

Ambassador Janis Karklins  
President of the Preparatory Committee  
Second Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society

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The Permanent Mission of El Salvador has the honor to address this communication to you as President of the Preparatory Committee of the Second Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society on the occasion to submit its contribution - that can be made public - to your consideration.

El Salvador is concerned that the report "Implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration" under the document A/59/282 does not have a single reference to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), while WSIS have linked their outcomes very closely to the Millennium Declaration and at the service of the achievement of the Millennium Declaration Goals. Moreover, the report "Science and technology for development" contained in document A/59/80-E/2004/61 - where the Secretary General The Secretary-General transmits to the Economic and Social Council the report by the Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union on the first phase and progress in the preparations for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society as requested in General Assembly resolution 57/238 - presents in our opinion, an insufficient account of the outcome of the first phase of WSIS, especially with regard to the link that WSIS sees between WSIS and the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Declaration Goals.

El Salvador would like to make the following contributions, while not precluding any additional comments that we may do as El Salvador believes in the effectiveness of collective thinking and multilateralism.

In relation to the Political Chapeau, El Salvador would suggest a title like "Commitment of Tunisia with Human Development for All". We have included some agreed text that we think should go into this commitment. We also suggest some text for the chapter "the way ahead", linking again WSIS in the broader perspective to the ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

The Permanent Mission of El Salvador avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the President of the Preparatory Committee, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Commitment of Tunisia with Human Development for All

We reaffirm our commitment:

To build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (Geneva Decl. Par. 1)

To honor the principles and actions contained in the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action adopted in Geneva (new) to harness the potential of information and communication technology to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the

Millennium Declaration. (Geneva Decl. Par 2 & 60).

To harness synergies and to create cooperation among the various information and communication technologies initiatives, at the regional and global levels, currently being undertaken or planned to promote and foster the potential of information and communication technologies for development by other international organizations and civil society. (last preamb par, res A/RES/56/183)

To use ICTs as an important tool to the creation of an emerging global knowledge-based economy, to accelerate growth, to promote sustainable development, to eradicate poverty and to facilitate the integration of all countries into an equitable global economy. (par 2 of Ministerial declaration contained in par 17 res. A/55/3)

To ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies are available to all. (millennium declaration par. 20)

While acknowledging that ICT will only be helpful to the extent that users are able to use the technology and take advantage of the opportunities it creates. (introduction ICTs and MDGs A World Bank Group Perspective)

#### The way ahead

We acknowledge that ICT can play an important role by providing new and more efficient methods of production, bringing previously unattainable markets within the reach of the poor, improving the delivery of government services, and facilitating management and transfer of knowledge, a key factor in reaching the MDGs. (introduction ICTs and MDGs A World Bank Group Perspective)

We are convinced that the United Nations system should play a leadership role in promoting synergies and coherence of all efforts directed at expanding the development impact of information and communications technologies. (pream par 6 res A/RES/56/258)

We will use the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary machinery, for coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of the commitments agreed upon at the Millennium Summit, the World Summit on the Information Society in its two phases as well as other major United Nations Conferences and summits, so as to enhance coordination as well as effectiveness and efficiency of actions at all levels. (preamb par 6 res. A/RES/57/270)