

G77 and China inputs to the Global Digital Compact discussions



1. The Group emphasizes that the Global Digital Compact (GDC) must be a States-led process and ensure full and equal participation of all States, especially developing countries.
2. For the Group, the important issues pertaining to digital cooperation remain an inclusive digital economy and literacy, access to digital networks and connectivity, capacity building and technology transfer, investment in digital infrastructures, data protection, data governance, artificial intelligence, avoiding Internet division and fragmentation, countering the proliferation of disinformation and misinformation and to outline shared principles for a digital future for all to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
3. The Global Digital Compact should build upon key documents and forum

and the Commission on Science, Technology, Development (CSTD).

6. In this regard, we recognize the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations focal point for science, technology and innovation for development, as well as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). The negotiations around the Global Digital Compact should not diminish the role of the CSTD.
7. We note the multilateral and regional initiatives aimed at promoting social prosperity through inclusive participation across the digital economy including inter alia the establishment of the Digital Cooperation Organization.
8. The Group underscores that the outcomes of the WSIS should be preserved as a guide for digital international cooperation and for Internet governance, since it is based on principles that favor development.

12. States which have monopoly and dominance in ICT environment, including internet, shall not use ICT advances as tools for containment and suppression of the legitimate economic and technological development of other States. The GDC should reaffirm its firm rejection of the imposition of laws and regulations with extraterritorial impact and all other forms of coercive economic measures, including unilateral sanctions, against developing countries and reiterate the urgent need to eliminate them immediately. The GDC should emphasize that such actions not only undermine the principles enshrined in the Charter of the UN and international law but also severely threaten the freedom of trade and

16. The Compact should emphasize the importance of adhering to the fundamental principles of international law, and the purposes and principles

divides, both between and within countries and including the rural-urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides, and to harness information and communications technologies for development, and

should acknowledge the importance of facilitating access to environmentally sound technologies.

36. We further recognize the importance of cooperating with and providing support, including financial and technological, to developing countries, in addressing their constraints for accessing new and emerging ICT and services and for the integration thereof into different sectors, such as government services, agriculture, education, health, finance, transport, etc., so as to boost productivity growth and reduce inequalities, and ensuring broadband connectivity to users in rural and remote areas.
37. Enhanced international cooperation to help developing countries to bridge the digital divides should take into account the specific needs and conditions of recipient countries and be attuned to national sustainable development strategies, plans, policies and priorities.
38. Financing development cooperation through unearmarked, flexible resources is key for the promotion of national ownership, alignment with national priorities, as well as to leave no one behind and reach the furthest behind first, in the context of efforts to bridge the digital divides.
39. In this endeavor, all forms of cooperation, including South-South and triangular, should be tapped into to help constitute and support networks of training, and sharing of successful experiences and good practices.
40. The Compact should encourage the promotion of digital solutions through access to and use of digital public goods, which may include open-source software, open data, open artificial intelligence models, open standards and open content that adhere to international and domestic laws, in unlocking the full potential of rapid technological change to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

41. We acknowledge that any consideration of tax measures in response to the digital economy should include a careful analysis of the implications for developing countries, taking into account their inputs, with a special focus on their unique needs and capacities. We call upon the United Nations, and all other relevant international organizations, to support countries, particularly developing countries, in building policy and administrative capacity for the effective and efficient taxation of the digital economy.
42. Internet governance should be addressed in a global setup, backed by the UN system, through extensive participation of all States with a multi-stakeholder approach as set out in the WSIS outcomes.
43. The Compact should reaffirm that Internet governance, including the process towards enhanced cooperation should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis.
44. The GDC should acknowledge the relevance of the contributions of the Internet Governance Forum on public policy issues relating to the Internet.
45. The Compact should ensure in a more transparent and effective manner

47. The GDC should promote technical assistance and cooperation to enable all States acquire the necessary capabilities and tools for equal and effective participation in Internet governance.
48. We also recognize the importance of enhanced cooperation to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
49. We further recognize the need to strengthen regional cooperation processes towards the harmonization of digital policy frameworks.
50. The Compact should recall that under para 34 and 35 of Tunis Agenda, Internet Governance involves public policy and technical issues as well as multistakeholder participation, each within their respective roles and responsibilities, for the development and applications of norms, principles, rules, decisions and programmes that shape the evolution of the Internet.
51. The GDC should emphasize the importance of preserving and promoting the unity and interoperability of the Internet and avoiding its fragmentation. In this connection, the GDC should recognize and further promote standardization and harmonization efforts at the regional and global levels.
52. The GDC should

54. Currently, there is no multilaterally agreed approach on data governance. The GDC should draw attention to the importance of multilateral spaces to further address data governance issues, including through greater cooperation and harmonization.
55. The GDC should encourage the relevant UN agencies and multilateral efforts in the formulation of international rules on data governance and protection reflecting the views and interests of all countries.
56. The GDC should encourage efforts to address the potential harms and negative impacts of the misuse of data.
57. The GDC should recognize that there is a need to strengthen international cooperation to enable cross-border data flows to maximize development gains. There is an urgent need to develop a common approach to global data flows that work for both people and the planet.
58. The GDC should recognize the need to address the multiple challenges in the use of data, such as the growing digital divide, including the data divide; the lack of relevant skills and capacities and disparate international legal and regulatory frameworks and incipient domestic legal and regulatory frameworks.
59. Dealing with data and associated opportunities and challenges will require a global response, with the equal participation of all countries.
60. The GDC should boost enhanced international cooperation, including technology transfer, knowledge and expertise sharing, capacity building, technical assistance, and educational and professional training and correlated resources, so that developing countries can share in the social and economic benefits of the data economy and are equipped to effectively regulate data protection, use, and flows in the face of rapid technological change.

61. We emphasize that the growing trend of misinformati

65. The Compact can explore the possibility for development of norms, principles and regulatory standards on the use of AI to achieve and accelerate sustainable development with the

70. The Compact may support the implementation of UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Science which is increasingly recognized as a critical accelerator for the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
71. We recognize the important role that information and communications technologies can play in protecting the environment and addressing climate change.
72. The Global Digital Compact should be instrumental for integrated growth of digital economy and real economy, in which ICT and digital technology be accessible for all countries, while all nations should benefit from its advantages and benefits, as well as creating an open, fair, just and non-discriminatory environment for digital development, thereby boosting stronger global digital economic cooperation and giving full play to the role of the digital economy as an engine to global economic recovery and development.
73. The GDC should recognize the role of digital transformation and innovation, including in government services, in promoting sustainable economies and contributing the achievement of sustainable development.