The Information Society – From Declaration To Implementation

What United Nations Economic Commissions are doing to achieve the Information Society?

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room XXVI
21 May 2007

An event jointly organized by the UN Regional Commissions in connection with the WSIS Cluster of Events

Open to all WSIS Stakeholders
For participation, online registration is available at http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/

PROGRAMME

14:00 – 14:15   **Welcome address by:** Mr. Paolo Garonna, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

14:15 – 14:45   **Key note address:**
The European Shared Environmental Information System 2007-2008
Speaker: Ms. Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director, European Environment Agency

Session I: ICT and Sustainable Development

Chairperson: Ms. Anriette Esterhuysen, Executive Director, Association for Progressive Communications

14:45 – 15:00   **The impact of ICTs on employment and poverty alleviation in Africa: Opportunities and challenges**
Speaker: Ms. Aida Opoku-Mensah, Director, ICT, Science and Technology Division, UNECA

15:00 – 15.15   **E-government and environment: e-participation in environmental decision-making under the Aarhus Convention**
Speaker: Mr. Jeremy Wates, Secretary to the Aarhus Convention, UNECE

15:15 – 15:30   **Regional profile of Information Societies in Latin America and the Caribbean**
Speaker: Mr. João Carlos Ferraz, Director, Production, Productivity and Management Division, UNECLAC

15:30 – 15.45   **ICT initiatives for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCWA member countries**
Speaker: Mr. Georges Younes, ICT Officer, UNESCWA

15:45 – 16:00	**ICT and competitiveness: The case of SMEs** *Speaker*: Mr. Daewon Choi, Chief, ICT Policy Section, UNESCAP
16:00 – 16:15	**Discussion**

Session II: ICT and Globalization

Chairperson:	Ms. Carol Cosgrove-Sacks, Senior Advisor on International Standards Policy, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS), and Professor, Globalization & ICT, Europa Institute, University of Basel
16:15 – 16:30	**Regional Action Plan eLAC2007** *Speaker*: Mr. Martin Hilbert, Executive Coordinator, Information Society Programme, Production, Productivity and Management Division, UNECLAC
16:30 – 16:45	**ICT, trade and economic growth in Africa** *Speaker*: Mr. Makane Faye, Senior Regional Advisor, ICT, Science and Technology Division, UNECA
16:45 – 17:00	**Regional profile of the Information Society in Western Asia** *Speaker*: Mr. Mansour Farah, Team Leader, UNESCWA
17:00 – 17:15	**Regional cooperation to achieve WSIS targets** *Speaker*: Mr. Daewon Choi, Chief, ICT Policy Section, UNESCAP
17:15 – 17:30	**E-business – the backbone for international supply chains** *Speaker*: Mr. Michael Doran, Chairman of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) Forum Management Group
17:30 – 17:45	**Discussion**
17:45 – 18:00	**Concluding Comments by**: Mr. João Carlos Ferraz, Director, Production, Productivity and Management Division, UNECLAC

*****

Organized by:

United Nations Regional Commissions:

ECA	Economic Commission for Africa (www.uneca.org)
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe (www.unece.org)
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (www.eclac.org)
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (www.unescap.org)
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (www.escwa.org.lb)