-  
70 cycling initiatives and technology refurbishment to limit pollution and reduce costs for technology pro-  
71 visions;
- 72 (c) Implementing innovation and infrastructure in neglected areas;
- 73 6. *Recommends* the utilization of public-private partnerships between governments and cor-  
74 porations to:
- 75 (a) Promote technology transfer agreements that can make advanced tools affordable  
76 and accessible in LDCs;
- 77 (b) Encourage corporations to engage in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) busi-  
78 ness model and the DEF initiative through tax incentives by;
- 79 (i) Encouraging private partners to provide access to technology skill-building programs;

80 7. *Endorses* provisions to be distributed in terms of need with involved community participation  
81 in the establishment of infrastructure by utilizing data collection and geographic information system  
82 (GIS) mapping initiatives to identify where digital infrastructure is present and allowing indigenous and  
83 rural communities to designate the extent to which they would like digital connectivity;

84 8. *Further invites* Member States to bolster their research initiatives by:

85 (a) Supporting long-term projects that explore innovative AI;

86 (b) Promoting projects that combine AI with other scientific disciplines to address com-  
87 plex societal challenges;

88 (c) Enhancing cooperation with global research institutions to drive technological ad-  
89 vancements;

90 (d) Support technological innovations through governmental subsidies to incentivize  
91 such projects;

92 9. *Urges* Member States to support creating a skilled workforce for sustaining innovation by:

93 (a) Expanding technological curricula in universities and technical schools to prepare  
94 the next generation of professionals;

95 (b) Implementing training programs to help current workers acquire new digital skills;

96 (c) Promoting digital education at all levels, from primary school to adult learning pro-  
97 grams, fosters a broad understanding of emerging technology and its implications;

98 10. *Further requests* Member States to support grassroots organizations that aim to increase  
99 digital literacy rates and reduce the digital divide in rural areas:

100 (a) Support the provisions of aid for infrastructure to implement school buildings in those  
101 areas where academia lacks incentive;

102 (b) Establishing community-based digital learning centers equipped with basic com-  
103 puting tools and internet connectivity, which can be used as hubs for training programs and digital  
104 workshops.

Passed by consensus, with 0 abstentions