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Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DT9-E  
24 September 2005  
Original: English

## Chair of Sub-Committee B

### CHAPTER ONE: IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

AND

### CHAPTER FOUR: THE WAY AHEAD

[Note: New text underlined. Deleted text in ~~striketrough~~]

## [Chapter One: Implementation Mechanism

- 1.** We **recognise** that it is now time to move from principles to action, considering the work already being done in implementing the Plan of Action and identifying those areas where progress has been made, is being made, or has not taken place. All stakeholders must identify those areas where further effort and resources are required, and jointly develop appropriate strategies and implementation mechanisms at global, national and local levels, paying particular attention to peoples and groups that are still marginalized in their access to and utilization of ICTs.
- 2.** We **acknowledge** the leading role of governments in partnership with other stakeholders in implementing the [WSIS] Plan of Action at the national level. We encourage, as appropriate, those governments that have not yet done so to elaborate comprehensive, forward looking and sustainable national e-strategies, including ICT and sectoral e-strategies, as an integral part of national development plans and including poverty reduction strategies, [by 2007/2008/2009/2010].
- 3.** We **support value** regional and international integration efforts aimed at building development of a development-oriented global Information Society, reiterate that strong cooperation within and among regions is indispensable to support knowledge-sharing and recognize the role of greater South-South cooperation in this regards. The Regional dialogue should contribute to national capacity-building and to the development, as appropriate, of national e-strategies, including ICT and sectoral e-strategies, and as well as regional implementation strategies, paying special attention to the formulation of universal design concepts.
- 4.** **We affirm that** the exchange of views and ~~the~~ sharing of effective practices [and resources] are is essential to implementing the Geneva and Tunis outcomes at the regional and international levels. To this end, efforts should be made to provide and share, among all stakeholders, useful knowledge

and know-how, related to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national e-strategies, including ICT and sectoral e-strategies and policies, as appropriate, including successful approaches to gender mainstreaming, in order to bridge the digital divide[, reduce technological dependency] and reduce poverty.

**5. We reaffirm** that [only] through the [international] cooperation [of governments in partnership with other stakeholders will it be] and partnership of all stakeholders, it will be possible to succeed in our challenge of harnessing the potential of ICTs as a tool to achieve the internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as to address the national and local development priorities, ~~and~~ thereby further ~~to continue~~ improving the socio-economic development of all human beings.

**6. We are determined** to improve global, regional and national connectivity and access to ICTs through an enhanced international cooperation of all stakeholders that promotes technology exchange, human resource development and training, thus increasing the capacity of developing countries to participate fully in the Information Society. [Within that context, we undertake to assess regularly the impact of that cooperation and to work jointly in order to eliminate any obstacles against it.]

**7. We reaffirm our commitment** to providing equitable access to information and knowledge for [all] /[all women and men]/[all citizens]. **We are committed** to working towards achieving the indicative targets, set out in the Plan of Action, that serve as global references for improving connectivity and universal, ubiquitous, equitable, non-discriminatory and affordable access in the use of ICTs, considering different national circumstances, to be achieved by 2015, and to using ICTs, as an additional tool to achieve the internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, by:

- a) *mainstreaming and aligning national e-strategies*, including ICT and sectoral e- strategies, across local, national, and regional action plans, as appropriate and in accordance with local and national development priorities, with in-built time-bound measures;
- b) *developing and implementing enabling policies and regulatory frameworks* that are reflective of national realities and promote investment as well as the mobilisation of domestic resources by being supportive of international cooperation, healthy business environments and ICT entrepreneurship, in particular by establishing mechanisms that help local SMEs to customize products and applications to their particular market and cultural context, and providing support through capacity-building;
- c) *building the ICT capacities of people and nations* by improving educational and training systems and programmes, including distance learning, training and retraining of the labour force to allow greater access and adaptation to ICTs and their impact on the workplace;
- d) *building the human and material ICT capacity of nations*, especially policy makers and governments officials, representatives of civil society and of the private sector, through providing increased attention and support to human resource development and education for the information society with emphasis on the youth, women, indigenous people, people with disabilities and rural communities, in order to increase contribution to the broader knowledge economy

