

**Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI –
*Discovering the Citiverse***

**DOC-Executive-
Committee-005**

English Only

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Abstract: This document contains the report of the 1st meeting of the Executive Committee of Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI - *Discovering the Citiverse*.

Please see below.

Report of the 1st Meeting of the Executive Committee

10 February 2025, 0930 – 1230 (Dubai Time)

1 Introduction

The first meeting of the Executive Committee took place on 10 February 2025, during the World Governments Summit in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr Hamad Al Mansoori, Director General of Digital Dubai and Chair of the Executive Committee.

H.E. Mr Hamad Al Mansoori welcomed the participants and emphasized the transformative potential of the citiverse.

Mr Sameer Chauhan, Director of the United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) and one of the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Committee, highlighted the importance of the Initiative and reaffirmed UN's commitment to its objectives.

Mr Seizo Onoe, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, ITU, expressed his appreciation to Digital Dubai and the Chair of the Executive Committee for hosting the first Executive Committee meeting in Dubai. He emphasized that this gathering represents a pivotal moment in defining the vision, mission and strategic priorities of the Initiative.

The Executive Committee Chair presented the agenda of the meeting, as contained in [DOC-Executive-Committee-001](#). The agenda was approved as presented.

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The Vice-Chairs of the Executive Committee and other participants then introduced themselves. Each participant shared insights into their respective contributions, highlighting their commitment to advancing the Initiative, fostering global collaboration, and ensuring the responsible and inclusive development of AI-powered virtual worlds. These introductions set the stage for a collaborative discussion. The list of participants is provided in Annex 1.

2 Approval of the Terms of Reference for the Executive and Steering Committees

The Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee, as contained in [DOC-Executive-Committee-002](#), were presented and approved by the Executive Committee.

The Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee, as contained in [DOC-Executive-Committee-003](#), were also presented and approved by the Executive Committee. Additionally, Dr Okan Geray was appointed as the Chair of the Steering Committee.

3 The Future We Want: The Global Initiative as a Catalyst for the Pact for the Future

A keynote presentation was delivered by Dr Okan Geray, Chair of the Steering Committee, and Ms Cristina Buetti, Counsellor of the Initiative, highlighting the challenges and opportunities associated with AI-powered virtual worlds and providing an overview of the Initiative.

4 Strategic Discussion: Goals and Priorities of the Executive Committee

The strategic discussion was moderated by Mr Sameer Chauhan, Director of the UNICC and one of the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee engaged in a high-level dialogue on the Initiative's mission, vision, goals and priorities.

During the discussion, several Executive Committee members suggested including AI in the Initiative's title. As a result, the Executive Committee unanimously agreed to add AI to the title and the title was updated to “**Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI – *Discovering the Citiverse***”.

Additionally, the draft Mission Statement and Vision Document, as contained in [DOC-Executive-Committee-004](#), was presented and reviewed. The updated version, as contained in [DOC-Executive-Committee-004-R1](#), was approved by the Executive Committee and has been published on the [Initiative's website](#).

5 Future Meetings and Next Steps

The timeline of planned activities for the Initiative was presented by Ms Cristina Buetti, Counsellor of the Initiative.

Activity	Date	Place
Public session on Shaping future Governments in the Age of Virtual Worlds and the Citiverse	13 February 2025	@World Governments Summit in Dubai.
1st UN Citiverse Challenge , co-organized by ITU, UNICC, ITCILO, WIPO, FAO, the World Bank Group, UN Tourism, UNICEF, Digital Dubai, OASC, City of Tampere and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	13 February – 12 June 2025	To be launched on 13 February 2025; Award ceremony during the 2 nd UN Virtual Worlds Day on 11–12 June 2025.
ITU and ATU webinar on Shaping Africa's Digital Future: Governance in the Metaverse and Virtual Worlds	25 February 2025	Virtual.

2nd UN Virtual Worlds Day and the Award Ceremony of the 1 st UN Citiverse Challenge	11–12 June 2025	Turin, Italy.
Annual Assembly of the Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI , followed by the Smart Cities Expo Congress	3 November 2025	Valencia, Spain.

Executive Committee members were encouraged to maintain their active engagement with the Initiative's activities.

6 Any other businesses

Photos from the Executive Committee meeting are available [Here](#).

7 Closing Remarks

The meeting concluded with closing remarks by H.E. Mr Hamad Al Mansoori and Mr Sameer Chauhan, who reiterated their commitment to the success of the Initiative and thanked participants for their contributions.

Annex 1: List of Participants

- **H.E. Mr Hamad Al Mansoori**, Director General, Digital Dubai and Chair of the Executive Committee
- **H.E. Mr Jerry William Silaa**, Minister, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Tanzania
- **Sameer Chauhan**, Director, United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC)
- **Hyoung Jun Kim**, Chair, ITU-T Study Group 20 “Internet of Things, digital twins and smart sustainable cities and communities”
- **Jouni Markkanen**, Deputy Mayor, City of Tampere, Finland
- **Paula Llobet Vilarrasa**, Councillor for Tourism, Digital Agenda, Innovation, and Investment, Valencia, Spain
- **Manuel Barreiro**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aston Group
- **Okan Geray**, Chair of the Steering Committee, Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI – *Discovering the Citiverse*, and Chair of United for Smart Sustainable Cities Initiative (U4SSC)
- **Cristina Bueti**, Counsellor, Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI – *Discovering the Citiverse*
- **Ernesto Faubel**, Co-Chair of Pillar 2 of the Global Initiative on Virtual Worlds and AI – *Discovering the Citiverse*



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