

ITU, UNESCO

Comments submitted jointly by ITU and UNESCO on chapters one and four of the operational part of the Tunis Final Documents

In response to the request from the chairman of the PrepCom process to submit comments on chapters one and four of the Operational part of the Tunis Final Documents, notably on implementation mechanisms and the way forward, ITU and UNESCO have pleasure in submitting the following proposals for consideration by the Group of Friends of the Chair and eventually by PrepCom-3.

Note: New text in bold. Deleted text in ~~strike through~~. [*Comments in italics.*]

Existing text	PROPOSED TEXT
<p>10. In order to assure the sustainability of the WSIS process after the completion of its Tunis phase, we agree to establish an implementation mechanism for the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action, based upon co-operation among governments and all stakeholders, with the overarching goal of helping countries and societies to achieve the development goals of the Millennium Declaration. To that end, for each Action Line in the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action (as identified in the Annex), a team of stakeholders will work together to promote implementation. We request the UN Secretary-General to nominate, from among existing UN bodies or specialised agencies, those that will [moderate/coordinate] the work of each team, based on respect for their mandates and leveraging on their expertise, and within their existing resources.</p>	<p>10. In order to assure the sustainability of the WSIS process after the completion of its Tunis phase, we agree to establish an implementation mechanism for the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action and the Tunis Agenda for Action, based upon co-operation among governments and all stakeholders, with the overarching goals of helping countries and societies to achieve the development goals of the Millennium Declaration and to convert the digital divide into digital opportunities for all. To that end, for each Action Line in the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action and the Tunis Agenda for Action (as identified in the Annex), a multi-stakeholder team of stakeholders will work together to promote implementation. We request the UN Secretary-General to nominate, from among existing UN bodies or specialised agencies, those that will [moderate/Coordinate] for the work of each team will be identified from among existing UN bodies or specialised agencies, based on respect for their mandates and leveraging on their expertise, and within their existing resources.</p>

<p>11. The [moderator/coordinator] of each team identified in the Annex should periodically prepare a report on the implementation of the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action based upon the information provided by, and the outputs from collaboration among, stakeholders, focussing particular attention on the progress towards achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration, and submit it to [a defined coordination body]. The [head of a defined coordination body] will submit regular reports to the UN General Assembly, following its existing rules of procedure.</p> <p>[Options for a defined coordination body (with participation of representatives of all stakeholders):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITU/WSIS-ES; • “existing UN division” (within UN DESA) for following-up major UN conferences; • Newly-created UN Inter-agency task force, HLSOC-type, (supported by a 2-3 person secretariat); • Newly-created UN ICT Task Force-type forum (supported by 2-3 person secretariat). 	<p>11. The [moderator/coordinator] of each multi-stakeholder team identified in the Annex should periodically prepare a report on the implementation of the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action and the Tunis Agenda for Action, based upon the information provided by, and the outputs from collaboration among, governments and all stakeholders. The reports should focussing pay particular attention to on—the progress towards achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration and converting the digital divide into digital opportunities for all. and The coordinators should submit the reports to [a defined coordination body] an overall meeting of coordinators of the multi-stakeholder teams, which will select its own chair or co-chairs. The [head of a defined coordination body] chair or co-chairs will submit regular reports—based upon the reports of the multi-stakeholder teams, reports on national implementation, and the stocktaking exercise—to the UN Secretary-General to report to the UN General Assembly, following its existing rules of procedure.</p> <p>[Options for a defined coordination body (with participation of representatives of all stakeholders):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITU/WSIS-ES; • “existing UN division” (within UN DESA) for following up major UN conferences; • Newly created UN Inter-agency task force, HLSOC type, (supported by a 2-3 person secretariat); • Newly created UN ICT Task Force-type forum (supported by 2-3 person secretariat).
<p>29. We request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide—with the collaboration of all stakeholders, and fully utilizing the existing coordination mechanisms within or related to the United Nations—sustained follow-up within the United Nations system to the agreements and commitments reached at WSIS and to ensure effective secretariat support. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is further requested to submit a periodic report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on those follow-up efforts.</p>	<p>29. We request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide—with the collaboration of governments and all stakeholders, and fully utilizing the existing coordination mechanisms within or related to the United Nations—sustained follow-up within the United Nations system to the agreements and commitments reached at WSIS and to ensure effective secretariat support. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is further requested to submit a periodic report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on those follow-up efforts, based upon the periodic reports submitted by the chair or co-chairs of the meeting of coordinators of multi-stakeholder teams.</p>

