

## **Committee on Development and Intellectual Property**

### **Twentieth Session**

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### **MAPPING OF INTERNATIONAL FORA AND CONFERENCES WITH INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

1. During its eighteenth session, held from October 31 to November 4, 2016, the Committee on Development and Intellectual Property requested the WIPO Secretariat to “undertake a mapping exercise of initiatives and activities currently taking place on technology transfer in other international fora, with a view to providing an update to the CDIP on the international fora and conferences where technology transfer is currently being discussed, as well as the role that WIPO can continue to play in this regard.”
2. Accordingly, the Annex to this document contains a non-exhaustive compilation of international fora and conferences outside of WIPO where technology transfer is currently being discussed and a brief overview of the role WIPO plays in international fora and conferences.
3. *The CDIP is invited to take note of the information contained in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. A mapping exercise of initiatives and activities currently taking place on technology transfer in international fora has been undertaken, the results of which are reflected in a non-exhaustive compilation of international fora and conferences with ongoing discussions on technology transfer under Sections III and IV below. The compilation focuses on intergovernmental fora and conferences of a global and regional nature within the United Nations (UN) System. The compilation is structured according to the name of the respective forum or conference and provides an indication of the coordinating organization, thematic focus, participants, link to technology transfer, a brief description, and activity rate of the forum or conference. Activity rate indicates the scheduling of ordinary sessions and does not include extraordinary sessions or intersessional work. The data used in the compilation was gathered from publicly available sources. A brief overview of the role WIPO plays in international fora and conferences on technology transfer is also provided under Section II below.

## II. WIPO ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND CONFERENCES ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

2. WIPO monitors and engages in numerous international fora and conferences on technology transfer, according to its mandate. Engagement by WIPO in international fora and conferences on technology transfer that are relevant for WIPO's mandate requires, among other things, tracking of on-going processes and discussions within these fora and conferences, participation in such discussions, as appropriate, and internal coordination of WIPO's relevant expertise in order to effectively contribute to these discussions. For this purpose, WIPO works through its various Programs, including Programs 9, 10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21 and 30, to strengthen partnerships with other UN organizations, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

3. WIPO contributes within the scope of its mandate to discussions in international fora and conferences on technology transfer as a member or observer. WIPO engages in particular with UN inter-agency processes relevant to intellectual property (IP) and innovation, including in the United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation (IATT) for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established within the framework of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and in relevant meetings of major organs of the United Nations such as the General Assembly and the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In this context, WIPO provides technical contributions and information to relevant multilateral processes and initiatives, ensuring that such initiatives fully benefit from WIPO's knowledge and expertise.

4. As a member of the United Nations Interagency Task Team of Science, Technology and Innovation (IATT) for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), WIPO contributes to the work of the IATT in carrying out an ongoing process of mapping initiatives, mechanisms and programs within the United Nations System related to science, technology and innovation. This process is ultimately intended to contribute to the creation of an online platform designed to: "(i) be used to establish a comprehensive mapping of, and serve as a gateway for, information on existing science, technology and innovation initiatives, mechanisms and programs, within and beyond the United Nations; (ii) facilitate access to information, knowledge and experience, as well as best practices and lessons learned, on science, technology and innovation facilitation initiatives and policies; and (iii) facilitate the dissemination of relevant open access scientific publications generated worldwide."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/tfm>

5. WIPO likewise works to promote greater awareness of its programs and services among existing and potential intergovernmental partners, so that these programs and services are effectively available and can be used for the achievement of shared objectives. Among other things, WIPO contributes factual information through a wide range of reports and publications on subject matter addressed by international fora and conferences on technology transfer. These publications include the Global Innovation Index, WIPO Patent Landscape Reports, Global Challenges Reports and Briefs, and the Overview on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions. A more extensive compilation of WIPO activities related to technology transfer has been provided in document CDIP/17/9.

### III. SELECTED GLOBAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORA AND CONFERENCES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

#### **Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**

Coordinating organization: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Thematic focus: Environment (Biological diversity)

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: Convention on Biological Diversity Article 16: “Each Contracting Party, recognizing that technology includes biotechnology, and that both access to and transfer of technology among Contracting Parties are essential elements for the attainment of the objectives of this Convention, undertakes subject to the provisions of this Article to provide and/or facilitate access for and transfer to other Contracting Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.”

