NMUN•NY 2022

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Documentation of the Work of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) NMUN Simulation*

Conference B

Commission for Social Development (CSocD)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

I.   Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development
II. Social Policy to Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery Post Covid-19 Pandemic

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

CODE	TOPIC	VOTE (FOR-AGAINST-ABSTAIN)
CSocD/1/1	Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development	13-5-1
CSocD/1/2	Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development	17-1-1
CSocD/1/3	Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development	15-2-2

Summary Report

The Commission for Social Development held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I.   Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development
II.   Social Policy to Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery Post Covid-19 Pandemic

The session was attended by representatives of 20 Member States.

On Sunday, set the agenda was set with topic I first, followed by topic II, and began discussing Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development. By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 4 working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics about education, infrastructure, and cybersecurity. Delegates worked diligently and collaboratively to develop specific and creative ideas, as well as began facilitating a merger of their papers. After a few fruitful discussions the body decided to merge two of the working papers on infrastructure.

On Wednesday, a total of three draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, with two resolutions having one friendly amendment each. The committee adopted three resolutions following voting procedure, with all three by a recorded vote. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including education, infrastructure, data sharing, cybersecurity, and rural inclusion. With the remaining time, the body moved into discussing the second topic of "Social Policy to Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery Post COVID-19 Pandemic." Working groups formed, and the Dais was pleased with conversations on this important issue. Overall, the body focused on fostering collaborative, respectful, and productive dialogue on these issues, resulting in a strong spirit of consensus.

Code: CSocD/1/1
Committee: Commission for Social Development
Topic: Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development

The Commission for Social Development,

Recognizing the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2017/21 "Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit Information Society (WSIS)," which aims to review the work of the WSIS in the promotion of access to information and communication technologies (ICTs),

Keeping in mind the severe increase in inequalities including the urban-rural divide in access to ICTs brought forward in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Declaring that implemented ICTs should have a substantial direction in utilizing contemporary methods of communication to advance the improvement of healthcare availability and distribution alongside their respective focuses,

Further recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) in formulating a common guiding framework promoting sustainable agricultural practices,

Fully aware of the United Nations Institute of Disarmament Research's (UNIDIR) extensive database on cybersecurity risks and implications regarding the contemporary acceleration of technological development,

Deeply concerned that citizens in developing Member States are experiencing delayed digitalization across the globe, with only up to 28% of the population able to access digital technologies, despite the global average of 50% of the world population currently having access to the internet, as mentioned in *Digitalizing Sub-Saharan Africa: Hopes and Hurdles* by the International Monetary Fund (IMF),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 which refers to industry, innovation and infrastructure in hopes of promoting sustainable industrialization,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 74/197 "Information and communications technologies for sustainable development", which highlights the crucial role of ICTs in the social and economic development of Member States, and the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) report on the fifty-ninth session "Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all" facilitating more-resource efficient and greener economies,

Taking into consideration the importance of digital inclusion due to the lack of consistent inclusive and equal access to digitalization in rural areas and underserved communities,

Guided by the *Geneva Declaration of Principles* of 2003 establishing a roadmap seeking to implement access to digital information in rural areas,

Having considered the potential impact that coordinated, multilateral, and fulfilled respective roles between developed and developing Member States could affect the overarching access to health-related information, communication, and services through the imminent integration of technological centers which distribute the implementation of ICTs,

Emphasizing Secretary-General António Guterres' 2020 High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation *The Age of Digital Interdependence* establishing global digital cooperation,

Referring to the General Assembly resolution 71/251 "Establishment of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries," that recognizes the necessity of the digitalization of the least developed Member States,

Deeply alarmed those 588 million individuals in developing countries lack affordable, reliable internet access and that it should be of high interest to the international community to invest in sustainable internet infrastructure,

Acknowledging the crucial role of education as a tool to achieve equal understanding of technologies and digital skills,

Noting with approval the work of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) created as a United Nations specialized agency focusing on ICTs,

Approving of the United Nations Science and Technology Organization's (UNSTO) role towards the development of the science and technology industry and its active contribution to the cause of sustainable development,

