

**For Official Use**

**C(2014)9**

Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**22-Jan-2014**

**English - Or. English**

**COUNCIL**

**Council**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY AND RENAMING IT THE COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL ECONOMY POLICY**

**(Note by the Secretary-General)**

**JT03351406**

**Complete document available on OLIS in its original format**

*This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.*

**C(2014)9  
For Official Use**

**English - Or. English**

## Background

1. The current mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP) which initially expired on 31 December 2013 has been extended by Council to 31 March 2014 to enable the Committee to finalise the review of its mandate and substructure [[C\(2013\)85](#) and [C/M\(2013\)16](#), Item 150]. Since its creation in April 1982, the ICCP's mandate has been to provide expertise on policy issues arising from the development and application of information and communications technologies (ICT) to computer systems, networks and services, such as electronic commerce, Internet infrastructure, digital content, online security and privacy protection, including the impact of such issues on the economy and on society in general.

2. In 2009, following the Seoul Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy, the mandate of the ICCP was revised with a view to furthering the Seoul Declaration objectives through the Committee's next Programmes of Work, and to reviewing progress made at national and international levels [[C/M\(2009\)1](#), Item 5, and [C\(2008\)209](#)].

## ICCP Mandate revision

3. In the course of 2013, the Committee discussed its mandate and functioning in light of the recommendations of the Council following both the 2010 in-depth evaluation of the Committee and subsequent action [[C\(2010\)33](#) and [C\(2011\)81](#)] as well as the 2012 dialogue with the ICCP Chair. The policy and technological changes that occurred since the Seoul Ministerial Meeting and the Secretary General's Strategic Orientations [[C/MIN\(2013\)1](#)], particularly the projects which drew on Committees' expertise across the Organisation and the strategy for engagement with Key Partners, were also taken into account.

4. The outcomes of the Committee's discussions on its mandate and functioning are summarised in [[DSTI/ICCP\(2013\)5/REV1](#)]. Based on the proposal by the Chair [[DSTI/ICCP\(2013\)17](#) and [DSTI/ICCP\(2013\)17/ANN](#)], the Committee approved, on 13 December 2013, revisions to its mandate aimed at reflecting the major principles that guide its work and to ensure that it covers technology and innovation, and social as well as economic objectives [[DSTI/ICCP/M\(2013\)2](#), forthcoming].

5. The main changes to the mandate as outlined in the Annex to the present document include:

- i) Updating the Preamble to explicitly refer to essential values such as inclusiveness, multi-stakeholder approach and respect for human rights and the rule of law that guide the work of the Committee;
- ii) Clarifying that the Committee's mandate goes beyond the core (vertical) goal of developing the overall framework that stimulates the continued growth of the digital economy and also encompasses the (horizontal) goal of leveraging ICT innovation to help address key economic and social challenges, including jobs, environmental pressures, ageing, health and wellness; thus reflecting the growing importance of this area of work (see paragraph 1 of the revised mandate);
- iii) Highlighting the importance of developing the evidence-base for the digital economy (see paragraph 3. iii. c of the revised mandate).

6. Furthermore, the Committee approved a change of its name to “Committee on Digital Economy Policy” (and the new acronym CDEP) to better reflect the work of the Committee and help to attract the right participants, and more generally, to be easily readable and understandable by all stakeholders and the public.

### **Evaluation of the substructure**

7. In accordance with Rule 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee evaluated the continuing relevance of its substructure through a broad consultation process which started in October 2012 and concluded in December 2013. The description of the sub-structure of the Committee and the criteria for assessing how it could serve the Committee most effectively were set out in [[DSTI/ICCP\(2013\)5](#)].

8. To summarise the outcome of the evaluation, there was broad recognition of the need for a more flexible and efficient sub-structure as well as for further improvements in horizontal cooperation. There was also general agreement to: *i*) better align the Committee’s sub-structure with future work, attain fewer deliverables with greater impact, minimise overlap and facilitate the preparation of the Committee-organised ministerial meeting; and *ii*) enable the Committee to regain its status as a strategic body with more content to debate and increased capacity to ensure responsiveness and relevance to ministers.

9. In order to meet these objectives, the Committee approved the Bureau’s proposal to reduce the number of its working parties from four to three on 13 December [[DSTI/ICCP/M\(2013\)2](#), forthcoming]. More specifically, the Committee agreed to:

- i) Transfer the policy analysis activities of the *Working Party on the Information Economy* (WPIE) to the Committee, considering that many of the issues discussed in that Working Party are best suited for Committee-level discussion as they are most often framed in terms of the broader economic and social dimensions;
- ii) Modify the mandate and enlarge the membership of the *Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society* (WPIIS) to strengthen its capabilities to carry out impact analysis and thus address issues previously carried out by WPIE. The name of this Working Party was changed to “Working Party on Measurement and Analysis in the Digital Economy” (the new acronym being WPMAD);
- iii) Maintain the *Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy* (WPCISP) and the *Working Party on Information Security and Privacy* (WPISP) with a few amendments to their respective mandates. The name of the WPISP was changed to “Working Party on Security and Privacy in the Digital Economy” (the new acronym being WSPDE).

