



## WSIS+10 High-Level Event

### Open Consultation Process

# Official Submission Form #1 on the Outcome Documents of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event 13-17 April 2014, Sharm el-Sheikh

**Background:** The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will be an extended version of the WSIS Forum to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes related to the WSIS Action Lines under mandates of the participating agencies, while providing a platform for multistakeholder coordination of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, with involvement and participation of all WSIS action line facilitators, other UN agencies and all WSIS stakeholders.

The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will review the WSIS Outcomes (2003 and 2005) , in particular, related to the Action Lines with a view to developing proposals on a new vision beyond 2015, potentially also exploring new targets. The meeting will be organized taking into account decisions of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly.

This open and inclusive open consultation process will result in:

- Draft Outcome Documents for consideration by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, by 1st March 2014:
  - Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes
  - Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating Agencies

*(Please see the Official Submission Form #1)*

- Multistakeholder guidance on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event.

*(Please see the Official Submission Form #2)*

Please note that formal submission should be sent to the [wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int) not later than **20 September 2013**.

## A. Your Information

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**Title:** President of the Office of Electronic Communications

**First name:** Magdalena **Last name:** Gaj

**Organization:** Office of Electronic Communications (UKE)

**Organization type:** National regulatory authority (NRA) **Country:** Poland

## B. Formal Input on the WSIS+10 High-Level Event Outcome Documents

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Referring to the background documents i.e. the WSIS +10 Visioning Challenge, the Final Statement and Final Recommendations from the WSIS+10 Review Event Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, the Booklet WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013: Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015 and the WSIS Forum 2013 Outcome Document, all WSIS Stakeholders are kindly invited to provide formal submissions and inputs towards the Outcome Documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

### 1. Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

*(Please note that the anticipated length of this Statement is two pages)*

Since the two Summits, in 2003 and 2005, WSIS Stakeholders have made every effort in implementing a common vision of the Information Society.

Overall;

- a) What are the main achievements in the area of the information society, in particular, in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines, in the past ten years?

Information society is created by different groups of entities, who are taking action for the development and implementation of technologies in the ICT sector for the common good and to improve living standards.

The main achievement of the current implementation process of the WSIS+10 is the interest itself of so many actors and institutions, both national and international, on the initiative of joint shaping the information society and making them aware of the challenges that this process entails.

The rules and principles, that have been defined in Geneva in the year 2003, and strengthened and developed in Tunis in the year 2005, became the basis for a wide variety of actions and activities that led to the gradual inclusion of more and wider social circles into the structure of the world wide web.

These useful initiatives have identified areas of mutual interest and cooperation at local, regional, national and international levels, leading to the increase of public awareness of the goals and needs of individuals and groups.

This process has also showed that the ICT sector constitutes the basis for the shaping of the information society and the starting point for its further development.

b) What key identified challenges would need to be addressed in the next 10 years?

One of the challenges facing today's information society, and which has provided the basis of its shaping, is the accelerating technological progress in the ICT sector, and at the same time the absence of the availability of these devices and the growing so-called digital exclusion among different social groups.

The second issue is the growing gap in the level of well-being and therefore the access to the new ICT technologies between developed and developing countries, which does not foster the building of a global information society.

Finally, the development of this society brings serious challenges, inter alia in the field of cyber security, net neutrality and content management in the Internet.

In addition, along with the further development of ICT technology, there will be a need to reform the current system of education. It is because the new jobs will emerge, for the pursuit of which the current young generation will have to be prepared. At the same time, one must bear in mind the principle of maintaining the gender equality in access to all levels of education.

On the other hand, due to the progressive aging of the population in developed countries, the ICT sector will face new challenges, but also the technological and technical capabilities in the area of health care.

c) What do the WSIS Stakeholders envision for an information/ knowledge society ensuring that the youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples benefit from the enormous opportunities provided by the ICTs?