Description: Convention on Biological Diversity Article 23.4: “The Conference of the Parties shall keep under review the implementation of this Convention, and, for this purpose, shall: Establish the form and the intervals for transmitting the information to be submitted in accordance with Article 26 and consider such information as well as reports submitted by any subsidiary body; (b) Review scientific, technical and technological advice on biological diversity provided in accordance with Article 25; (c) Consider and adopt, as required, protocols in accordance with Article 28; (d) Consider and adopt, as required, in accordance with Articles 29 and 30, amendments to this Convention and its annexes; (e) Consider amendments to any protocol, as well as to any annexes thereto, and, if so decided, recommend their adoption to the parties to the protocol concerned; (f) Consider and adopt, as required, in accordance with Article 30, additional annexes to this Convention; (g) Establish such subsidiary bodies, particularly to provide scientific and technical advice, as are deemed necessary for the implementation of this Convention; (h) Contact, through the Secretariat, the executive bodies of conventions dealing with matters covered by this Convention with a view to establishing appropriate forms of cooperation with them; and (i) Consider and undertake any additional action that may be required for the achievement of the purposes of this Convention in the light of experience gained in its operation.”

Activity rate: Biennial

Reference: <https://www.cbd.int/cop/>

## **Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention**

Coordinating organization: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention

Thematic focus: Environment (Mercury)

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: Minamata Convention Article 13.3: “Multilateral, regional and bilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, as well as capacity-building and technology transfer, are encouraged, on an urgent basis, to enhance and increase their activities on mercury in support of developing country Parties in the implementation of this Convention relating to financial resources, technical assistance and technology transfer.”

Description: “The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a multilateral environmental agreement that addresses specific human activities which are contributing to widespread mercury pollution.”

Activity rate: Regular

Reference: <http://www.mercuryconvention.org>

## **Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

Coordinating organization: Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Thematic focus: Environment (Climate change)

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Article 4: “All Parties, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, shall: ... Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol in all relevant sectors, including the energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste management sectors.”

Description: “The COP is the supreme decision-making body of the Convention. All States that are Parties to the Convention are represented at the COP, at which they review the implementation of the Convention and any other legal instruments that the COP adopts and take decisions necessary to promote the effective implementation of the Convention, including institutional and administrative arrangements.”

Activity rate: Annual

Reference: <http://unfccc.int/bodies/body/6383.php>

## **Governing Council of the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries**

Coordinating organization: Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

Thematic focus: Science, technology, and innovation

Participants: Experts appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: Charter of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (A/71/363): “The objectives of the Technology Bank shall be: [...] (e) To promote and facilitate the identification and utilization of and access to appropriate technologies by the least developed countries, as well as their transfer to the least developed countries, while respecting intellectual property rights and fostering the national and regional capacity of the least developed countries for the effective utilization of technology in order to bring about transformative change.”

Description: “The Technology Bank shall consist of: (i) A Council, which shall serve as the governing body of the Technology Bank [...]”

Activity rate: Annually (or higher)

Reference: <http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/>

## **Global Multi-Stakeholder Small Island Developing States Partnership Dialogues**

Coordinating organization: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Thematic focus: Development

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: “The dialogue aims to ensure that SIDS’ experience of existing partnerships and responses can inform future partnerships including financing, capacity building, technology transfer, technical cooperation or institutional development.”

Description: General Assembly Resolution 70/202: “The General Assembly [...] decides in accordance with paragraph 101 of the Samoa Pathway and in line with the priorities of small island developing States, to establish the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework, to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for small island developing States in order to promote the effective and efficient follow-up to the existing partnerships, in particular new partnerships launched at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and to encourage new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of small island developing States.”

Activity rate: Annual

Reference: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnershipframework>

## **Global Research, Innovation, and Education in Assistive Technology (GREAT) Summit**

Coordinating organization: World Health Organization (WHO)

Thematic focus: Public health (Assistive technologies)

Participants: States (donor agencies); Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations (professional organizations, academia, user groups)

Link to technology transfer: “The GREAT Summit has the following objectives: (i) advancing the global priority research agenda; (ii) establishing thematic research collaborations in: effects, costs and economic impact of assistive technology; assistive technology policies, systems, service delivery models and best practices; high-quality and affordable assistive technology; human resources for the assistive technology sector; standards and methodologies for the assessment of assistive technology needs and unmet needs; (iii) identifying new research funding opportunities; (iv) accelerating innovative education and certification; (v) working towards a common impact assessment tool; and (vi) showcasing ground-breaking research and education.”

