

## Overview

The world is witnessing a new round of technological and industrial revolution. The new-generation technologies represented by big data, AI, block chain, and quantum computing see their advance each passing day. Faced with the new situation, opportunities and challenges, all countries are making effort to boost the R&D of emerging technologies to occupy the competition heights of next-generation IT, produce more digital economic dividends, enhance their cyber security and improve their capability of Internet development, application and governance. In the *World Internet Development Report 2017*, we tentatively set up the Global Internet Development Index (GIDI), making comprehensive assessment and quantitative analysis of the Internet development of major countries. In the *World Internet Development Report 2018*, based on the new trends and highlights of Internet development over the past year, we add more countries into the assessed list, in order to reflect more comprehensively, objectively and accurately the general situation of the world Internet development and thus to provide reference for all countries in promoting Internet development and governance.

Generally, the quantity-driven Internet development is shifting to quality-driven development. R&D of emerging technologies such as big data, IoT, AI and block chain is witnessing primary achievements, boosting the deepening of the global digitalization. The emergence of new forms of industry, new modes and new services has new demands for and poses new challenges to Internet governance rules. Looking into the future, we suggest that all countries should, on the principle of equality and openness, jointly respect cyber sovereignty, promote Internet development, safeguard cyber security, participate in Internet governance and share their Internet development achievements. All of them are expected to contribute to the building of a community with a shared future in cyberspace which is secure and orderly and with more equality, respect, innovation, openness and sharing.

### **1. We should speed up Internet coverage to better benefit all the peoples.**

The fundamental driving force and foothold of the Internet development is the benefit to and well-being of all peoples. There remains a big digital gap across the world

in terms of Internet coverage, technology R&D and application, cyber security protection and discourse power of Internet governance. National advantages in traditional areas are being amplified by the Internet. Rapid progressive decrease of marginal cost of Internet application makes the Internet the best entry point to common prosperity of the world. The value of Internet platforms lies in universal benefit and sharing. The international community has the responsibility for boosting information infrastructure construction and technology R&D capability cultivation in the least-developed areas and for making the Internet universally beneficial. They should provide support in funds, technologies and talents for developing countries, and discover new approaches to making e-commerce, smart medical care and online education available in the least-developed areas, so that the Internet development results will better benefit all nations.

**2. We should promote the sustaining development of emerging technologies and jointly deal with problems concerning security, ethics and legal affairs.**

Sustaining development of emerging technologies causes new problems in governmental administration, economy and society and ethics. The establishment of relevant ethical frameworks and how to deal with the legal problems occurring in technical application are a universal concern. The international community has the responsibility for theoretical research, institutional design and practical innovation concerning security, ethics and legal affairs resulting from the development of new technologies, such as AI, block chain and quantum computing. We should strengthen the strategic cooperation between countries and regions and jointly discover new models and methods to promote development, protect security and avoid risks, so that technical development can serve all peoples in real sense.

**3. We should maintain positive cyberspace to protect the growth of juveniles.**

The new generation of juveniles are born and brought up in the Internet era, so the cyberspace is becoming their spiritual and cultural home, influencing their study and life styles. Juveniles, not so mature mentally, cannot yet make value judgement on the objective world, so they are subject to the influence of negative culture and unhealthy ways, which may twist their outlook on the world and values, affect their mental health

and even give rise to juvenile crime. Young people represent the future of the world, so cyberspace protection for them is a global subject which must be highly stressed and properly handled by the international community. All countries should supervise and guide juveniles' access to the Internet, teach them to treat the information in cyberspace in a rational way and thus improve their discriminability, self-control and self-consciousness. To sum up, we should create favorable cyberspace for juveniles' healthy growth.

**4. We should face and handle together the challenges to cyber security to ensure reliable and secure Internet development.**

All countries should, on the principle of openness and cooperation, enhance coordination in policies and communication in strategies, share advanced technical achievements and experiences in handling cyber security incidents, set up the global mechanism for emergency response to cyber security incidents and strengthen international cooperation in security protection of information infrastructure network. They should open their market wider, support the development of cyber security industries, and strengthen talent exchange and cultivation while combating hacking, network fraud and infringement on privacy, and improving Internet users' knowledge and quality and protective capability concerning cyber security, to reinforce the cyber security sense of businesses, social organizations and Internet users.

**5. We should respect cyber sovereignty and promote the transformation of the global Internet governance system.**

At present, the global Internet governance is at a critical turning point, so it is an irresistible trend and will of all peoples to transform the global Internet governance system. Global Internet governance should be based on multilateral and multi-party participation. Governments, international organizations, Internet businesses, technical communities, private sectors and individuals should all play their roles in it. We should promote cyber governance within the UN framework and give full play to the role of non-state actors to build a community with a shared future in cyberspace. We should work together to make the cyberspace more peaceful, secure, open and cooperative.