Permanent Mission of Sweden
to the United Nations, New York

Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Zambia
to the United Nations

February 2, 2024

Excellency,

Dear colleagues,

Reference is made to our letter dated 15 December 2023 outlining the roadmap for informal consultations and subsequent intergovernmental negotiations on a Global Digital Compact.

As indicated in that letter, the first informal consultations with Member States and observers will be convened on Monday, 12 February and with stakeholders on Tuesday 13 February.

The informal consultations with Member States and observers on Monday, 12 February will take place in person in the Economic and Social Council Chamber from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST. Interventions will be limited to five (5) minutes for statements on behalf of groups and three (3) minutes for statements made in national capacity. Time limits will be mechanically enforced. As previously noted, Member States, observers and stakeholders are invited to listen to each other's exchanges: the meeting on Monday, 12 February will be webcast and interpretation will be provided on an "if available" basis.

Informal consultations with stakeholders will take place virtually on 13 February from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST. Priority will be given to speakers representing groups and coalitions. Interventions will be limited to five (5) minutes for statements on behalf of groups and coalitions. Participants representing individual institutions, organizations, companies, or participating in their personal capacity and wishing to intervene will be given the floor subsequently, as time permits. Such interventions will be limited to three (3) minutes. Time limits will be mechanically enforced.

Stakeholders can register their interest to speak and/or participate via this link: https://forms.office.com/e/QyR6qWjw3A

As also stated in the letter dated 15 December 2023, contributions made during informal consultations at the previous session will inform the coming consultations and drafting process. We therefore encourage Member States, observers and stakeholders to focus their interventions on the preparations for the zero draft of the Global Digital Compact. To facilitate participants, guiding questions are attached to this letter. As earlier announced the zero draft will be presented to Member States on 5 April.

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We invite Member States to share this letter with relevant stakeholders in your respective countries and encourage Member States to follow the informal consultations with stakeholders on 13 February. The Secretariat will share information on how Member States and observers can connect to these consultations via e-deleGATE.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration,

Anna Karin Eneström
Co-facilitator

Permanent Mission of Sweden
to the United Nations

Chola Milambo, Ph.D.
Co-facilitator

Permanent Mission of Zambia
to the United Nations

Guiding questions

1. The Global Digital Compact provides an opportunity for shaping a shared vision on digital cooperation that aims to close the digital divide, harness the benefits of digital technologies to attain the Sustainable Development Goals, safeguard human rights, and ensures an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future for all. **How can a shared vision on global digital cooperation be reflected in the Compact?**

2. We have identified support for the establishment of a Global Digital Compact that rests on the principles of the UN Charter, Agenda 2030, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. **What are the principles for cooperation to include in the Global Digital Compact?**

3. As part of our informal consultations last year, we explored a number of themes. The governance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has also emerged as a significant policy issue. **What themes should be addressed in a forward-looking Compact? How can the GDC advance cooperation on AI to harness opportunities and manage risks?**

4. The deep dives highlighted the unique opportunity a Global Digital Compact could have in advancing concrete progress in digital cooperation. **What commitments, actions and deliverables could the Global Digital Compact include to strengthen digital cooperation?**

5. **What follow up is required to support Compact implementation and deliver on commitments? What mechanisms might be harnessed, including to avoid duplication, in support of follow up?**

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