- e) *building confidence and enhancing trust in the use of ICT* by ensuring sustainable access to high quality and trustful information and developing and implementing training initiatives for ICT literacy at all levels, for all groups and individuals; targeting in particular the Least Developed Countries;
- f) *promoting community [volunteerism] [involvement]* in the ICT for development sector;
- g) *promoting public policies aimed at providing affordable accessibility* to hardware as well as software, connectivity, increasingly converging technological environment, capacity-building and local content, to populations, especially communities living in developing regions, in particular in rural areas taking into account the situation and requirements of disadvantaged and marginalised sections, including women;
- h) *ensuring that library and information services are available* to support informal and formal education, research and innovation as well as open access to relevant public information;
- i) *establishing programmes for academia, communities, industry, and governments* for ongoing learning of good practices in the design and implementation of ICTs; in particular, the use of universal and participatory design and open technical standards;
- j) *developing and implementing common architecture/platform* for all e-government applications in order to insure interoperability of e-government systems from local to national level;
- k) *improving access to educational, scientific and cultural institutions* and enhancing their capacities to provide diverse and relevant content on the Internet and contributing to *building ICT networks and developing services* that are available anywhere, anytime, to anything and anyone;
- l) *improving access to the world's health knowledge* and telemedicine services, in areas such as global cooperation in emergency response, access to and networking among health professionals improving quality of life and environmental conditions
- m) *using ICT to improve access to agricultural knowledge*, combat poverty, and support production of and access to locally relevant agriculture related content;
- n) *creating local and regional networks* to improve the world's system for the control warning surveillance and response to situation of emergency;
- o) *establishing standards-based monitoring and early-warning systems and facilitating emergency response* in high-risk regions all over the world, using ICTs, accessible for all groups and individuals, to forecast, monitor and reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters, as well as to disseminate understandable warnings to those at risk;
- p) *developing local language and content* that is relevant for improving the socio-economic conditions of people in all regions;
- q) *improving global, regional and national connectivity* and access to ICTs through enhanced international cooperation that promotes technology transfer and human resources training and development so as to increase the capacity of developing countries and their citizens capacity to participate fully in the Information Society;

- r) *strongly encouraging ICT enterprises to commit to environment-friendly production processes, product recycling and proper disposal of ICT waste products in order to minimise the negative impacts of the use and manufacture of ICTs on people and the environment;*
- s) *Incorporating policies regulatory, self-regulatory, co-regulatory and other effective frameworks to protect children and young people from abuse and exploitation through ICTs into national plans of action and e-strategies;*
- t) *Promoting the use of traditional and new media in order to foster universal access to information, culture and knowledge for all people, especially vulnerable populations and populations in developing countries and using radio and television into educational and learning tools;*
- u) *[strengthening freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as independence, pluralism and diversity of media and reducing international unbalances affecting the media;]*
- v) *encouraging good information management policies in public and private sectors to ensure on-going reliability and accessibility of public information and encouraging the creation of technical solutions to address the challenges posed by technological obsolescence in order to ensure the survival and transmission of information and other content;*
- w) *digitizing our cultural treasures for the benefit of future generations.*

**8. We accordingly call on international and intergovernmental organisations to develop their policy analysis and capacity-building programmes, based on practical and replicable experiences of ICT matters [policies and actions] that have led to economic growth and poverty alleviation through improved competitiveness of enterprises.**

**9. We recall that the [Geneva] Plan of Action identifies international performance evaluation and benchmarking, taking into account different national circumstances, as an important aspect of follow-up and evaluation [review]. Recognizing the need to achieve a common set of core ICT indicators that are harmonized and agreed-upon internationally, we welcome the progress made on a list of core ICT indicators and encourage further coordination with the work currently being done by the UN Statistical Commission on measuring progress towards the achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals.**

