FORUM: Economic and Social Council

**QUESTION OF:** Bridging the digital divide and enhancing access to financial services

MAIN SUBMITTER: People's Democratic republic of Algeria

**CO-SUBMITTER:** New Zealand, The United Mexican States, The Republic of Zimbabwe,

The French Republic

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

<u>Emphasizing</u> the importance of raising global awareness about the digital divide and financial exclusion in order to spur action and investment from governments, the private sector, and civil society,

Keeping in mind of the vital connection between internet connectivity and economic growth,

<u>Expressing</u> the concern of deeply division of urban and rural areas with inequalities that opposes human right,

<u>Recalling</u> the importance of financial inclusion for economic growth and development for the world,

<u>Reaffirming</u> the dedication to reducing inequalities for each member states which gives counties a better international relationship and enhance a overall development of the world,

- 1) Calls upon all Member States to bring out educational campaigns to acknowledge citizens on the importance of digital inclusion and financial access for economic and social advancement include but not limited to:
  - a) introduce education schemes within school curriculums worldwide to raise awareness about inequalities within digital divide. These schemes can include curriculums focusing on the introduction to the usage of digital infrastructure, for example; computer sciences,
  - b) launch global social media campaigns aimed at raising awareness about inequalities and the digital divide. Using software such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram to reach diverse audiences of all ages, backgrounds, and geographical locations;
- 2) Promote universal internet access include but not limited to:
  - a) update and expand on existing online programs
  - b) develop and focus on building aspects including but not limited to:
    - i. allocate affordable budget to digital infrastructure development
    - ii. invest in expanding high-speed broadband infrastructure in rural areas

- iii. policies to make internet access affordable for all citizens, such as subsidies which is affordable for low-income households;
- 3) Requests the provision of affordable financial services to developing member states such as but not limited to:
  - a) encourage the donation of old or new digital device such as computer,
  - b) establish global fund to support developing countries;
- 4) <u>Strengthen</u> Regulatory Frameworks include but not limited to:
  - a) promotes digital literacy education which ensures that skills are widely accessible and will continuously improve,
  - b) establish a framework for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of the policies to assess their effectiveness and make necessary adjustments such as but not limited to:
    - i. enhance consumer protection measures to build trust in digital financial systems and protect users from fraud and abuse
    - ii. develop regulatory frameworks to ensure the security and reliability of digital financial services;
- 5) Encourages governments to provide sustainable energy sources to developing communities by:
  - a) providing equipment such as:
    - i. solar panels
    - ii. windmills.