Further acknowledging the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Farmer's Forum which supports smallholder farmers and other resource-poor agricultural producers to cooperate and reach larger markets,

Reaffirming the Secretary-General's Report 74/821 "Road map for digital cooperation: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation" that recognizes the importance of digital trust, security, and stability as a basis for digital development,

Stressing the importance of the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s sustainability assessment of food and agriculture systems (SAFA) on reliable food chains in order to eradicate hunger as postulated by SDG 2 and expecting population growth in the future,

1. *Recommends* ECOSOC inform rural communities on smart farming technologies through international and domestic means such as:

    a. Partnering internationally with training centers that modernize their agricultural habits that connect them to digital space such as the UNSCN which facilitates knowledge exchanges of sustainable agricultural practices and tools;

    b. Encouraging the use of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and humanitarian groups as an outreach toward rural areas supporting the transition and implementation in the use of modernized tools and efficient agricultural practices;

    c. Supporting the communication between domestic farms on new and current technologies for higher yields;

2. *Invites* ECOSOC to encourage Member States to use global channels like *the United Nations Technology Bank* in which developing countries can access the latest technologies discovered by private companies and developed countries, thus minimizing the growing digital gap;

3. *Advises* ECOSOC to encourage Member States to adopt sustainable development frameworks parallel or similar to the United Nations Kuwait Vision 2035 working diligently with SDGs, including investments in submarine fiber optic cable, 5G technology, and data centers to meet the digital needs of developing Member States, as well as establishing bilateral or multilateral financing frameworks for telecommunication infrastructure in developing Member States;

4. *Further advises* ECOSOC to recognize that technological expansion should be sustained through:

    a. A multilateral standard of quality, which may reasonably be delegated to the UNIDIR's Security and Technology Program, which Member States can refer to as guidelines for domestic decision-making with regards to cybersecurity;

    b. Public access to resources that benefit the training of technological workforces to uphold a global standard of cybersecurity;

5. *Encourages* ECOSOC to strengthen their partnership with the ITU by:

    a. Working with ITU on questions regarding cybersecurity, specifically to advise domestic decisions with regards to building secure networks;

    b. Inviting Member States to expand their contributions for the ICT Development Fund (ICT-DF) to support their work on making ICTs accessible especially in rural areas;

6. *Supports* ECOSOC to invite Member States to introduce an online application for digital education developed in cooperation with the UNSTO by:

    a. Addressing individuals that live in rural areas far from physical educational institutions such as, but not limited to, farmers and their families;

    b. Providing educational videos that are accessible to citizens in rural areas that do not necessarily have access to physical educational institutions:

        i.   Including basic explanations of usage of technological devices such as computers and programs like Microsoft that enable the development of digital skills;
        ii. Containing additional specific material about agriculture and the inclusion of digital tools in farming, like explanations on how to install sensors, collect data, and use electronic transactions that allow for a deepening of digital knowledge;

    c. Implementing help from domestic governments and NGOs in a scope of a rural-urban exchange program by:

        i.   Introducing the online application through urban volunteers, specifically trained by UNSTO and hence experts in the usage of the online application;
        ii. Including training for rural citizens to become teachers of the usage of the online application themselves through the help of volunteers of the UNSTO;
        iii. Motivating citizens in the rural areas by providing a certification that rewards the efforts made in learning about ICTs and provides a legitimate qualification of their skills;

7. *Recommends* ECOSOC to work with regional projects for farmers through ICTs, such as the *DrumNet* Project, in order to inform them how to make farming more efficient by giving them access to:

    a. Training future farmers regarding more efficient techniques and tools in order to make yields more attractive by providing on-the-ground assistance, a network of support systems that provides farmers with improved access to new agricultural technology by:

        i.   Showing how reengineering reduces labor-intensive processes;
        ii. Underlining how installing of sensors and data collection can be used to realize the potential of yields;

    b. On-time weather forecasts to be able to prepare their harvests according to weather events;

    c. Optional online communities sharing personal experiences and opinions;