**10. We call upon and encourage national statistical offices and e-government agencies, UN agencies and Regional Commissions, international organizations and other stakeholders to support these efforts by providing technical support as well as gender- and age - disaggregated data. We invite the international community to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries by giving appropriate support at national and regional level.**

**11. We applaud the initiatives taken in this area, including by those key stakeholders involved in the statistical measurement of ICTs and their applications and impacts who have joined forces to create a global partnership on "Measuring ICT for Development".**

**12. We recognize** that our goals can be accomplished through the involvement and cooperation of all stakeholders in the Information Society. We encourage strengthened and continuing co-operation between and among stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the Geneva and Tunis outcomes, for instance through the promotion of multi-stakeholder partnerships including Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing and less developed countries, ~~donors~~ development partners and actors in the ICT sector.

[13. We also recognize that structuring optimal partnerships requires expertise and call upon the Secretary General of the United Nations to set up a working group as part of the Tunis outcomes, to serve in an expert advisory capacity in the evolution of the multi-stakeholder partnerships at the national, regional and international level.]

**14. We commit** ourselves to evaluate [review] and follow-up progress in bridging the digital divide, taking into account the different levels of development among nations, so as to achieve the internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, assessing the effectiveness of investment and international cooperation efforts in building the Information Society, identifying gaps as well as deficits in investment and devising strategies to address them.

[15. Inspired by the principles agreed upon by the World Summit on the Information Society, we invite the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and relevant regional organizations to periodically brief the implementation mechanism for the Plan of Action of the WSIS on those actions guaranteeing to safeguard the use of the radio frequency spectrum in the public interest and with full observance of applicable national and international laws and regulations.]

**16. We acknowledge** that multi-stakeholder participation is essential to the successful building of an inclusive and development-oriented information society. We underline that the participation of all stakeholders in implementing WSIS decisions on national, regional and international levels with the overarching goal of helping countries to achieve internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals is key to that success.

**17. We agree**, in order to ensure the sustainability of progress towards the ~~outcomes~~ goals of WSIS after the completion of its Tunis phase, to establish a process of follow-up to the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of WSIS, respecting the principle of subsidiarity at national, regional and international levels [as part of an integrated and co-ordinated process]. That process may include, at each level, the following elements:

- a) implementation;
- b) evaluation;[/ review]
- c) policy debate and review [/ and follow up]

**18. At the national level**, based on the WSIS outcomes, we encourage governments, with the participation of all stakeholders, to set up a national *implementation* framework [bearing in mind the importance of the enabling environment], in which:

- a) National e-strategies, where appropriate, should be made an integral part of national development plans, including Poverty Reduction Strategies, aiming to contribute to the achievement of goals contained in the Millennium Declaration;

- b) ICTs should be fully mainstreamed into strategies for Official Development Assistance (ODA) through more effective ~~donor~~ development partners information-sharing and co-ordination, and through analysis and sharing of best practices and lessons learned from experience with ICT for development programmes;
- c) Existing bilateral and multilateral technical assistance programmes, including those under the UN Development Assistance Framework, should be used whenever appropriate to assist governments in their implementation efforts at the national level;
- d) Common Country Assessment reports should contain, [when deemed suitable] a component on ICT for development.

**19. At the regional level:**

- a) Upon request from governments, regional inter-governmental organizations in collaboration with other stakeholders could carry out WSIS implementation activities, exchanging information and best practices at the regional level, as well as facilitating policy debate on the use of ICT for development, with a focus on attaining the internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;
- b) UN Regional ~~economic~~-Commissions, based on request of Member States and within approved budgetary resources, may organize regional WSIS follow-up conferences in collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations with appropriate frequency;
- c) **We consider** a multi-stakeholder approach and the participation in regional WSIS implementation activities by civil society, business entities and others to be essential-necessary.

