

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Government
Ministry of Science and ICT
Bangladesh Secretariat
Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Intersessional Inputs and Contribution

The Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh arranged inter-ministry and departmental meetings for input and contribution on the Draft Declaration and on Plan of Action taken during PrepCom-2. Bangladesh Working Group on WSIS has worked out based on the guiding principles for next steps noted by the WSIS Executive Secretariat to prepare this document (Ref: Document WSIS/PC-2/DT/6(Rev.1)-E).

Bangladesh Government believes that –

- Widespread use of ICT in global trade and commerce activities should be promoted for greater access of developing countries into the world markets;
- The global IPR regime should also recognize the special needs of developing countries. The developing countries should themselves be aware in safeguarding their diversified indigenous cultural and linguistic contents [as common vision];
- Developing countries should have greater access to global market and trade information through international trade information networks and trade portals [access to information and knowledge];

- Developing countries will need more international support to enhance market access for their ICT products and services, help in product development and research, and to increase investment by global ICT sectors from developed countries [the role of public, private and civil society in promotion of ICT4D];
- Both proprietary and open source software and applications should be taken into consideration for greater flexibility and minimizing cost. To create a favorable market atmosphere for private sector investment we need to ensure the development of suitable market incentives. Special emphasis should be put in creating a beneficial environment from SMEs to operate in the networked economy which will be of particular importance for faster economic of all countries in the world [equal opportunity for all];
- To bridge the Digital Divide specific attention should be given to ICT education and training for the youth. ICT enabled education and educational courses on ICTs for youth – both are equal increasing importance for capacity and human development measures in the global south [capacity building];
- Facilitating the young entrepreneurs with seed funding and business advisory support so that they can reap the tremendous benefits that can be achieved from the ICT4D [ICT applications];

Specific recommendations on Draft Declaration of Principles:

At 5 (34) please add *highlighted* words and read as:

“An adequately developed infrastructure *and a set of ethical guidelines* is a precondition for secure and reliable access to information by all stakeholders and for the upgrading of relevant services”.

At 9 (52) please add an additional Para as:

Protecting countries from bad affects of misuse of ICT: Policies regarding use of ICT must respect the laws, interest and readiness of other members and no entity should be allowed to reach into any contract with an illegal entity or with a legal entity on a matter for which it is not allowed.