Description: “The GREAT Summit is an initiative of the Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE), created by WHO in 2014 to spur progress towards a world where everyone in need has access to high quality, affordable assistive technology to lead healthy and productive lives. The GREAT Summit aims to further the global assistive technology research agenda, and to establish research collaborations, accelerate innovative education and certification, and showcase groundbreaking developments in assistive technology.”

Reference: [http://www.who.int/phi/implementation/assistive\\_technology/great\\_summit/en/](http://www.who.int/phi/implementation/assistive_technology/great_summit/en/)

## **Inter-Agency Consultative Group (IACG) on Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

Coordinating organization: United Nations

Thematic focus: Development

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: Addis Ababa Action Agenda: “We urge the international community, including regional and international development banks, bilateral donors, the United Nations system, the International Renewable Energy Agency and other relevant stakeholders to continue to provide adequate support, including in the areas of capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, for the development and implementation of national, regional and interregional energy policies, plans and strategies to address the special vulnerabilities of small island developing States.”

Description: “The IACG is an informal consultative mechanism at the working level in which the SIDS focal points of relevant UN agencies as well as international and regional intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) come together to exchange views and information. The group explores ways and means to enhance coordinated and collaborative actions in support of SIDS in implementing the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway) based on their respective areas of expertise.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sids/iacg>

## **Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (IACG)**

Coordination organization: United Nations; World Health Organization (WHO)

Thematic focus: Public health

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: The Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance is expected to “enhance capacity-building, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and technical assistance and cooperation for controlling and preventing antimicrobial resistance, as well as international cooperation and funding to support the development and implementation of national action plans, including surveillance and monitoring, the strengthening of health systems and research and regulatory capacity, without jeopardizing, in particular in the case of low-and middle-income countries, health or posing barriers for access to care.”

Description: The Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance is “an *ad hoc* inter-agency coordination [established by the Secretary General of the United Nations in consultation with the World Health Organization, Organization for Animal Health, and the Food and Agriculture Organization] to provide technical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address antimicrobial resistance.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <http://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/en/>

## **ITU-D Study Groups**

Coordinating organization: International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Thematic focus: Information and communications technology (ICT)

Participants: States; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: The ITU Development Sector works on “the adoption of efficient technological solutions for ICT infrastructure development.”

Description: “ITU-D Study Groups provide an opportunity for all Member States and Sector Members (including Associates and Academia) to share experiences, present ideas, exchange views, and achieve consensus on appropriate strategies to address ICT priorities. ITU-D Study Groups are responsible for developing Reports, Guidelines, and Recommendations based on input received from the membership.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <https://www.itu.int/net4/ITU-D/CDS/sg/index.asp?lg=1&sp=2014>

## **Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum)**

Coordinating organization: United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA)

Thematic focus: Science, technology, and innovation

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: General Assembly Resolution 70/1: “The forum will provide a venue for facilitating interaction, matchmaking and the establishment of networks between relevant stakeholders and multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to identify and examine technology needs and gaps, including on scientific cooperation, innovation and capacity-building, and also in order to help to facilitate development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Description: General Assembly Resolution 70/1: “The multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals will be convened [...] implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals...”

Activity rate: Annual

Reference: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/TFM/STIForum2017>

## **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Intergovernmental Working Group**

Coordinating organization: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

Thematic focus: Disaster risk reduction

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030: “enhanced provision of coordinated, sustained and adequate international support for disaster risk reduction, in particular for the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, through bilateral and multilateral channels, including through enhanced technical and financial support and technology transfer on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, for the development and strengthening of their capacities; ...enhance access of States, in particular developing countries, to finance, environmentally sound technology, science and inclusive innovation, as well as knowledge and information-sharing through existing mechanisms, namely bilateral, regional and multilateral collaborative arrangements, including the United Nations and other relevant bodies; [...] promote the use and expansion of thematic platforms of cooperation, such as global technology pools and global systems to share know-how, innovation and research and ensure access to technology and information on disaster risk reduction”

Description: “The Sendai Framework is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders.”



Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>

### **United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)**

Coordinating organization: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Thematic focus: Science, technology, and innovation

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: “The Commission acts as a forum for: the examination of science and technology questions and their implications for development; the advancement of understanding on science and technology policies, particularly in respect of developing countries and; the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system.”

Description: “The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The Commission was established to provide the General Assembly and ECOSOC with high-level advice on relevant issues through analysis and appropriate policy recommendations or options in order to enable those organs to guide the future work of the United Nations, develop common policies and agree on appropriate actions.

Activity rate: Annual

Reference: <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/CSTD.aspx>

### **United Nation Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Science, Technology and Innovation Group: Workshops and Conferences**

Coordinating organization: United Nation Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Thematic focus: Science, technology, and innovation

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: “UNIDO conducts a technical cooperation programme with a focus on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), which measures and analyses gaps in technology, and works toward decreasing them in a systematic and sustainable fashion.”

Description: “The STI Group organizes a range of training sessions, workshops and conferences to stimulate discussion, peer reviewing and demonstrations.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <http://www.unido.org/what-we-do/advancing-economic-competitiveness/investing-in-technology-and-innovation/o51610/science-technology-and-innovation.html>

## **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Technology Mechanism: Technology Executive Committee (TEC)**

Coordinating organization: Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Thematic focus: Environment (Climate change)

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: Cancun Agreements: “The functions of the Technology Executive Committee shall be to: (a) provide an overview of technological needs and analysis of policy and technical issues related to the development and transfer of technologies for mitigation and adaptation; (b) consider and recommend actions to promote technology development and transfer, in order to accelerate action on mitigation and adaptation; (c) recommend guidance on policies and programme priorities related to technology development and transfer with special consideration given to the least developed country Parties; (d) promote and facilitate collaboration on the development and transfer of technologies for mitigation and adaptation between governments, the private sector, non-profit organizations and academic and research communities; (e) recommend actions to address the barriers to technology development and transfer in order to enable enhanced action on mitigation and adaptation; (f) seek cooperation with relevant international technology initiatives, stakeholders and organizations, and promote coherence and cooperation across technology activities, including activities under and outside of the Convention; (g) catalyse the development and use of technology road maps or action plans at the international, regional and national levels through cooperation between relevant stakeholders, particularly governments and relevant organizations or bodies, including the development of best practice guidelines as facilitative tools for action on mitigation and adaptation”

Description: Cancun Agreements: “the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network, consistent with their respective functions, should facilitate the effective implementation of the Technology Mechanism, under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties; 119. [...] The Technology Executive Committee shall further implement the framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Convention adopted by decision 4/CP.7 and enhanced by decision 3/CP.13.”

Activity rate: Semiannual (or higher)

Reference: <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/support/technology-mechanism.html>

## **World Health Organization (WHO) Technology Transfer Initiative: Stakeholder Meetings**

Coordinating organization: World Health Organization (WHO)

Thematic focus: Public health

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: The Technology Transfer Initiative “conduct[s] workshops with stakeholders to address weaknesses in capacity to receive technology transfer.”

Description: “The Technology Transfer Initiative [...] works to: identify where transfer of health-related technologies to developing countries will improve access to these products and lead to improved health; and when appropriate, to promote and facilitate this technology transfer.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: [http://www.who.int/phi/programme\\_technology\\_transfer/en/](http://www.who.int/phi/programme_technology_transfer/en/)

### **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum**

Coordinating organization: International Communication Union (ITU); United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Thematic focus: Information and communications technology (ICT)

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations; Non-governmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: The Declaration of Principles “Building the Information Society: A Global Challenge in the New Millennium” agreed during the 2003 World Summit on the Information Society recognized that “partnerships, in particular between and among developed and developing countries, including countries with economies in transition, in research and development, technology transfer, manufacturing and utilization of ICT products and services are crucial for promoting capacity building and global participation in the Information Society.”

Description: “The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) [...] was initiated in order to create an evolving multi-stakeholder platform aimed at addressing the issues raised by information and communication technologies (ICTs) through a structured and inclusive approach at the national, regional and international levels.”

Activity rate: Annual

Reference:  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=102&menu=3170>

### **World Trade Organization (WTO) Working Group on Trade and Transfer of Technology**

Coordinating organization: World Trade Organization (WTO)

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: “The Working Group on Transfer of Technology [...] aims to examine the relationship between trade and the transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, and ways to increase the flow of technology to developing countries.”

