



President of the General Assembly 79th Session



“Unity in diversity for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for everyone, everywhere”

The priorities of the President of the General Assembly H.E Philemon Yang encompass the three pillars of the UN: Peace & Security, Human Rights, & Sustainable Development and are guided by his vision for the 79th session of the General Assembly.

Priority: Turbocharging the Sustainable Development Goals, including through Digitalization



The issue explained:

Despite rapid acceleration of technological development, the world is still facing persistent challenges on the digital divide. 2.7 billion people, a third of the world's population, lack access to the Internet. The benefits of the digital economy have not been equally shared among countries.

Although the digital revolution is well under way in Africa, only 38% of the continent's population is using the Internet, significantly below the global average of 68%.

Digital and emerging technologies present not only opportunities but also risks, calling for inclusive global coordinated efforts towards its governance. The Global Digital Compact, adopted at the Summit for the Future in September 2024, presents an opportunity to advance international governance of artificial intelligence in ways that complement international, regional, national and multi-stakeholder efforts. The Compact can also play a critical role in harnessing the benefits of technology for everyone, everywhere.

Signature Event: An interactive Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue to assess the implementation of commitments made towards Africa's development to turbocharge the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through the power of science and innovation.