**20. At the international level, [bearing in mind the importance of the enabling environment]:**

- a) *Implementation* of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the Summit in the UN system should take account of the main themes and action lines in the Summit documents;
- b) Each UN agency, ~~according to~~ within its mandate and competencies, and based on decisions of their respective governing bodies, and in line with UNGA Resolution 57/270 B, ~~could~~ should facilitate activities among different stakeholders, including civil society and the private business sector, to help national governments in their implementation efforts. The facilitation ~~could~~ should include, amongst others, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices, and assistance in developing and multi-stakeholder public private partnerships. Facilitation should be carried out within the approved budgets of the respective agencies.
- c) The modalities of coordination of implementation activities among the UN agencies and institutions should be [defined by the UN Secretary General] by July 2006 on the basis of existing practices within the UN system and within the WSIS. The experience of, and the activities undertaken by, UN agencies in the WSIS process—notably [lead role by] ITU, UNESCO and UNDP—should continue to be used to their fullest extent;
- d) Coordination of multi-stakeholder implementation activities would allow information exchange and avoidance of duplication of activities;
- e) The establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as the ITU-led initiative “Connect the World”, which are aimed at bridging the digital divide, should be supported and encouraged;
- f) [The head of a central coordinating body (ITU/WSIS-ES) and/or the Global Alliance on ICT and Development is to work closely with the bodies specified in the action line focal points (Ref to the annex on action lines).]

**[21. We request in the follow up process of the Summit to assist those countries affected by any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the**

affected countries or that hinders their well-being, in overcoming the obstacles which prevent their population from fully enjoying the benefits of the information society.]

[22. Stressing the importance of the effective and timely implementation of the plan of Action, we request UN agencies, listed in the Annex, to consider possibility o coordinate relevant Action Lines request ITU to continue playing the leading managerial role and to organize a meeting of coordinators for action lines and o support the WSIS web-site.]

**[ANNEX A (Russian Federation)]**

<b>Action Line</b>	<b>Coordinator(s)</b>
C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development	ECOSOC
C2. Information and communication infrastructure	ITU
C3. Access to information and knowledge	ITU + UNESCO
C4. Capacity building	ITU + UNESCO
C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs	ITU
C6. Enabling environment	ITU+ UNDP
C7. ICT Applications	
• E-government	UNDP + ITU
• E-business	WTO + UNCTAD
• E-learning	UNESCO + ITU
• E-health	WHO+ ITU
• E-employment	ILO
• E-environment	WMO
• E-agriculture	FAO
• E-science	UNESCO
C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content	UNESCO
C9. Media	UNESCO
C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society	UNESCO + ECOSOC
C11. International and regional cooperation	ITU + UNDP + ECOSOC
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B. Objectives, goals and targets	ITU + ECOSOC
D. Digital Solidarity	ITU+ UNDP
E. Follow-up and evaluation	ITU + ECOSOC
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[ANNEX B (Ghana)

**Action Lines**

C1. The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for Development

C2. Information and communication infrastructure

C3. Access to information and knowledge

C4. Capacity building

C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

C6. Enabling environment

C7. ICT applications

- E-government
- E-business
- E-learning
- E-health
- E-employment
- E-environment
- E-agriculture
- E-science

C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

C9. Media

C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society

C11. International and regional cooperation

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B. Objectives, goals and targets

D. Digital Solidarity

E. Follow-up and evaluation

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**[Moderator/Coordinator]**

**- UN Regional Commissions (UN RCs) +Regional political bodies**

ITU +UN RCs

ITU +UN RCs

ITU/UNESCO+UN

**RCs+Regional political bodies**

**UN RCs+Regional political bodies**

**ITU +UN RCs+Regional political bodies**

ITU +UN RCs

UNESCO

WHO

ILO

WHO/UNEP/UN-Habitat

FAO

UNESCO

**UNESCO +UN RCs**

-

**UNESCO**

**ITU +UN RCs+Regional political bodies**

**- ITU+UN RCs+Regional political bodies**

**- Regional political bodies**

**- ITU +UN RCs + Global Alliance on ICT and Development**

## Chapter Four: The Way Ahead

**40. Building an inclusive development-oriented Information Society will require unremitting effort.** We thus commit ourselves to keep fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, to ensure sustainable follow-up to the implementation of [agreements] [decisions] [outcomes] and commitments reached during WSIS process and its Geneva and Tunis phases of the Summit. Taking into account the multifaceted nature of building the Information Society, effective cooperation among governments and other stakeholders, based on respect for their mandates and leveraging on their expertise, is ~~needed~~-important.