Annex of the Operational Part:

Proposals for the Annex were submitted by UNESCO during PrepCom-2.

Within ITU, the Annex was discussed by the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS (WG-WSIS) at its meeting on 3-4 May 2005. That meeting made the following recommendation to ITU Council:

- *“Based on the ITU mandate and competencies, it could, at a minimum, play the role of coordinator/moderator for action line C2 (infrastructure);*
- *In line with UN Resolution 57/270 on the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of major UN conferences and summits, ITU’s mandate and competencies mean that it could also play a role, to be defined in the Tunis Final Document(s), amongst others, in most of the other action lines, in partnership with other relevant stakeholders, and depending on how the roles of the stakeholder teams, the moderator/coordinator, and the appropriate moderating/coordinating body are defined (these terms are still in square brackets in the draft text);*
- *ITU’s defined role in follow-up and implementation, taking into account, inter alia, relevant decisions of ITU Conferences and Assemblies, must also be within the resources and budget limitations of the Union, to be determined by Council 2005 (for 2006-07) and by the Plenipotentiary 2006 (for 2008-2011).”*

Source: ITU Council Document C05/20.

Revision to Document DT/3

During PrepCom-2, the chair of the Sub-Committee invited the ITU Secretary-General to provide more information on a possible implementation mechanism at the international level (DT/3 Rev. 1). On the basis of subsequent comments and consultations, and in line with the comments proposed above, a revision to this document is attached.

Document WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-3 (Rev.2)-E

31 May 2005

Original: English

**Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and
Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural
Organisations (UNESCO)**

**POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM AT THE INTERNATIONAL
LEVEL**

In accordance with the proposal made in paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 of chapter one of the report of the Group of Friends of the Chair (WSIS/PC-2/DOC/3), the following could be suggested as a possible general framework for the implementation mechanism of the WSIS Plan of Action (and any subsequent plan of action agreed in Tunis) at the international level:

1. For each Action Line in the Plan of Action, a multi-stakeholder team will be created. The team would be open to all stakeholders. An appropriate entity, such as an inter-governmental organisation, will be identified as the coordinator for each multi-stakeholder team.
2. The coordinator will be responsible for organising the work of the multi-stakeholder team, by organising meeting(s) open to all stakeholders for implementation of the respective Action Line.
3. The Secretary General of ITU, as Secretary-General of the Summit, will organise meeting(s) of stakeholders to reach agreement on a recommendation to the Secretary General of the United Nations concerning his nomination of coordinators.
4. Each stakeholder team will decide on its own modalities of coordination.
5. Meeting(s) of coordinators (called a “ Meeting of the coordinators of the multi-stakeholder teams”) will be convened, as appropriate, to gain an overall picture of the implementation activities of each stakeholder team. Those Meetings will also determine the overall framework of implementation activities for the stakeholder teams, including follow-up to the stocktaking exercise. A Chair or Co-Chairs will be elected by the Meeting. The Meeting will be supported by the secretariats of ITU and UNESCO.
6. The “Meeting of the coordinators of the multi-stakeholder teams” will establish procedures and mechanisms of the overall stocktaking exercise, based on the annual outputs from the stakeholder teams.
7. The Chair or Co-chair of the Meeting of the coordinators of the multi-stakeholder teams will make regular reports on the implementation activities of the WSIS Plan of Action—based

upon the reports of the multi-stakeholder teams, reports on national implementation and the stocktaking exercise—to the Secretary General of UN for him to report to the UN General Assembly.

