



**WSIS  
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**6-10 July 2026  
Geneva, Switzerland**

## **Session Outcome Document**

### **Building E-waste Management Systems**

**The Communications, Space & Technology Commission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the International Telecommunication Union**

**Monday, 6 July 2026 14:00–16:45 (UTC+02:00)**

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2026/Agenda/Session/272>

#### **Key Issues discussed:**

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as the shared regulatory model behind the national frameworks developed in Paraguay, Rwanda and Zambia under the three-year (2023–2026) [ITU–CST collaboration on e-waste management](#).
- Coordination between ICT/telecom regulators and environmental authorities remains a recurring challenge, raised repeatedly regarding where regulatory responsibility for e-waste should sit.
- How Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) are governed and how fees are calculated and passed to producers/importers without an excessive cost burden.
- Engaging the informal sector, which handles much of e-waste collection and repair in many developing countries, was flagged as necessary but difficult, since it already provides livelihoods.
- The role of upstream decisions — product design (perspective of Lenovo) and sustainable procurement/eco-labels (perspective of Global Electronics Council) — in reducing e-waste volume before it is generated.
- The Basel Convention's framework for transboundary movement of e-waste, and how national systems can allow repair, refurbishment and cross-border recycling under prior informed consent procedures.
- Emerging non-traditional actors, notably postal operators, are being explored as reverse-logistics infrastructure for e-waste collection.

### Key Outcomes of the session

- Rwanda is updating its national EPR regulations and established a PRO hosted under the Private Sector Federation, which aims to mobilize producers of electronics. 161 stakeholders from 104 public and private entities have been involved and consulted during the ITU-CST project in Rwanda.
- In Zambia, the project supported drafting e-waste and EPR regulations building on the 2011 Environmental Management Act, identifying the ICT Association of Zambia as a potential voluntary PRO, and developing key guidance documents for the ICT sector, engaging 186 stakeholders from 112 entities.
- Paraguay has prepared its first full draft decree on e-waste management based on EPR principles, supported by national implementation guidelines, and an in-depth financing study. 137 stakeholders from 62 entities were consulted throughout the project.
- The initiative "Recycle Your Device" of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has recycled over 100,000 devices (value above SAR 120 million) via delivery-app partnerships with 14+ partners, phasing out incentives once awareness took hold.
- ITU and CST reaffirmed their intention to continue the partnership beyond this project phase and invited other countries to engage with the [project's toolkit](#) and lessons from Rwanda, Zambia and Paraguay.

### Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Actions

- Strengthen formal coordination between ICT/telecom regulators and relevant public authorities at national, regional and international level.
- Involve the informal sector and civil society/consumer protection bodies from the design phase of e-waste regulation, not as a later add-on.
- Design EPR fee and financing mechanisms to scale with the number of registered producers/importers, rather than rising exponentially with volume.
- Countries without formal e-waste management legislation can start with a pilot, incentive-based collection scheme to build trust before implementing regulations.
- Broaden collaboration to include postal networks and eco-label/procurement bodies, and align national systems with Basel Convention requirements to keep repair and cross-border recycling possible.