

German Statement at the 70. UNECE-Commissions Session – “*Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe*” – Ambassador Dr. Hans-Peter Jügel, 18.04.2023

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

green and digital transformation of the economy is a **priority for the German government**.

In the UNECE, we are faced with **multiple crises**.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine which we condemn in the strongest possible terms is also severely impacting the policy areas in which the UNECE is active. This is why we cannot turn a blind eye in this organization to those devastating actions for which only Russia bears responsibility.

Excellencies.

In view of crises caused by climate change, economic inequality and pandemics, **digital resilience** must be **strengthened** and **digital structures** need to be **adapted** in the face of **current challenges**.

We pursue an ambitious agenda to digitalize and decarbonize at the same time – hand in hand.

I would like to use this opportunity to outline, from our point of view, **three key factors** when talking about a digital and green transformation. **1)** Digitalization brings **great potential** and

opportunities to reach **sustainability and climate targets**. In Germany, we initiated the project **Catena-X** in order to enable the digital information flow across entire automotive value chains – which would be instrumental for measuring the carbon footprint.

With the project Manufacturing X we want to take these efforts beyond the automotive sector.

Such data space initiatives for the industrial sector are an efficient way to enable sharing of data e.g. for the carbon footprint or circularity.

2. Governments need to create an environment that ensures a benefit of digitalization for all.

Despite its potential and benefits, digitalization brings new challenges for people and planet.

Germany is committed to using the potentials of digitalization to drive sustainability while reducing its footprint.

3. With international cooperation, we can maximize our impact.

For example, the energy efficiency directive (EED) will set up incentives for more climate friendly data centers across Europe.

Last but not least, allow me to mention the cooperation project **UNECE Transformative Innovation Network**, in short ETIN.

The project was launched in 2022 and is a cooperation between the UNECE and the German government.

The project aims at bringing together relevant stakeholders from the innovation ecosystem to **exchange best-practice** on transformative innovation and to create a **network of international peer-learning**. The focus of the network is on transformative innovations which contribute to the green and digital transformation of our economies and societies.

Please spread the word and join the network. Our colleagues do some incredibly valuable work here.

We are looking forward to continuing this important debate and to working all together to ensure that digitalization is sustainable and benefits all.

Thank you.

