



Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

C(2018)141

For Official Use

English - Or. English

22 November 2018

COUNCIL

Council

**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL RENEWING AND REVISING THE
MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL ECONOMIC POLICY**

(Note by the Secretary-General)

JT03440264

1. Background

1. This document contains a proposal to renew and revise the mandate of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy (CDEP), as well as information regarding the results of the Committee's review of the continuing relevance of its substructure.
2. Since its creation in April 1982, the CDEP's (originally the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP)) 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.
3. Its mandate was subsequently revised in 2009, further to the Seoul Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy [[C/M\(2009\)1](#), Item 5, and [C\(2008\)209](#)], and then again in 2014 [[C/M\(2014\)2](#), Item 20, and [C\(2014\)9](#)], following discussions in the Committee as well as the 2010 in-depth evaluation of the Committee and subsequent follow-up action [[C\(2010\)33](#) and [C\(2011\)81](#)].

2. CDEP mandate revision and renewal process

4. The current mandate of the CDEP was adopted in 2014 and expires on 31 December 2018 [[C\(2014\)9](#), Annex and [C/M\(2014\)2](#), Item 20]. At its 76th Session in May 2018, the Committee discussed its mandate as well as the continued relevance of its substructure [[DSTI/CDEP\(2018\)7](#) and [DSTI/CDEP/M\(2018\)1](#), Item 12]. During the meeting and in writing thereafter, delegates suggested possible changes to the Committee's mandate flowing from the Declaration on the Digital Economy: Innovation, Growth and Social Prosperity (Cancún Declaration) [[C\(2016\)116](#)] and the horizontal project on *Going Digital: Making the Transformation Work for Growth and Well-Being*. Specifically, the Cancún Declaration underscored the urgency of developing a strategic vision and fully integrated policy approach to digitalisation. The Going Digital horizontal project, phase one, the results of which will be presented at the 11-12 March 2019 Summit, focuses on the analysis and measurement of the opportunities and challenges of digital transformation, and the development of an integrated policy framework to better navigate digital transformation.
5. Outcomes of both the Cancún Declaration and the Going Digital project are reflected in the proposed revisions to the CDEP mandate, and include, in particular:
 - Digital transformation and its social and economic impacts (see paragraph 3ii) in the Annex)
 - Emerging technologies (see paragraphs 3i)d) and 3iii)a) in the Annex)
 - International aspects (such as, interoperability of international frameworks) (see paragraph 3i)e) in the Annex)
 - Country reviews of digital transformation (Going Digital reviews) (see paragraph 3iii)d) in the Annex)

6. In addition in accordance with Rule 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure, the CDEP also reviewed and reaffirmed the continued relevance of its substructure (see in more detail below).

7. On 25 October 2018, the Committee approved a proposed revised mandate and agreed by written procedure to submit it to the Council for approval [[DSTI/CDEP\(2018\)7/REV1](#)]. The final proposed revised mandate, as agreed by the CDEP, is set out in the Annex to this document.

8. It is proposed that the revised mandate, as set out in the draft Resolution in the Annex to this document, remain in force for a period of five years, i.e. until 31 December 2023. The draft Resolution would supersede all previous provisions concerning the mandate of the Committee. The Committee would return to the Council to propose any revision to its mandate should there be any major developments that warrant such a change.

3. Evaluation of the Substructure

9. The CDEP reviewed its current substructure, namely the mandates and main contributions of its three subsidiary bodies: the Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy (WPCISP) established in 1988; the Working Party on Privacy and Security in the Digital Economy (WPSPDE) created in 1995; and the Working Party on Measurement and Analysis in the Digital Economy (WPMAD) established in 1999.

10. The Committee considered that all three Working Parties have supported and still support the achievement of the Committee's objectives as defined in its mandate and its Programme of Work and Budget effectively, and therefore agreed that the substructure remains relevant and requires no structural changes [[DSTI/CDEP\(2018\)7/REV1](#)]. The CDEP discussed the specific mandates of the subsidiary bodies at the 77th Session of the Committee in November 2018, and agreed to renew them with no changes for a period of two years [[DSTI/CDEP\(2018\)16](#)].

4. Proposed Action

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

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document [C\(2018\)141](#);
- b) adopted the draft Resolution of the Council renewing and revising the mandate of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy as set out in the Annex to document [C\(2018\)141](#), which will enter into force on 1 January 2019.

ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL RENEWING AND REVISING THE MANDATE OF 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 Revised Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [[C\(2012\)100/REV1/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)], which became the Committee on Digital Economy, which was renamed Committee on Digital Economy Policy (CDEP), and whose mandate was last revised and renewed in 2014 [[C\(2014\)9](#) and [C/M\(2014\)2, Item 20](#)];

Having regard to the role of digitalisation 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 co-operation on policy making for digital transformation among OECD Members and non-Members ; 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 Ministerial Declaration on the Digital Economy: Innovation, Growth and Social Prosperity (Cancún Declaration) [[C\(2016\)116](#)] which underlined that initiatives to support the digital economy also help attain the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and its ten year review;

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 more effective use of digital technologies by businesses, governments, individuals and society, on openness, and on user confidence;

Further recognising that policy making associated with digital transformation requires an integrated government approach and collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, and must be grounded in respect for human rights and the rule of law, promote gender equality and be inclusive of vulnerable or disadvantaged groups;

Having regard to the proposal of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy regarding the revision of its mandate [[C\(2018\)141](#)];

DECIDES:

A. The Committee on Digital Economy Policy has the following revised 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 ii) provide policymakers with the tools needed to develop a forward-looking, whole-of-government policy response that leverages the potential of digitalisation for growth and well-being across policy areas.

2. The Committee shall strengthen co-operation in these areas among OECD Members and with Partners, 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.

II. Working methods

3. The Committee shall, in particular:

- i) Strengthen the foundations of the digital economy by developing, monitoring, and promoting a coherent policy and regulatory framework which in particular:
 - a) Stimulates competition and investment in high speed broadband connectivity and facilitates convergence of and promotes ubiquitous access to broadband networks, services, applications and devices;
 - b) Promotes investment in digital technologies and knowledge-based capital, and enhances availability and use of data;
 - c) Reduces barriers to access to and use of digital technologies;
 - d) Fosters research, innovation and new business opportunities, including those arising from emerging technologies and applications, while addressing their economic and social effects, and assessing the appropriateness of policy and regulatory frameworks, and of global standards;
 - e) Strengthens trust in the digital economy, including by promoting the management of digital security risks to economic and social activities, and the protection of privacy, as well as the development of data strategies and of international arrangements that promote interoperability among frameworks.
- ii) Coordinate with other OECD committees to: i) develop analyses, policies and good practices that leverage the potential of digital transformation for growth and well-being through enhanced entrepreneurship, ICT skills and employment, and better health, wellness and ageing; and ii) to further develop and implement a medium- to long-term measurement roadmap for digital transformation.

- 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 digital technologies across the economy; as well as the implications of digital security and privacy breaches on the economy and society;
 - 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; and
 - d) Conduct country-level OECD Reviews of Digital Transformation (Going Digital Reviews), in co-operation with other relevant committees, to draw on innovative experiences and good practices in individual countries, provide volunteer countries with an assessment of their degree of digital maturity and help policy makers ensure a coherent and cohesive whole-of-government approach to better respond to digital transformation and make it work for growth and well-being.

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.

III. Co-ordination arrangements

5. The Committee shall maintain close working relationships with other relevant bodies within the OECD to ensure complementarity of 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 engagement.

B. The mandate of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy shall remain in force until 31 December 2023.