### **Proposal for mandate renewal**

10. It is proposed that the revised mandate, as set out in the draft Resolution in the Annex, should remain in force for a period of five years, until 31 December 2018. The draft Resolution would supersede all previous provisions concerning the mandate of the Committee. The Committee would return to the Council to propose a revision to its mandate should there be any major developments that warrant such a change.

C(2014)9

**Proposed Action**

11. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document [C\(2014\)9](#);
- b) adopted the draft Resolution of the Council revising the mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy and renaming it the Committee on Digital Economy Policy (CDEP), as set out in the Annex to document [C\(2014\)9](#).

## ANNEX

**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY AND RENAMING IT THE COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL ECONOMY POLICY**

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [[C\(2012\)100/FINAL](#)];

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council of 1 April 1982 establishing a Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy [C(81)59(Final)], whose mandate was last revised and renewed in 2009 [[C\(2008\)209](#)] and extended until 31 March 2014 [[C\(2013\)85](#)];

Having regard to the role of the digital economy in stimulating the development of new sources of sustainable growth, innovation, employment, well-being and inclusiveness; and to the leading role that the OECD has long played in developing policies to maximise the economic and social benefits of the digital economy for all countries, including developing ones;

Having regard to the need for strengthened international cooperation on Internet and more broadly Information and Communication Technology (ICT) policy making, within the OECD and with Partner economies; and to the need for strengthened mechanisms that enable participation of all stakeholders in policy development processes, including governments, international organisations, business, civil society, organised labour, the Internet technical community, and academia;

Having regard to the 2011 Recommendation of the Council on Principles for Internet-Policy Making [[C\(2011\)154](#)] which builds on the 2008 Seoul Ministerial Declaration for the Future of the Internet Economy [[C\(2008\)99](#)];

Recognising that the strength and dynamism of the digital economy depend on effective access by users and innovators to communication infrastructure and services through high speed networks, on openness, and on user confidence; and that any policy making associated with the digital economy must promote openness and be grounded in respect for human rights and the rule of law;

Having regard to the recommendations of the In-depth Evaluation of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy [[C\(2010\)33](#) and [C/M\(2010\)9](#), Item 103];

Having regard to the proposal of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy regarding the revision of its mandate, including that it be renamed the “Committee on Digital Economy Policy” (CDEP) [[C\(2014\)9](#)];

DECIDES:

A. The Committee on Digital Economy Policy has the following mandate:

**I. Objectives**

1. The Committee on Digital Economy Policy shall be responsible for developing evidence-based policies through multi-stakeholder processes that: i) stimulate the growth of an accessible, innovative, open, inclusive and trusted digital economy for sustained prosperity and well-being; and ii) leverage the potential of ICTs, in particular the Internet, and of digitisation to achieve key socio-economic goals such as improving productivity, providing opportunities for new jobs, contributing to mitigate environmental pressures and improving health outcomes and the quality of life in general.
2. The Committee shall strengthen cooperation in these areas among Member countries and with Partners (i.e. non-Members), consistent with the Committee's global relations strategy, with a view to fostering exchange of experience and co-ordination of policies at the national and international levels.
3. The Committee shall, in particular:
  - i) Develop and promote a coherent policy and regulatory framework which supports competition, investment and innovation across the digital economy, and in particular:
    - a) Facilitate convergence of and ubiquitous access to broadband networks, services, applications and devices;
    - b) Encourage creativity in the development, offer, and use of the Internet and ICT goods and services, including applications, digital content and data; and
    - c) Strengthen trust in the digital economy, including by managing digital security risks to economic and social activities, and protecting privacy.
  - ii) Develop in cooperation with other OECD Committees analyses and policies that leverage the potential of ICTs, in particular the Internet and data analytics, to foster sustainable growth and inclusiveness through enhanced entrepreneurship, ICT skills and employment, and better health, wellness and ageing.
  - iii) Inform policy-making for the digital economy, and in particular:
    - a) Review and analyse emerging technologies, applications, goods and services, and call attention to their economic and social effects on market structures, regulation, behaviours, etc.;
    - b) Analyse the economic and social impacts of, and drivers to, the development and use of ICTs, in particular the Internet, and of digitisation across the economy; as well as the implications of digital security and privacy breaches on the economy; and
    - c) Develop measurement tools and methodologies, including using the Internet as a source for statistics, to strengthen the evidence base for the digital economy and to assess its contribution to the whole economy.

4. The Committee shall determine the strategic orientations of its subsidiary bodies, and receive regular reports from them to ensure the co-ordination of their activities in furthering these orientations.

## **II. Co-ordination arrangements**

5. The Committee shall maintain close working relationships with other relevant bodies within the OECD to ensure complementary efforts and effective use of resources. In the conduct of its work, the Committee will also, as appropriate, draw on the views and expertise of Partners, international organisations, business, organised labour, civil society, and the Internet technical community within a framework of co-operation that promotes mutual understanding and participation.
- B. The mandate of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy shall remain in force until 31 December 2018.