

Sustainability Implications of the Knowledge Society

– the environmental dimension

The context and issues

Increasing population, economic activity and consumptive lifestyles are placing unsustainable burdens on the earth's natural systems and finite resources. Creating prosperity through much less wasteful and harmful use of resources has been identified as the over-arching sustainable development challenge as addressed at the **World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (WSSD)** in 2002.

In this context, it is essential for the WSIS to consider the **sustainability implications of the Knowledge Society**. In particular we suggest that the **environmental** dimension should be given sufficient weight alongside the **social** and **economic** dimensions.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1 Introduction of hosts
- 2 Opening remarks from Dr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme
- 3 Sustainability Implications of the Knowledge Society- "the environmental dimension"
- 4 The Environment and current WSIS negotiations
- 5 Q and A

25th February 2003,
Geneva, Switzerland

Venue: Room 18, Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), 15, rue de Varembe, CH-1211 Geneva 20

Time: 16h00-18h00

Coffee and sandwiches will be available

By the **GLOBAL e-SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE (GeSI)**, Business, UNEP and the ITU working in partnership with WWF.

The WSIS PrepCom Committee is invited to adopt our recommendations on sustainable development and include them in the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action to be adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society.

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Global e-Sustainability Initiative