8. *Suggests* to ECOSOC the implementation of a Rural and Economic Technology Project (RETP) that aims to improve access to digital services in rural areas, specifically in the agricultural sector, by:

    a. Encouraging Member States to include small-scale agricultural producers in their policies through:

        i.   Encouraging the use of the IFAD Farmer's Forum to ensure a better understanding of small-scale agricultural producers' concerns;
        ii. Supporting Member States to implement summits to include the views of small-scale agricultural producers in agricultural decision-making;

b. Promoting electronic platforms among agricultural producers as a way to increase agricultural productivity as well as to improve trade and access to markets by:

    i. Implementing an awareness campaign on the how ICTs help empower the rural people by providing better access to natural resources, improved agricultural technologies, effective production strategies, markets, banking and financial services, and to demystify common misconceptions about ICTs;

    ii. Encouraging Member States to utilize FAO's database to assist agricultural producers to plan for their harvests efficiently;

    iii. Utilizing IFAD to serve as a tool for small-scale agricultural producers to find trading partners and gain access to new markets;

c. Promoting guidelines regarding technological upkeep, inspired by the FAO's SAFA, to ensure that technologies remain functional and maintain the project's long-term sustainability.

Code: CSocD/1/2
Committee: Commission for Social Development
Topic: Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development

The Commission for Social Development,

Reaffirming the right to education for all as stated by the *United Nations (UN) 1948 Declaration of Human Rights* as a milestone document that applies fundamental human rights to be equal and universally protected,

Recalling the *Geneva Plan of Action* as the framework for every citizen to have access to quality education and information through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs),

Taking into consideration the World Telecommunication Development Conference's (WTDC-17) *Final Report* which acknowledges the gap in access to digital technologies between urban and rural areas,

Acknowledging the important work UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the Education Rural Outreach Project (EROP) has done to improve digital literacy through inclusive educational programs relevant to closing the digital divide,

Mindful of the contributions of the Programme of the UN World Data Forum and UN High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation that addresses how ICTs can help achieve the goal of leaving no vulnerable group behind in social development, like those in rural areas, as promoted in General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming Our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2015),

Reiterating the importance of progress indicators while promoting technological development, as guided by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, Quality Education, which seeks to provide inclusive and equitable quality education for all, and SDG 9, Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, which concentrates on the promotion resilient, inclusive, and sustainable infrastructure,

Acknowledging the Global Observatory of Science, Technology, and Innovations Policy Instruments (GO-SPIN), a database that provides analysis on science and technology-based policies,

Stressing the importance of promoting human-centric digitization to initiate policymaking with our citizens in mind,

Noting with satisfaction the success of public-private partnerships with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) towards universal broadband internet access modeled after Kuwait's partnership with Ooredoo on 5G and wireless mesh networks,

Recognizing efforts made by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to accomplish the 2030 Agenda and further recalling the ITU's principle that excluded populations need to be included in a digital society,

Stressing the importance of expanding digital infrastructure and digital education within developing and developed nations,

Alarmed that cyberterrorism and cybercrime hinder infrastructure and broadband development projecting to cost 10% of the global economy in the next 5 years,

Taking into account the importance of virtual learning in an increasingly digital world, recognizing the beneficial increase in post-secondary enrollment in vocational training, communications technology, and engineering education in developing countries,

Acknowledging how marginalized groups such as the impoverished, people with disabilities, and rural dwellers are often left behind in technological developments, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that exacerbated inequalities and furthered the importance of accessibility to digital technologies, as noted by the UN report *Everyone Included: Social Impact of COVID-19,*

Noting that technology leads to new development and career opportunities, thus creating a demand for education to obtain technological-based skills,

1. *Recommends* ECOSOC increase access to ICTs in rural and impoverished areas in order to close the digital divide while giving fair access to education to everyone by:

    a. Forming a working group with UNESCO, UN-Habitat, and relevant Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as the EROP to investigate and provide information on the difficulties faced by rural communities in accessing education in hopes to provide Member States with ways to increase educational resources in rural areas;

    b. Informing policymakers through the Programme of the UN World Data Forum on the importance of ICTs and the benefits such technologies can bring to rural and developing regions;

    c. Encouraging policies among Member States that promote programs for ICT expansion to train individuals in skills related to ICT modeled after Iraq's u3M 2025 initiative;

