

General Assembly Second Committee

Sixty-Eighth Session

Agenda: “Encouraging internet access to promote more equitable economic wellbeing”

Proposer: United Kingdom

Seconder: Kenya

Signatories: Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, France, Iran, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, United States of America

Affirming the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Strongly urges States to act in accordance with these rules and to not impede on economic and social development,

Guided by United Nations Charter Chapter 4 - Article 13 to promote an international cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion,

Reminding the role of The Second Committee of the General Assembly as an instrument of the United Nations to consider and approve the budget of any United Nations program as stated on UN Charter Chapter 4 - Article 17,

Taking into consideration the digital divide between developing and developed nations as to review the best means necessary in developing information and communications technology as a part of The Second General Assembly agenda,

Emphasizing the challenge of local cultural, political, and financial barriers as a hindrance that needs to be overcome to reach a more equitable economic wellbeing through the development of Internet,

Realizing the importance of foreign investment from developed nations to developing nations as a budgetary means to cover the financial needs in establishing a comprehensive ICT development throughout the region,

Inviting the cooperation of all member states to be actively contributing to the implementations of this draft resolution,

Recalling, the resolution A/RES/60/252 acknowledging the digital divide by the sixtieth session of the General Assembly,

Recalling, the Declaration of Principles WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E that directly discusses the global digital divide,

Recognizing, the Digital Solidarity Fund established by the World Summit on the Information Society, whose objective is to transform the digital divide into digital opportunities without relying on government assistance,

Alarmed by, the economic disparity that exists between developed and developing countries due to the lack of internet access across the globe,

Recognizing, the need to educate users in developing countries with IT skills,

Emphasizing, the potential economic benefit of interconnecting regions through the means of information and communication technologies, such as internet, with respect to international, economic, social, cultural, educational, health, and related matters,

1. *Emphasises* the need to provide internet access in developing countries to those who lack it, as defined by the UN M.49;
2. *Recognizes* all groups of the population need access to internet, including but not limited to migrants, refugees, unemployed persons and persons with disabilities;
3. *Approves* private and state partnerships for investment in implementing state wide internet access;
 - a. By reserving the right for states to include or exclude private investors both local and foreign;
 - b. By ensuring private corporations adhere to governmental policies to minimise monopolisation and uphold consumer welfare;

- c. By including external state powers if it is beneficial to delivering internet access effectively and efficiently;
- 4. *Recognises* governments are able to exercise their own policies in fighting cybercrime within their jurisdiction;
 - a. Promoting network security and integrity at all levels of online usage, including, but not limited to;
 - i. Nations, by government agencies and state bodies, ensuring effective maintenance of national security agendas;
 - ii. Internet Service Providers (ISPs), by effectively monitoring online traffic within their network to reinforce national security agendas;
 - iii. Other online participants, by ensuring reasonable precautions are taken to protect their individual interests and security.
 - b. Endorsing local, regional, international and private support to nations and their citizens through both economic means and the provision of resources should cybercrime significantly impeding on a nation's level of economic activity.
 - c. Allowing supervision and regulation of recently created online networks by third parties or external state actors provided this has been approved by the nation so as to;
 - i. Protect territorial integrity;
 - ii. Maintain national sovereignty; and
 - iii. Promote transnational security;
 - d. Encouraging continued monitoring of the severity and prevalence of cybercrime globally, so as to preserve transnational security and consistently combat the issue;
- 5. *Designates* existing financial institutions of the United Nations to support development of infrastructure for internet access in developing countries;
- 6. *Recognises* that infrastructure is not limited to internet connectivity but includes computers and other electronic devices for the population to access internet;
 - a. By subsidies for computers and other electronic devices provided by the private investors and state powers;
 - b. By allowing private investors and state powers to establish infrastructure within their states, maintaining control for effective management;
 - c. By ensuring private investors and state powers implement systems to protect from cybercrime, such as intrusion, detection and prevention systems (IDPS), which is detrimental to economic development;
- 7. *Encourages* equitable access in developing nations, between rural and urban populations;

8. *Accepts* states have discretion to moderate and regulate online information sharing technology and associated infrastructure within their territorial boundaries;
 - a. By upholding human rights recognized by the United Nations;
 - b. In accordance with current domestic and international law;
 - c. That does not specifically or indirectly disrupt or limit economic efficiency and/or development;
 - d. So as to maintain national security and uphold that nation's sovereignty and values;
9. *Requests* teaching of IT skills in educational institutions;
 - a. By support from the private and state investors;
 - b. By support from non-government organisations;
 - c. By focusing especially on the younger generation so they will benefit in the future;
 - d. By encouraging states to include IT within their educational curriculum;
10. *Encourages* development of applications to stimulate economic development and increase economic efficiency, including but not limited to;
 - a. Banking;
 - b. World trade;
 - c. Agricultural information;
 - d. Educational information;
 - e. Health information;
11. *Requests* using multiple technologies that provide the most inexpensive route for equitable internet access, including but limited to;
 - a. Submarine optical fibre to ensure efficient and effective access;
 - b. Satellite connectivity to penetrate rural areas;
 - c. Other new technologies;
12. *Supports* increasing global awareness on the prevalent digital divide;
 - a. By recognizing World Information Society Day on May 17, established by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS);
 - b. By initiatives run by government and non-government organisations;
13. *Recommends* re-establishing the United Nations Information and Communications Technologies Task Force to;
 - a. Provide policy advice to governments and non-government organisations for bridging the digital divide;

- b. Track the funding mechanism that have been conducted by the international community to ensure the legitimacy of the allocated budgets;
- c. Develop information and communications technologies strategies for developing countries;
- d. Monitor and investigate any serious incidents of cybercrime that are in breach with international law;
- e. Continually reviewing the efforts and progress on bridging the global digital divide;

14. *Decides* to remain actively seized regarding the matter.