



# SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

**BULLETIN NO. 62:**

**Pact for the Future**

**Chapter 3 Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital Cooperation**

**Comparison between Rev.3 and Rev.4**



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

## Comparison between Rev.3 and Rev.4

### ABOUT:

To align with the Membership's goal of creating a more concise, action-oriented Pact for the Future, [Rev.1](#) was issued on May 14, 2024 (see ICH bulletin [#35](#) for a comparison with the Zero Draft). [Rev.2](#) followed on July 17, 2024 (see ICH bulletin [#46](#) for a comparison with Rev.1), and [Rev.3](#) on August 27, 2024 (see ICH bulletin [#54](#) for a comparison with Rev.2). The most recent revision, [Rev.4](#), was released on September 13, 2024. This bulletin focuses on Chapter 3: Science, Technology, and Innovation and Digital Cooperation, offering insights into the differences between Rev.3 and Rev.4.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In the latest revision, Rev.4 introduces several significant updates compared to Rev.3. The terms for technology transfer have been clarified to specify that environmentally sound technologies should be transferred to developing countries on **more favorable terms, including concessional and preferential conditions**, making them more advantageous and affordable. Action 32 related to **Intellectual property rights** has been removed from the Rev.4. The language for including vulnerable populations has been refined for greater inclusivity, changing "persons in vulnerable situations" to "**those in vulnerable situations**" while preserving the commitment to their meaningful participation in science, technology, and innovation. Additionally, Rev.4 reorders the listed groups, placing **local communities** first, followed by traditional afro-descendant populations and Indigenous Peoples. An additional phrase, "**as appropriate,**" has been included in Rev.4, reflecting a more nuanced approach to science, technology, and innovation.

**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](mailto:ferguswatt6@gmail.com). The content is freely distributed as it is not copyrighted.

## HEADLINES:

- **Technology Transfer Terms:**
  - Rev.3, Paragraph 55: Mentions the transfer of "environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms."
  - Rev.4, Paragraph 55: Modifies this to "environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on **favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms**, as mutually agreed." This clarifies and strengthens the conditions, emphasizing more advantageous and affordable terms.
- **Intellectual Property Rights:**
  - Rev.4: Action 32 and Paragraph 56 from Rev.3 have been completely removed, indicating a shift away from a focus on intellectual property rights in the updated draft.
- **Participation of Vulnerable Populations:**
  - Rev.3 (c): "Ensure that persons in vulnerable situations benefit from and fully and meaningfully participate in the development and application of science, technology and innovation."
  - Rev.4 (c): Updated to "Ensure that **those in vulnerable situations** benefit from and fully and meaningfully participate in the development and application of science, technology and innovation," with a minor change in wording for inclusivity.
- **Order of Listed Groups:**
  - Rev.3: Lists Indigenous Peoples first, followed by local communities and traditional afro-descendant populations.
  - Rev.4: Reorders to list **local communities first**, followed by traditional afro-descendant populations and then Indigenous Peoples.
- **Additional Phrase:**
  - Rev.4: Includes the phrase "**as appropriate**" at the end of statements related to science, technology, and innovation, which is not present in Rev.3.

## METHODOLOGY:

This bulletin will focus on Chapter 3, comparing Rev.3 and Rev.4. It will identify key terminology and language changes that were removed, modified, maintained, or added in the specific actions of Rev.4. The table will have 3 columns: the first column will display the Rev.3 content, the second will show Rev.4 content, and the third column will include the author's observations on content changes between Rev.3 and Rev.4. Additionally, in the 'Author's Observations' column, it explains the content's journey from Rev.3 to Rev.4, detailing whether content was maintained, modified, removed, or added. New or revised content in Rev.4 is highlighted in **Yellow**, while content removed is marked in **Red** for reference.

## RESOURCES:

1. [Rev.4 of the Pact of the Future](#)
2. [Rev.3 of the Pact of the Future](#)
3. [Rev.2 of the Pact of the Future](#)
4. [Rev.1 of the Pact of the Future](#)
5. [Zero draft of the Pact for the Future](#)