2. *Advises* ECOSOC creates community cyber centers, especially in impoverished communities, in order to make digital technologies accessible to everyone through:

    a. The facilitation of these community cyber centers to increase educational access and availability and connect with those in the digital world with those who may have been limited to digital access previously;

    b. Ensuring marginalized groups have access to the necessary educational tools, including but not limited to devices, internet access and tech support similar to those provided by Human-I-T to create a thriving digital world;

    c. Advising community cyber centers to have the proper amount of ICT's for the population of the region and be staffed appropriately, in order to maintain these facilities through the use of NGOs;

3. *Fully supports* ECOSOC in properly utilizing digital resources from technologically developed Member States and distributing those resources in underprivileged communities and developing Member States by:

    a. Recommending all Member States within ECOSOC to participate and take advantage of the Voluntary National Reviews which will provide detailed reports of how Member States are progressing in regard to the SDGs in order to provide a more tailored and individualized approach;

    b. Suggesting that Member States utilize public and private resources to shrink the economic disparity in the digital divide;

4. *Asks* ECOSOC to create associations to share information, partnered with the UN High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation to establish new infrastructure in developing countries, as information sharing is key to closing the digital divide in all Member States:

    a. Consisting of a voluntary body of developed and developing Member States to share information on best practices, and suggest that participating Member States work diligently to increase information sharing amongst those who wish to be added to the association;

    b. Such information should be shared voluntarily and stem from knowledgeable individuals whose background would provide information on how to create infrastructure, sustain such services not currently established, and how to create successful digital literacy programs;

5. *Invites* ECOSOC to partner with local governments to create science and technology parks, serving as a hub for the information technology industry to increase digital accessibility in the region, as well as create assistive technology centers to improve user capabilities by providing educational resources such as virtual teachings;

6. *Recommends* ECOSOC assess the levels of connectivity needs, such as the lack of internet connection in schools, that are region-specific to establish comprehensive connectivity goals that:

    a. Make use of the Humanitarian Data Exchange regarding data of varying levels of connectivity that can be used to measure appropriate financing models that are local and region-specific;

    b. Utilize baseline and target models such as Giga, a UNICEF-ITU partnership which seeks to connect every school in the world to the Internet;

7. *Advocates* ECOSOC to sponsor public-private partnerships with ISPs to create and maintain critical internet infrastructure utilizing ISP expertise and public funding for affordable inclusive universal internet access similar to Kuwait's partnership with Ooredoo;

8. *Encourages* ECOSOC to support regional organizations in developing digital infrastructure in areas where it is most needed by supporting the continued contribution of Member States Gross National Income to the Official Development Assistance Target and new contributions of other Member States;

9. *Suggests* ECOSOC encourages Member States to help meet the data storage needs of less developed neighboring Member States through South-South cooperation to establish solar powered data storage centers to host hundreds of ICT firms similar to the Bubiyan Bank Data Center project;

10. *Welcomes* the implementation of a "Digital Transformation Agency" within ECOSOC in order to promote human-centric digitization through:

    a. Innovative digital policy that transitions nations into the virtual 21st century;

    b. The constant evolution of governmental systems on the international level;

11. *Encourages* ECOSOC to support the use of ICTs for school education in order to properly facilitate all technologies, such as, but not limited to:

    a. Creating an all-inclusive informed society through the use of community cyber centers to improve accessibility throughout all Member States, particularly those of developing countries;

    b. Ensuring that the skills needed to properly navigate and use these ICTs will be acquired through proper training and workshops at such centers;

12. *Recommends* ECOSOC to create a framework for an app for digital education that can be customized by each Member State to best address their citizens needs that:

    a. Contains educational videos about basic technological skills that are accessible for all citizens, especially those who are isolated and do not have access to physical educational infrastructures;

    b. Enables individuals to further deepen their digital knowledge through additional videos that focus on more technologically advanced programs related to online banking, online communication, and tax systems;

    c. Coordinates digital educational work done by regional institutions and learning centers for effective monitoring of the continued progress of the app's services;

d. Welcoming discussion in ECOSOC for a universal recognition of the skills acquired during the digital training through the app;