The information society is primarily an open society and subject to the so-called digital inclusion. To ensure this, the stakeholders, both public and private, must take up global and local initiatives and cooperate closely in order to ensure inter alia the improved access to ICT devices, the implementation of interactive multi-annual programs and the deployment of educational applications and promoting equal opportunities, as well as the protection of national heritage, and also to support various types of bottom-up activities, such as public benefit organizations (NGOs). They should also take up the multisectoral activities, from the national development strategies to the regional and local programs, in order to improve public awareness and acceptance in the field of the ICT sector.

## **2. Draft WSIS +10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating agencies (Definition of new priorities and objectives for WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015)**

*Please note: Participating agency refers to the Agencies tasked by the WSIS Outcomes to lead facilitation of WSIS Action Lines; See Annex to the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.*

a) In your opinion, what are the **key emerging trends** in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) landscape that should be considered in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

*Please note: You may wish to refer to the WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013 Booklet on Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015, available at [www.wsis.org/review/mpp](http://www.wsis.org/review/mpp).*

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development

- promoting the multisectoral approach and strengthening of multilateral cooperation (the so-called multistakeholder approach) between the central and local government level and the social partners (inter alia non-profit organizations, research and development institutions and various social groups) in the field of new legislation solutions in the ICT sector;
- the establishment of national e-strategies and other documents for the development of the information society;
- conducting an open social dialogue at the national consultations on draft legislation for the development of the information society;
- the activities of national regulatory authorities to support broad public access to ICT services;
- promoting the development of e-government, e-business, e-education, e-health, e-environment;
- conclusion of multilateral agreements (such as the Memorandum of Understanding) with the social partners to support the development of the ICT sector;
- promotion of the intergenerational dialogue to obliterate the differences in access to the network.

- C2. Information and communication infrastructure

- supporting the development of broadband infrastructure (inter alia through legislation activities, such as national plans and programs) and access to information on the infrastructure (inter alia through dedicated web portals);
- facilitating the free Internet access to the citizens in the form of so-called hot-spots;
- concluding agreements by regulators with operators, creating the conditions for the development of fair and effective competition;
- harmonized radio spectrum policy;

- C3. Access to information and knowledge

- creating the interactive educational programs and applications;
- facilitating the access for children and young people to modern ICT devices (including tablets), useful in the education process;
- the creation of the so-called electronic services platforms in public administration offices;
- supporting the creation of electronic networks of libraries, museums, etc.;
- development of digital terrestrial television and mobile Internet;
- acquisition of new frequency bands to the civilian use;
- harmonized management of radio spectrum;

- taking actions towards the development of digital skills (digital literacy), especially in rural and vulnerable areas, with the use of ICT technologies in order to obliterate the differences in access to education due to the gender or social status.
- C4. Capacity building
- formation of the so-called digital literacy among children and young people;
- creating interactive programs using ICT, supporting the struggle against illiteracy;
- supporting the development of distance education through specially written software.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- the fight against cybercrime, spam, unauthorized and illegal content, child pornography, copyright protection in the web;
- broad cooperation between national authorities and social partners (including the owners of the servers and Internet portals, foundations, etc.) in order to protect children from the illicit content.
- C6. Enabling environment
- taking actions in order to ensure the proper and unfettered flow of content, information and services in the global network (Internet governance and net neutrality).
- C7. ICT Applications:
  - E-government
    - building platforms of e-services in public administration offices.
  - E-business
    - the dissemination of electronic signature.
  - E-learning
    - programs of the so-called digital school, the use of ICT equipment in the learning process by pupils and teachers, interactive programs and applications in the field of education.
  - E-health
    - a digital database of patients, online visits registration systems. electronic patient records.
  - E-employment
    - promoting telework programs for working at a distance.
  - E-environment
    - ICT equipment used in the elaboration of electronic weather forecast models for the prevention of natural disasters.
  - E-agriculture
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-science
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C9. Media
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)

- C11. International and regional cooperation
- organization of conferences, workshops and seminars in the field of ICT.