**Comparison:**

**Comparison between Rev.3 and Rev.4**

<p><b>Rev.3</b> (27 August 2024)</p>	<p><b>Rev.4</b> (13 September 2024)</p>	<p><b>Authors Observation</b></p>
<p><b>Action 31. We will scale up the means of implementation to developing countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities.</b></p> <p>55. Science, technology and innovation are critical to support and enable sustainable growth and climate action and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It is imperative that we collaborate to bridge the science, technology and innovation gap within and between developed and developing countries, to support developing countries to peacefully harness science, technology and innovation to achieve sustainable development, particularly those in special situations, as well as those facing specific challenges. We reiterate the need to accelerate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms. We decide to:</p>	<p><b>Action 31. We will scale up the means of implementation to developing countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities.</b></p> <p>55. Science, technology and innovation are critical to support and enable sustainable growth and climate action and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It is imperative that we collaborate to bridge the science, technology and innovation gap within and between developed and developing countries, to support developing countries to peacefully harness science, technology and innovation to achieve sustainable development, particularly those in special situations, as well as those facing specific challenges. We reiterate the need to accelerate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed. We decide to:</p>	<p>Rev.3, Paragraph 55, mentions the transfer of 'environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms.' In contrast, Rev.4, Paragraph 55, modifies this to '<b>environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms</b>, as mutually agreed.' This change clarifies and strengthens the conditions for technology transfer to developing countries, emphasizing the need for these terms to be more advantageous and affordable, particularly in a concessional or preferential context.</p>
<p><b>Action 32. We will uphold intellectual property rights to support developing countries achieve sustainable development.</b></p> <p>56. We recognize the importance of intellectual property rights to progress on science, technology and innovation and the achievement of sustainable development. We decide to:</p> <p>(a) Protect and enforce intellectual property rights to promote technological innovation, build trust and contribute to the transfer and dissemination of technology on mutually agreed terms.</p>		<p><b>In Rev. 4, Action 32 and Paragraph 56 from Rev.3 have been completely removed, reflecting a significant shift in focus or de-emphasis on intellectual property rights in recent revision.</b></p>

<p>(b) Uphold the rights and obligations enshrined in relevant agreements related to trade and intellectual property rights, including the right of Member States to use the flexibilities contained therein, recognizing the need to support developing countries in benefiting from scientific and technological innovations.</p>		
<p><b>Action 33. We will ensure that science, technology and innovation contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights by all.</b></p> <p>57. We recognize the opportunities and risks presented by science, technology and innovation to promoting, protecting and fulfilling all human rights. We decide to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that all scientific and technological research is conducted in a responsible and ethical manner that protects and promotes all human rights, and protects the autonomy, freedom and safety of scientific researchers.</p> <p>(b) Integrate a human rights perspective into regulatory and norm-setting processes for new and emerging technologies and call on the private sector to respect human rights and uphold ethical principles in the development and use of new and emerging technologies.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that persons in vulnerable situations benefit from and fully and meaningfully participate in the development and application of science, technology and innovation.</p> <p>(d) Seize on opportunities provided by new and emerging technologies to empower and advance equity for persons with disabilities, including through promoting the availability of assistive technologies</p>	<p><b>Action 32. We will ensure that science, technology and innovation contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights by all.</b></p> <p>56. We recognize the opportunities and risks presented by science, technology and innovation to promoting, protecting and fulfilling all human rights. We decide to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that all scientific and technological research is conducted in a responsible and ethical manner that protects and promotes all human rights, and protects the autonomy, freedom and safety of scientific researchers.</p> <p>(b) Integrate a human rights perspective into regulatory and norm-setting processes for new and emerging technologies and call on the private sector to respect human rights and uphold ethical principles in the development and use of new and emerging technologies.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that those in vulnerable situations benefit from and fully and meaningfully participate in the development and application of science, technology and innovation.</p> <p>(d) Seize on opportunities provided by new and emerging technologies to empower and advance equity for persons with disabilities, including through promoting the availability of assistive technologies.</p>	<p>Rev.3 point (c) uses the term "persons in vulnerable situations." Rev.4 replaces this with "<b>those in vulnerable situations.</b>" This change broadens the language slightly, making it less formal and more inclusive.</p>
<p><b>Action 35. We will protect, build on and complement Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge.</b></p>	<p><b>Action 34. We will protect, build on and complement Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge.</b></p>	

<p>59. We recognize the need for science, technology and innovation to be adapted and made relevant to local needs and circumstances, including Indigenous Peoples, local communities and traditional afro-descendant populations, in line with the principle of free, prior and informed consent. We decide to:</p> <p>(a) Foster synergies between science and technology and traditional, local, afro-descendant and Indigenous knowledge, systems, practices and capacities.</p>	<p>58. We recognize the need for science, technology and innovation to be adapted and made relevant to local needs and circumstances, including for local communities, traditional afro-descendant populations, and Indigenous Peoples, in line with the principle of free, prior and informed consent, as appropriate. We decide to:</p> <p>(a) Foster synergies between science and technology and traditional, local, afro-descendant and Indigenous knowledge, systems, practices and capacities.</p>	<p>In Rev.3, Indigenous Peoples are listed first, followed by local communities and traditional afro-descendant populations, whereas Rev.4 reorders this, listing local communities first, followed by traditional afro-descendant populations and Indigenous Peoples. Additionally, Rev.4 includes the phrase "<b>as appropriate</b>" at the end of the statement, which is not present in Rev.3.</p>
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