



**Tunis Phase: Group of Friends of the Chair (GFC)  
Fifth Meeting Contribution**

Civil Society Working Group on Patents, Copyrights and Trademarks  
<http://www.wsis-pct.org>

We are strongly against the idea of leaving the implementation of an action line entirely to the good will of a specialized UN agency that would be free to determine its own rules of operation as hinted by the ITU. We are specifically concerned by the behavior of mid-level personnel who are too often arrogant and unwilling to listen to the Civil Society. Therefore it is recommended to create a Multi-Stakeholder working group for the coordination and implementation of each action line, with however the following improvements :

- a) stakeholders that have been accredited to the WSIS and that have effectively participated to the one of the PrepComs of the first phase or the second phase should be selected preferentially.
- b) concerned UN specialized agencies should have a representative in the Multi-Stakeholder working group

The secretarial and financial support of each Action Line Multi-Stakeholder Working Group ( AL-MS-WG ) should be taken care by concerned UN specialized agencies.

Concerning the Multi-Stakeholder working group that would be akin to the WGIG, it must be underlined that despite the best efforts of the WGIG secretariat and chair, the question of the representativity of the WGIG remains open, however we are pointing out that this is not due to the United Nation handling of the selection process that we salute both as open and inclusive, but it is the most unfortunate consequence of a non-transparent process, within Civil Society, that shall not be repeated.

Concerning the “defined coordinating body”, it would be simply constituted by three representatives sent by each AL-MS-WG, and would work as an overall Working Group with the secretarial and financial support of the ITU. Only stakeholders that have been accredited to the WSIS and that have effectively

participated to the one of the PrepComs of the first phase or the second phase should be selected as member of the “defined coordinating body”. Persons that never participated to the WSIS are not qualified to coordinate its implementation.

Therefore the following language is proposed in paragraph 10 of Chapter One of the Operational Part.

*To that end, for each Action Line in the Geneva and Tunis Plans of Action (as identified in the Annex), a multi-stakeholder working group shall be constituted to promote and monitor the implementation to monitor and promote the implementation of the recommendations concerning each action line and make further proposals for practical improvement, as appropriate. We request the UN Secretary-General to nominate and set up a working group for each action line, in an open and inclusive process that ensures a mechanism for the full and active participation of governments, the private sector and civil society from both developing and developed countries, including concerned UN specialized agencies, involving relevant intergovernmental and international organizations and forums, For each action line, the UN Secretary-General shall determine which are the concerned UN specialized agencies that are part of each specific multi-stakeholder working group, based on respect for their mandates. Each concerned UN specialized agencies, and within their existing resources, shall bring financial and secretarial assistance to each multi-stakeholder working group, and shall make their best efforts toward the implementation of each action line, leveraging on their specific expertise.*

In paragraph 11 of Chapter One of the Operational Part :

*11. An overall coordination body shall be formed with three representatives (government, accredited private sector, accredited civil society) for each action line Multi-Stakeholder Working Group as defined in paragraph 10. The heads of all UN specialized agencies are ex officio members of the overall coordination body. We request the UN Secretary-General to nominate a chair of the overall coordination body. Each action line Multi-Stakeholder Working Group 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, focusing particular attention on the progress towards achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration, and submit it to the overall coordination body that shall review it and comment it. The overall coordination body shall submit regular reports to the UN General Assembly, following its existing rules of procedure. The ITU within its existing resources, shall bring financial and secretarial assistance to this overall coordination body.*

We kindly request the WSIS executive secretariat to make it available this contribution on the WSIS web site both in the pdf format ( proprietary but interoperable ) and the OpenOffice format ( free and interoperable ).

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