Description: “The Working Group on Transfer of Technology was established by the Ministers in Doha and aims to examine the relationship between trade and the transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, and ways to increase the flow of technology to developing countries.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference:

[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/devel\\_e/dev\\_wkgrp\\_trade\\_transfer\\_technology\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/dev_wkgrp_trade_transfer_technology_e.htm)

IV. SELECTED REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORA AND CONFERENCES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

**Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP): High-Level Segment**

Coordinating organization: Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: “The objective of APCTT is to strengthen the technology transfer capabilities in the region and to facilitate import/export of environmentally sound technologies to/from the member countries.”

Description: “APCTT is a United Nations Regional Institution under the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).”

Activity rate: Annual

Reference: <http://www.apctt.org/governance-of-apctt>

**Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Tables**

Coordinating organization: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: Convention on Biological Diversity Article 16: “Each Contracting Party, recognizing that technology includes biotechnology, and that both access to and transfer of technology among Contracting Parties are essential elements for the attainment of the objectives of this Convention, undertakes subject to the provisions of this Article to provide and/or facilitate access for and transfer to other Contracting Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.”

Description: “The Bio-Bridge Initiative is an overarching programme focused on catalyzing and facilitating technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and to its Protocols on biosafety (Cartagena Protocol) and on access and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol). The Bio-Bridge Initiative facilitates technical and scientific cooperation among Parties by [...] creating a space for countries and institutions to share knowledge, good practices and lessons learned with each other.”

Activity rate: *Ad hoc*

Reference: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/>

**United Nation Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)  
Committee on Information and Communications Technology & Science, Technology and  
Innovation**

Coordinating organization: United Nation Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Thematic focus: Information and communications technology (ICT)

Participants: States; Intergovernmental organizations

Link to technology transfer: “The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation addresses the following issues: [...] transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels [...] policy options and strategies for enhancing cooperation on the generation of and access to science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, including regional mechanisms for technology transfer”

Description: “The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation addresses the following issues: (i) integration of information and communications technology related issues in development policies, plans and programmes; (ii) transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels; (iii) information and communications technology, including space applications, for disaster risk reduction; (iv) development of human and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology and in the use of science and technology for innovation; (v) policy options and strategies for enhancing cooperation on the generation of and access to science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, including regional mechanisms for technology transfer; (vi) Mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation issues in development policies, strategies and plans.”

Activity rate: Biennial

Reference: <http://www.unescap.org/committee/committee-information-and-communications-technology-science-technology-and-innovation>

**United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)  
Committee on Technology for Development**

Coordinating organization: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)

Thematic focus: Science, technology, and innovation

Participants: States

Link to technology transfer: UNESCWA Resolution 315 (XXVIII): The “Committee on Technology for Development’ [...] would [...] undertake the following: [...] Monitoring the progress achieved in the field of technology, including information and communications technology, Internet governance, digital economy and the information society on the one hand, and areas related to scientific research and transfer of technology on the other hand; and formulating recommendations to strengthen the development of those fields”

Description: UNESCWA Resolution 315 (XXVIII): The “Committee on Technology for Development’ [...] would [...] undertake the following: (a) Identifying priorities of the ESCWA programme of work and medium-term plans regarding technology for development, including scientific research and innovation, digital economy and information society, knowledge economies and emerging areas; (b) Monitoring the progress achieved in the field of technology, including information and communications technology, Internet governance, digital economy and the information society on the one hand, and areas related to scientific research and transfer of technology on the other hand; and formulating recommendations to strengthen the development of those fields; (c) Following up regional and international processes, conferences and forums relevant to subprogramme 4, and coordinating regional efforts to implement decisions and recommendations of those conferences; (d) Supporting the secretariat to continue to follow up the implementation of the Tunis Agenda adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005) and to participate in the activities and projects related to the World Summit beyond 2015; (e) Advancing the work of the secretariat in supporting cooperation with the ministerial councils and the organizations and unions of the League of Arab States, including the Council of Arab Ministers of Communications and Information Technology, the Arab Administrative Development Organization and other specialized organizations, in harmonizing policies and strategies, supporting communication and partnerships and coordinating positions at the international level in addition to building capacities”

Activity rate: Biennial

Reference: <https://www.unescwa.org/events/committee-technology-development-1st-session>

[End of Annex and of document]