Preliminary input of the Egyptian Delegation
to the Group of Friends of the Chair

Basic Principles:

- The need for 2 documents, a political one and an action oriented one.
[This is due to the fact that the Tunis phase of the Summit is part and parcel of the process and is complementary to the Geneva Phase and at the same level of importance. The Tunis phase will also address the need for specific strategies and practical mechanisms for implementation of the Goals of the Summit and bridging the Digital Divide, this in turn would require the expression of a strong political commitment in the form of a stand alone document.]

- The need to adhere to the issues effecting the Information Society and not bring in issues that are not directly related or that are being discussed in other more appropriate fora.

The political document should:

- Stress the importance of realizing the Information Society and bridging the digital divide as the core goals for implementation after the Tunis phase. This should be regularly followed upon after the end of the Tunis phase.

- The balance reached in the agreed language of the first phase of the summit with regards to many issues including human rights, freedom of expression, etc should be maintained.

- Stress the linkage between bridging the digital divide and the Millenium Declaration Goals, this linkage would stress the developmental aspects of the Information Society.

The operational document should:

- The goals of the document should be clearly defined taking into account the results of the regional and thematic conferences.
- Stress the importance of the achievements of the first phase.
- Define clear steps for follow up after Tunis through: defining the areas in need of follow up, the mechanism for follow up, the entities that will be tasked with the follow up.