



SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

BULLETIN NO. 35:

Pact for the Future

Chapter 3 Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital Cooperation

Comparison between Zero draft and Rev-1



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Pact for the Future: Chapter 3 on Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital Cooperation

Comparison between Zero draft and Rev-1

ABOUT: The [Zero Draft](#) of the Pact for the Future was released on January 26th, 2024. This 5-chapter draft aimed to initiate formal intergovernmental negotiations in preparation for the SOTF scheduled for September 2024. Following this, a chapter-by-chapter first reading was organized in early February, resulting in a compilation text (242 pages) of the zero draft being circulated. A paragraph-by-paragraph second reading was conducted from late February until April, after which a revised compilation text (224 pages) was circulated on April 3rd, 2024 (refer [here](#) for the ICH bulletin on the first and second readings). In response to the Membership's mandate to streamline the Pact into a more concise and action-oriented document, [Rev-1](#) of the Pact for the Future was released on May 14th, 2024. This bulletin will focus on Chapter 3: Science, Technology, and Innovation and Digital Cooperation, comparing the Zero Draft and Rev-1 in light of the compilation text to provide detailed insight.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This bulletin compares the Zero Draft, and Rev-1 in the light of compilation text of the Pact for the Future, focusing on Chapter 3: Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) and Digital Cooperation. Rev-1 marks a significant departure from the initial zero draft in its approach to harnessing STI for sustainable development under the 2030 Agenda. While broadly covering STI's role across diverse sectors, Rev-1 diverges from the zero draft in several key aspects. It introduces novel elements such as integrating **social sciences, arts, and humanities** into policymaking, **Independent scientific advice** in scientific advisory board and promoting **responsible research that upholds human rights**. However, certain specific benefits and provisions outlined in the zero draft, such as word like **disparities** and citing international declarations like the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action** are absent in Rev-1. Despite these omissions, Rev-1 reflects emerging priorities voiced by Member States as per compilation text document. It prioritizes issues such as **fostering North-South cooperation**, integrating human rights perspectives into technology **norm-setting**, and adopting **flexible intellectual property rights** for technological innovation. These additions underscore a commitment to equitable access and inclusive development in the realm of technology. Moreover, Rev-1 addresses current challenges posed by digital technologies, especially concerning gender-related risks and the need for conducive working conditions to **prevent brain drain**. It acknowledges heightened risks to children, especially girls, from digital technologies and proposes effective measures to mitigate these risks. Overall, Rev-1 integrates the essence of the Zero Draft and spirit of compilation text while aiming to create a more concise and action-oriented document.

DISCLAIMER: This bulletin aims to provide recent updates and is not a complete summary or official record of the SOTF proceedings. It has been prepared independently and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of any collaborating organizations. For further details, please reach out to Fergus Watt at ferguswatt6@gmail.com. The content is freely distributed as it is not copyrighted.

HEADLINES:

- Rev-1 broadly covers the role of science, technology, and innovation (STI) in sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda.
- Specific contributions of rapid technological change mentioned in (OP-91) of the zero draft, such as improving real incomes and enabling faster deployment of novel solutions, are not explicitly included in Rev-1.
- New elements, including integrating social sciences, arts, and humanities into policymaking (Action 25) and promoting responsible research that upholds human rights (Action 28), have been added to Rev-1.
- The references to disparities (OP 93) and international declarations like the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (OP 95) from the zero draft have been removed in Rev-1.
- Rev-1 reflects emerging priorities voiced by Member States from the compilation text, such as fostering North-South cooperation (Action 26(e)), integrating human rights perspectives into technology norm-setting (Action 28(b)), and adopting flexible intellectual property rights for technological innovation (Action 27(b)), which were not part of the zero draft.
- Rev-1 addresses contemporary challenges posed by digital technologies, particularly concerning gender-related risks and the need for conducive working conditions to prevent brain drain (Action 29 and Action 25(e)), as significantly negotiated and highlighted in the compilation text. These were not part of the zero draft.
- Rev-1 acknowledges heightened risks to children, especially girls, from digital technologies and proposes effective measures to mitigate these risks (Action 29).
- The term “independent scientific advice” has been added to the scientific advisory board in Action 31 (39), based on suggestions from some member states in the compilation text.
- Rev-1 gives significant place to adapting technology to local needs and incorporating traditional and indigenous knowledge (Action 30) to integrate local knowledge and modern technology, as suggested by member states in the compilation text. This was not present in the zero draft.
- Rev-1 promotes transparency, openness, and inclusivity in norm-setting processes for new and emerging technologies (Action 28(b)), an addition based on the compilation text that was not found in the zero draft.
- The Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), along with the Beijing Declaration mentioned in OP-95 of the zero draft, was suggested by some Member States in the compilation text but is not explicitly mentioned in Rev-1.
- Rev-1 emphasizes promoting STEM education, particularly for women and girls (Action 29 37(a)), based on suggestions from Member States in the compilation text, and has been added in Rev-1.
- Corporate social responsibility, which was present in OP-100 of the zero draft, is not specifically highlighted in the context of STI efforts in Rev-1.
- Emphasis on universal connectivity, the free flow of trusted data, and promoting inclusive and interoperable AI governance is not explicitly mentioned in Rev-1. However, these aspects were also not present in the zero draft but were significantly negotiated according to the compilation text.

METHODOLOGY:

This bulletin will focus on Chapter 3, comparing the Zero Draft and Rev-1 in light of the compilation text. It will identify key terminology, language, and paragraphs that were removed, modified, maintained, or added in Rev-1. The table will have three columns: the first column for the original Zero Draft content, the second column for Rev-1 content, and the third column for the author's observations (*in Italic*) on content changes between the Zero Draft and Rev-1 in light of the compilation text. The content and language changes in Rev-1 are highlighted in colors corresponding to those used in the Zero Draft. This color coding makes it easier for readers to track content and revise language. For example, content from the Zero Draft is highlighted in **yellow**, and its corresponding content or revised language in Rev-1 is also highlighted in **yellow**. This method allows readers to easily identify where content from the Zero Draft has been placed in Rev-1. Each Operational paragraph (OP) of the Zero Draft is assigned a different color for reference:

OP-91 OP-92 OP-93 OP-94 OP-95 OP-96 OP-97 OP-98 OP-99 OP-100 OP-101

Additionally, in the third column, 'Author's observations,' It explains the journey of the content from the Zero Draft through the compilation text to Rev-1. This column details whether content was maintained, modified, removed, or added. The content which has been taken from the compilation text is highlighted in green for reference, **Compilation text**. It appears in both Column 2 (Rev-1) and Column 3 (Author's observations).

RESOURCES:

1. [Zero draft of the Pact for the Future](#)
2. [Compilation text \(as of 3 April 2024\)](#)
3. [Rev-1 of the Pact of the Future](#)