b) What are areas that have **not been adequately captured by the framework of the existing 11 WSIS Action Lines** and would need to be addressed beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
  - the need to address the changing role of regulators in the digital ecosystem, for which the complexity of progressive ICT markets, along with an increased data flow and the development of new services and applications, constitutes a challenge to their traditional powers and encourages to pursue a modern approach to regulation;
  - the need to emphasize the increasing role of the so-called multilateral cooperation (multistakeholder approach) between different entities working for the development of the information society.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
  - searching for new models of financing (financial instruments, for example when someone wants to apply for funding from the World Bank for instance, then he or she must notify in advance this network building project to the ITU, which evaluates/approves it and this is, so to say, a guarantee for the financial institution that this investment is safe and with the value given; going further the ITU may be in such a process a kind of a supervision inspector and guarantor for financial institutions);
  - it is necessary to adopt harmonized solutions in the area of spectrum management policy;
  - the need for adopting solutions at the supranational level to reduce barriers (particularly financial), which are related to the use of roaming.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
  - the need to pay attention to the issues of protecting the rights of consumers and end-users in the access to information – an important role to play here is for the regulators, who are supporting in their activities the guaranteeing of healthy relationships between all actors on the market;
  - promoting the integration of persons with disabilities to the ICT ecosystem.
- C4. Capacity building
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
  - emphasizing the need to protect children from accessing undesirable content, including child pornography.
- C6. Enabling environment
  - the need for the regulators to monitor the use of traffic management techniques , so that they do not discriminate market participants;

- the regulators must also secure not only the affordability of access, but also the need to promote and ensure an appropriate level of quality of service (QoS);
  - taking actions to raise consumer awareness on the rights and responsibilities associated with the use of ICT technology;
  - the promotion of activity in order to ensure the exercise of human rights in the digital environment.
- C7. ICT Applications:
    - E-government
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-business
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-learning
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-health
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-employment
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-environment
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-agriculture
      - Click here to enter text.
    - E-science
      - Click here to enter text.
  - C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
    - Click here to enter text.
  - C9. Media
    - Click here to enter text.
  - C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
    - Click here to enter text.
  - C11. International and regional cooperation
- the need for enhanced co-operation on intra- and inter-regional level between both public authorities and private entities;
  - the exchange of experiences and good practices between the various stakeholders and expert groups (including the collaboration platform, intra-and inter-regional conferences, seminars, trainings, twinning, exchanges of experts, study visits).

c) In your opinion are there any priority areas that need to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015.

YES – multistakeholderism, education and access to knowledge, the development of information and telecommunications infrastructure, network traffic management, network neutrality, pro-consumer politics, cyber security, the protection of data and network users.

### 3. Ensuring accountability of the WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015 (Targets and Indicators for an open and inclusive information/knowledge society for all beyond 2015)

*Please note that information provided under this point will be relevant to the second physical meeting of the open consultation process on WSIS+10 High-Level Event.*

- a) How can the **monitoring and evaluation** of future implementation of the WSIS process, in particular, the Action Lines be better enabled?

One must determine whether the objectives defined in the Action Lines are properly measurable and whether they are reflected in the actually performed activities. For this purpose, it is necessary to prioritize these objectives and to determine their hierarchy in the implementation process of the WSIS. There is a need to coordinate the activities of all the participants in this process and the exchange of the so-called exchange good practices.

One could propose a timetable for implementing the various objectives included in the Action Lines along with the identity of the so-called short-term periods of assessment. After that a comprehensive evaluation would occur, which would be the result of the partial rating.

- b) What are the **priority areas** that the post-2015 WSIS process should focus on and which goals and targets could monitor the new vision for WSIS beyond 2015?

The priority areas:

- a) Multilateral co-operation of all parties and groups (multistakeholderism);
- b) Access to information and knowledge;
- c) The development of information and telecommunications infrastructure;
- d) Building an enabling environment;
- e) Cybersecurity;
- f) Traffic management and net neutrality;
- g) The implementation of ICT applications in various areas of socio-economic conditions;
- h) International cooperation in the field of information society.

The following examples of objectives that can monitor the development of the WSIS process after 2015:

1. The share of ICT-related activities in the learning programs,
2. Percentage of male and female students on technical studies,
3. The level of broadband penetration.

It is necessary to involve national and international statistics offices (for example Eurostat). You can adopt the following methods of measurement of the information society: to measure the current state and the pace of development.

### 4. Any additional comments or suggestions