

World Summit on the Information Society
**The Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors
(CCBI)**

Intersessional Meeting 17 July 2003

INTERVENTION 2

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**List of Issues and Objectives for the World Summit on the
Information Society Action Plan**

Madame Chairperson, President, distinguished delegates and ladies and gentlemen, to build on the principles outlined by the previous speaker, my comments will be focussed on business viewpoints on the pertinent issues and objectives for the WSIS Action Plan.

To promote the development of a truly global information society for all, the World Summit on the Information Society should encourage the following specific actions to facilitate broader and global access to ICTs and information as important tools to promote economic development, social development, human rights, cultural diversity and gender equality:

1. Developing National ICT Strategies with achievable and measurable goals the objective of clearly prioritizing the actions that are necessary to fully embrace the information society.
2. Implementing transparent and predictable legal and regulatory environments with the objective of promoting competition and

investment in ICT infrastructure and applications. These would include actions such as:

- Fostering competition in the underlying infrastructure
- Removing legal obstacles to e-commerce
- Ensuring effective intellectual property protection
- Recognizing electronic signatures and contracts
- Ensuring a neutral and non-discriminatory tax regime
- Establishing transparent processes for policy development

3. Implementing policies that promote competition and demand for ICTs and ICT applications with the goal of continued innovation of products, services and content at affordable prices, including free choice of such ICT products, services and content. Many technologies can be used to provide such products, services and content affordably, including mobile services, which can help bridge the digital divide. Government policies should promote the continued innovation and deployment of such technologies.
4. Creating education systems and skills development programs for all segments of society with the objective of building the necessary skills for citizens to reap the benefits of the information society, including the use of ICTs for education.
5. Creating healthcare systems that utilize ICTs to increase productivity and efficiency in with the provision of healthcare globally.

6. Promoting appropriate information sharing about security issues with the objective of enhancing secure and reliable networks. These could include actions such as the following:
 - Developing a culture of security
 - Preventing cybercrime and enforcing laws related to it
 - Facilitating information sharing and analysis centers around the world

7. Developing programs to foster entrepreneurship including the uptake of ICTs by SMEs with the objective being to enable efficient business practices and further promoting universal access to ICTs and the Information Society.

8. Establishing public/private partnerships with the objective being the seizing of digital opportunities and the advancement of e-Education, e-Health, and other e-applications.

9. Strategies, programmes, methods for implementation, cooperation and funding should be discussed among and agreed upon by all stakeholders.