

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION  
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

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**Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to WSIS outcomes at the regional  
and international levels**

Statement submitted by

United Kingdom

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# UK contribution to CSTD Intersessional Panel

## Review of progress on WSIS outcomes

- Welcome opportunity to briefly outline some preliminary thoughts concerning the WSIS process and the UN Review process ahead of the UN GA discussions in 2025;
- UK a keen advocate of the overall WSIS process since the World Summits in 2003 and 2005;
- The UN IGF has proved itself to be the most important fora for discussion of Internet Governance issues and just importantly the NRI network that has grown around it has allowed for multi stakeholder dialogue on Internet issues in over 100 countries; this is a real testament to the UN;
- Also importantly the WSIS Forum (expertly organised by ITU) has allowed an annual dialogue on the progress on implementing the WSIS Action Lines and also a broader dialogue on Internet issues.
- Looking ahead we see the renewal of the WSIS mandate in 2025 as a real opportunity in looking again at the WSIS Action Lines and reflecting how they might be adapted 20 years on to reflect new opportunities not least in technological developments; but also a significantly changes society (COVID, COP)
- We ought to be bold and ambitious; to build on what we have and ensure our future processes benefit all of our citizens; not least reflecting how stakeholders coming together had such a positive effect during the worst of he COVID crisis;
- We believe CSTD has a pivotal role to play in the Review process not least in preparing the ground through background Papers - which it has an excellent track record on;
- Look forward to a further discussion at our Plenary Session next May. Thank you for this opportunity.