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The objectives and principles suggested in this document are based on insights gathered within and beyond the

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The Global Digital Compact aims to lay the ground for an open, free and secure digital future for all. In doing so, it can set out shared principles and objectives that governments, private sector and civil society should adhere to.

The research conducted by Southern Voice suggests the GDC could include:

1) **aŖŘnj ŖņƊŕŇĀźǿŕŭ**, addressing key aspects of the digital exclusion that many women and girls across the Global South currently face

2) **ôŵnjŕŕ ŇnjŖŭŭĻŇŘĀĀźƛŮ ĩƛŎ źƛĀŕnjŎŕljŕƛŎŕƛĀ ljnjźƛŇźljƐŕŭ** that support the objectives outlined before.

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¹ ņƊŕŇĀźǿŕ 8ə lƛĩņƐŕ ŘƛźǿŕnjŭĩƐ ĩŇŇŕŭŭ ĀŖ n:ôŭ

Today,

[illegible] Glo[illegible]rtunities of [illegible]

further enable local action, or designing new data plans suitable for those who are paid on a daily, weekly or fortnightly basis.

In order to unlock some of the required investments, [illegible], framed within social inclusion policies.

[illegible] to provide free-of-charge internet access, as well as necessary support, to those who need it.

Significant investment will be needed to [illegible] This involves developing an adequate electrical and IT architecture, which will require global support in the form of tailored financing instruments.

[illegible]

The unequal opportunities that women and girls, across the Global South, have to develop the skills that would enable them to be full and equal participants of our digital future, was particularly noted in

framework should be based upon

capture to be signi

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In order for all commitments of the Global Digital Compact to support the establishment of an open, free, and secure digital future for all, we suggest that the principles it will be based upon include:

ßŕĩŇŵ ĀŵŕŭǨŋjĀŵŕŭĀ ŋŕŵźƛŎ ÛŋjŭĀ

The GDC can reinforce the principle to reach the furthest behind first that member states have already committed to in the 2030 Development Agenda declaration. In the digital space, this principle would ensure that all actions focused on those entirely excluded from digital spaces now. This is essential because the rapid pace of progress means that, each day of inaction, the gaps in opportunities between those with and without access keeps growing.

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The digital future will most likely continue to be a private and public endeavor. The objectives of the GCD will be at risk if innovations, investments are not accountable to the public. nber

ņŘǨĀ çŘǨĀŵŕŋƛ ĒŘźŇŕ

First formed in 2013, Southern Voice is now a dynamic network of 66 think tanks based across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Through our research, advocacy and outreach initiatives, we aim to redress the knowledge asymmetry that still pervades much of global development debates.

We therefore work to center, within ongoing political processes and discussions at the global level, key perspectives from the Global South. To do so, we actively harness the collective knowledge contained across our member think tanks and others in the Global South.

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