13. *Recommends* ECOSOC begin discussions on the establishment of multilateral treaties for capacity building and knowledge sharing on cybercrime and cyberterrorism by:

a. Creating workshops relaying regulatory frameworks that enhance data protection and safeguarding ICTs infrastructure and financial institutions in order to better preserve the rights of those they serve;

b. Utilizing pre-existing international knowledge sharing as it relates to international databases such as UNData and the GO-SPIN in order to develop and reevaluate infrastructure;

c. Creating a cybersecurity research agency to centralize funding for and develop efficient and transparent security systems to protect the solutions put forth by Member States;

d. Emphasizing the importance of sovereignty in the expansion of infrastructure to achieve a secure national system specific to domestic needs;

14. *Suggests* ECOSOC include discussions surrounding governmental cybersecurity programs for overarching communication between public, private, domestic, and international organizations coordinating best practices in cybercrime prevention;

15. *Advises* ECOSOC to promote equal access to vocational education to all by utilizing best practices in e-learning by increasing virtual vocational, technical, and post-secondary training for Member States.

The Commission for Social Development,

Deeply concerned by the current digital divide, the gap between those who have access to digital tools and the internet and those who do not, exacerbating inequality and leaving many members of the global population at a disadvantage both educationally and socioeconomically, in regards to the rising 52% of people that lack access to digital technologies in the developing Member States, keeping in mind that certain marginalized groups and populations are more directly affected by the digital divide,

Acknowledging the global concern for information communication technologies (ICTs), internet access, and digital literacy education to be distributed among minorities and rural communities without access to physical-digital software,

Acknowledging that ECOSOC continues to advocate for inclusive policies under article 26 of the 1948 *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* that ensure equal access to digital education regardless of sex, gender, race, class, or social status and religion, in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 4, whose priority is to ensure equitable and inclusive quality education and the promotion of global lifelong learning opportunities,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolutions 72/185 (2017), titled "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights," and 75/202 (2020), titled "Information and communications technologies for sustainable development," that recognize the challenges and opportunities that rapid technological change presents to developing countries in their achievement of the SDGs,

Appreciating past efforts of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) in their report on the fifty-ninth session that emphasizes important steps toward digital inclusion, such as the role of digital technologies on social development and the well-being of all,

Emphasizing the importance of full respect for the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information, including the fundamental importance of access to information as outlined by General Assembly resolution 75/176 (2020), titled "The right to privacy in the digital age,"

Guided by what efficient technology use entails, specifically, technical understanding, building capabilities, and generating an information base via acquiring new technical skills, and managerial practices, as defined by ECOSOC's Ninth session on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development,

Expressing satisfaction with the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in bringing Media and Information Literacy (MIL) education efforts to Member States around the globe,

Recognizing the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) "Train for Work" Giga initiative that combines both online and practical experience with the goal of connecting every school to the internet,

Drawing attention to the efficiency of ICT centers as an option that would prevent the excessive spending of funds to promote responsible consumption and production as postulated in SDG 12, which emphasizes the importance of sustainable consumption and production patterns,

Dismayed by how the effects of COVID-19 and other global crises have amplified the digital divide and hindered the progress of literacy, in light of the growing hyper-dependence upon technology, resulting in an increase in disparity especially among developing nations through the diversion of funds, attention, and other resources,

Recalling the General Assembly resolution 61/106 (2006), titled, "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities," which emphasizes the specific needs of people living with disabilities,

Alarmed by the 37.2 million individuals suffering due to the increased rate of poverty and lack of educational and professional opportunities for individuals who are limited in connectivity and access, as a result of distance and lack of proper digital resources,

Acknowledges that a prepared workforce contributes to a country's ability to respond flexibly to rapid economic and technological change, to produce higher-quality products, to adopt and improve upon new production processes and technologies, and to develop new skills as the structure of jobs evolves,