**41. WSIS follow up mechanisms should be based on a multi-stakeholder approach.** We recognize the need to establish appropriate mechanisms for implementation, evaluation, as well as policy debate and review, involving governments and other stakeholders and including national, regional, international and other bodies.

**a) Effective implementation of WSIS outcomes is important for achieving internationally-agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals.**

In order to build a inclusive people-centred development oriented Information Society We call for the active participation of the private sector and civil society to work with Governments in implementing WSIS outcomes at the national, regional and international levels, in a collaborative manner, taking into account local and national priorities as well as the need to strengthen South-South cooperation.

**b) Evaluation [review] is an important element of assessing implementation of WSIS outcomes.** We accordingly commit to follow up the implementation of the Geneva and Tunis outcomes through an internationally-comparable and mutually agreed upon framework for statistical indicators. This framework should include both qualitative and quantitative elements as well as take into account the different aspects of the development dimension and national circumstances [and priorities].

**c) Considering the dynamic nature of the Information Society and the development of ICTs and their applications, regular policy debate and review is essential.** While reaffirming that evaluation and policy formulation, at the national level, is the prerogative of governments, we consider the participation in the policy debate by the national civil society, business entities and others to be essential, and invite all stakeholders to participate actively in the review and policy debate activities organized in the framework of the follow-up to the outcomes of the major UN conferences and summits in the economic and social fields.

**42. Adequate financing mechanisms should be sought to implement the long term action plans dedicated to the building of the information society.**

**43. [We agree that the follow-up to Internet governance should be separated from the other issues and organized as outlined in Chapter Three.]**

**44. An effective realistic international performance evaluation [review] and benchmarking framework should continue to be developed.** Recalling that the Plan of Action identified the need for international evaluation and benchmarking through comparable statistical indicators in order to follow up the implementation of the WSIS objectives, goals and targets, we welcome the launching of the Digital Opportunity Index (DOI) which is a tool for measuring the ICT infrastructure capability of countries and call upon all stakeholders to contribute to the its further development.

**45. The development of ICT indicators is important for measuring the digital divide.** We welcome the launching in June 2004 of the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development*, a multi-stakeholder partnership which aims to accommodate and develop further the different initiatives regarding the availability and measurement of ICT indicators at the regional and international levels. It provides an open framework for coordinating ongoing and future activities, and for developing a coherent and structured approach to advancing the development of ICT indicators globally, and in particular in developing countries.

**46. Sharing of information related to the implementation of WSIS outcomes is important.** We note with appreciation the launch of WSIS Stocktaking in October 2004, which will serve as a valuable tool for follow-up, beyond the conclusion of the Tunis Phase of the Summit. We encourage all WSIS stakeholders to continue to contribute ~~new and updated~~ information on their activities to the WSIS stocktaking public database In this regard, we invite all countries to establish an information gathering mechanism at the national level with the involvement of all stakeholders.

**47. There is a need to build more awareness on The Internet in order to make it a global facility which is truly available to the public. We agree to declare [dates] a World Internet Day to help to raise awareness, on an annual basis, of the importance of this global facility, on the issues dealt with in the Summit, especially the possibilities that the use of ICT can bring for societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.**

**48. [We request the Secretary-General of the Summit to report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on its outcome.]**

**49. We request the Secretary General of the United Nations to submit a report on implementation activities of the WSIS decisions within the UN family as part of the annual report to the ECOSOC and/or UNGA.**

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