Bearing in mind the lack of access to digital technologies and resource centers for rural areas with urban areas having twice as many internet users, which are deeply affected by distance, as well as the ability to provide means of sustainable transportation to the resource centers as mentioned in SDG 11, making equitable communities,

Calling attention to the importance of providing education on the use of essential technological programs including smartphones and computers, as well as cybersecurity, which ensures future generations have access to a reliable and sustainable infrastructure,

Supporting The United Nations (UN) Division of Advancement of Women (DAW) and the 1981 *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* (CEDAW) that focuses on the empowerment of women and are partners of sustainable development and women's rights, and regretting the existing disparities between men and women, emphasizing the need for increasing accessibility of digital technologies to all women and girls, seeing as only 48% of women compared to 58% of men access the Internet,

Appreciating the work of The Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM), which has been successful in facilitating multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships by sharing information and giving policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, and UN entities,

Emphasizing the need for a comprehensive framework laid out by the UN Roadmap for Digital Inclusion that integrates both physical and digital resources through the cooperation of Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private corporations in the hopes of bridging digital divides amongst rural areas, women, men, and individuals of developing countries,

Fully believing that technology can and should be harnessed to promote the SDGs to reduce inequalities within and among Member States, as well as to build resilient and inclusive infrastructure,

1. *Invites* ECOSOC to implement ICT hubs for easy access to digital technologies, resources, and efficient internet for marginalized communities and those in rural areas through:

    a. Access to educational programs providing training on the use of ICT such as, but not limited to, smartphones, televisions, applications, and the internet;

    b. Recommending the establishment of infrastructure for transportation systems as a tool to enable accessibility to ICT Hubs;

    c. Volunteers and trained staff traveling who will travel to underprivileged communities in order to promote the work of ICT hubs in schools, homes, and hospitals if necessary;

    d. Supporting public health by providing accurate medical logistics to:

        i. Rural communities through access to digital public health resources;
        ii. Health organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) to facilitate and promote ICT hubs to cater to rural communities;

    e. Encouraging the participation of multiple stakeholders and community partners to make the centers inclusive, diverse, and equitable;

2. *Further recommends* that *ECOSOC* facilitates access to technology through promoting the recycling, refurbishment, and donation of technological devices to the Member State's local ICT hubs, so that they may distribute them to those in need:

     a.   Helping to promote sustainability and advocate for a cleaner, greener environment through the reduction of technological wastes;

     b.   Providing access to those who cannot obtain or afford these devices through donations to rural communities, underfunded educational institutions, and other groups in need;

     c.   Facilitating economic sustainability through localized internet access as opposed to the excessive funding of widespread internet;

3. *Further recommends* ECOSOC promote raising human capital and skills through education and training to build sufficient employment capabilities by:

     a.   Working with representatives from the International Training Center to educate these minority groups on proper and beneficial technology use by guiding them through learning journeys, interactive workshops, virtual collaboration tools, and the latest educational technologies;

     b.   Partnering with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) "Train for Work" Giga by using 2030 Connect to monitor and facilitate a transition into innovative STEM and digital programs, focusing especially in low- and middle-income countries where this has already been implemented and has made notable progress;

4. *Advises* ECOSOC to expand its MIL program and ensure the curriculum is available in both urban and rural areas by reaching out to Member States who are not yet part of the program and encouraging them to join by highlighting the benefits of a digital literate world;

5. *Encourages* ECOSOC to partner with international technology corporations and public programs to invest in the initiatives for digital access and the Roadmap for Digital Cooperation to close the digital gap, following the examples of:

     a.   The Digital Society Fund and their STEM-focused programs for youth to create digital literacy programs accommodating and accessible to marginalized groups;

     b.   The World Banks' partnership with the EQUALS Global Partnership's Access Coalition, whose goal is to ensure that all women and girls have skills to access and use digital technologies;

     c.   The Computers For All Nigerians Initiative (CANi) that allows Nigerians to purchase heavily subsidized personal computers from Intel and Microsoft through tax incentives and subsidies through the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology as well as the National Information Technology and Development Agency in order to increase access to computer technology;

     d.   The Mais Brazil Program, a remote education platform developed in partnership with Microsoft and the Ministry of Economy offering 20 courses through the Microsoft Community Training tool, encouraging young job seekers to work towards STEM careers;

6. *Recommends* ECOSOC expand the use of programs like TFM as an advisory council that can help manage collaboration and partnership for the sharing of information, guidelines, and policy advice open to Member States, civil society, the private sector, and the UN entities by:

     a.   Enabling accessibility for Member States to programs such as the 2030 Connect, which is an online platform used as a gateway for advice and information on existing Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) initiatives;

     b.   Facilitating a report on the status of digital technology and examination of the needs of each Member State to determine the appropriate approach;

     c.   Suggesting that ECOSOC considers programs modeled after the Aurora program, which has worked with UNICEF to facilitate the secure monitoring and sharing of data regarding the location and status of marginalized groups, especially children and families, to determine the best ways to provide them with the necessary resources and aid;

     d.   Using the TFM task force in emergencies involving ICTs and digital technologies, as recommended by the Roadmap's call to ensure connectivity in humanitarian operations and crises including but not limited to, natural disasters, epidemics, and pandemics, among others;

7. *Encourages* ECOSOC to suggest that Member States and NGOs establish a secure digital infrastructure through creating online informational hubs facilitating digital education and resources by:

     a.   Including free classes providing certifications as proof of digital professional skills, such as online certification training and resume building, producing clear pathways for a future career;

     b.   Allowing individuals to practice and hone their skills to promote retention and opportunities with the purpose of diversifying and expanding the job market and the existing opportunities;

     c.   Providing diverse incentives like designations as a UN partner or through encouraging Member States offering tax deductions to technology corporations willing to cooperate;

8. *Suggesting* that ECOSOC prioritizes the development of technical infrastructures to enable the sharing of data in all modalities to accelerate the processes for creating quality Digital Public Goods through:

     a.   A variety of investments and governmental initiatives, through which infrastructures can be significantly improved, allowing small businesses to scale up and become more international, thereby facilitating international trade;

     b.   Incentivizing businesses through the facilitation of international trade with their institution to be more data-driven in order to improve their efficiency and accessibility through shifting their online operations;

     c.   A strong digital infrastructure that would help prevent potential cyber-attacks and data leaks;

9. *Recommends* that ECOSOC encourages Member States to consider dedicating a portion of their voluntary contributions to the digital education-based initiative by:

     a.   Suggesting the organization of campaigns and the creation of platforms both physically and digitally to inform the public about the solutions being implemented;

     b.   Proposing ways in which public and private actors can contribute in order to foster a higher global digital literacy;

10. *Requests* ECOSOC to continue efforts to empower women within Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and rural areas, by training them for technological jobs and entrepreneurship in web development, games development, data science, and Artificial Intelligence through promoting UN Women and its creation of the Global Innovation Coalition for Change (GICC), a cross-sector partnership with the private sector, education institutions, and NGOs, who have focused on:

     a.   Market awareness oriented towards the potential of innovation to meet the specific needs of women and girls;

     b.   Overcoming major obstacles that women and girls face in their advancement of technological innovation and entrepreneurship;

     c.   Collaboration at an industry-wide level to identify and address increasing digital gender

divisions;

11. *Suggests* to ECOSOC the implementation of an Empowered Youth and Women Educational Project (EYWEP) that aims to enable young people, especially young women with special needs to pursue their studies by:

    a. Encouraging Member States to facilitate access to the necessary tools and supplies, such as online grammar correcting software and focus rooms to provide accommodations during assessments for those who need them, taking into account the growing shift to an online learning format;

    b. Encouraging Member States to cover the accommodation and adaptation tools for young disabled people, especially young women living with disabilities;

12. *Invites* ECOSOC to encourage fellow Member States to collaborate in these efforts to guarantee that digital resources are used to support communal peace, professional development, and ensure the protection of human rights by providing access to the necessary technology, internet, and sensitizing citizens on the use and misuse of the internet.