



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 not later than **20 September 2013**.

A. Your Information

Title: Mr
First name: Mauro **Last name:** Rosi
Organization: UNESCO
Organization type: International organization **Country:** N/A

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

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?

Under a C8 Action Line Perspective:

--the adoption (by UNESCO's General Conference) and then the implementation of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace.

--A growing awareness of the importance of cultural diversity in all spheres of life, including the technology-related dimensions, and of the need for a more holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development.

--Creation of the International Indigenous ICT Task Force and its Indigenous portal, with its vision to "strengthen the global Indigenous community by bridging the digital divide between Indigenous Peoples".

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

--Universal access to information consumption and production, in the framework of the respect of the moral and economic right of the authors. A specific challenge in this respect will be the creation of business and policy models conducive to its financing, including language and education measures.

--Continued focus on the special situation of Indigenous peoples, as well as to their heritage and legacy.

-- Continue focusing on the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including Indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, to solve the problem of inaccessibility.

- 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?

Under the perspective of the C8 Action Line:

--the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace contains useful orientations in this respect (see art 6 to 14). Working for the full application of the Recommendation (and possibly its updating) would be more consistent than creating a new normative or conceptual platform.

--Adherence to applicable international standards and commitments, particularly the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. An overarching principle should be to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples at all stages of strategy and programme development, as well as in implementation, evaluation and monitoring.

--Foster policies and projects that ensure para and per-Indigenous approaches to ICTs, that is policies and projects designed with and by Indigenous Peoples themselves.

--Undertake research and relevant action to address the lack of disaggregated data concerning Indigenous Peoples and ICTs in order to enable policy-makers and programme developers to make well-informed decisions.

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.

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
 - Click here to enter text.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
 - Click here to enter text.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
 - Click here to enter text.
- C4. Capacity building
 - Click here to enter text.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
 - Click here to enter text.
- C6. Enabling environment
 - Click here to enter text.
- 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
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- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
 - One of the important emerging trends since the Stockholm Conference on cultural policy of 1998 is the progressive affirmation worldwide of the strategic link between culture and development. This has been a strong trend in the last decade, which is also important for all dimensions of inclusive knowledge societies. Some of the most important policy documents that have underscored the importance of culture for sustainable development in the last years include the UN General Assembly Resolutions N. 65/1 (“Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals”, 2010), N. 65/166 (2011) and N. 66/208 (2012) on “Culture and Development”, the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, "The Future We Want" (Rio de Janeiro, June 2012), which highlighted the importance of cultural diversity and the need for a more holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development and the final declaration of the Hangzhou Congress (May 2013). In the latter, in particular, the participants call on governments and policy-makers, who will play a role in defining the post-2015 UN global development framework and sustainable development goals, to give consideration to the following actions to place culture at the heart of future policies for sustainable development and inclusive knowledge societies:
 - Integrate culture within all development policies and programmes
 - Mobilize culture and mutual understanding to foster peace and reconciliation
 - Ensure cultural rights for all to promote inclusive social development
 - Leverage culture for poverty reduction and inclusive economic development
 - Build on culture to promote environmental sustainability
 - Strengthen resilience to disasters and combat climate change through culture
 - Value, safeguard and transmit culture to future generations
 - Harness culture as a resource for achieving sustainable urban development and management
 - Capitalize on culture to foster innovative and sustainable models of cooperation

In the specific C8 perspective, and therefore in relation to languages, another strong trend of the last Decade concerns the focus on languages also as a strategic factor for development policy. The Decision of the UNGA to proclaim 2008 the International year of languages, and the implementation of some 200 diverse programmes to some extent facilitated or coordinated by UNESCO in that period have shown great attention to this matter among decision and policy makers, as well among civil society organization and communities. In spite of the interest and focus on language, linguistic diversity, multilingualism, language preservation and translation, clear differences and discrepancies appeared among the objectives of the diverse stakeholders. The lack of common objectives and the need for a common vision is evident. Again, the reinforcement and the implementation at national level of the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal

Access to Cyberspace could be a useful tool in this respect.

In the context of Indigenous Peoples, the most important development has been the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The UNDRIP has a number of articles that are relevant in the context of WSIS and the ICT landscape, including relating to media, education, free, prior informed consent and full and effective participation. For the full realization of the rights enshrined in these articles, it is necessary to close the digital divide with regard to Indigenous Peoples; to support the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the WSIS process and beyond; to foster policies and programmes that promote medial pluralism with a focus on Indigenous media; ensure adequate protection of traditional knowledge and ensure that Indigenous knowledge is recognized to have an important place in inclusive knowledge societies.

- C9. Media
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C11. International and regional cooperation
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)

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.**

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 - One of the points that require stronger focus and attention is, as mentioned above, the need to build Universal access to information through the agreed creation of business and policy models conducive to its concrete financing. The issue of the economy of information, more than its normative side, should be enhanced.
The closing of the digital divide with particular reference to Indigenous Peoples is a long term goal that requires long term support strategies, including long term consistent funding and financial support.
- C9. Media
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C11. International and regional cooperation
 - [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

One other point that would require stronger attention is the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples. Although they have been incorporated within the C8 action line on cultural and linguistic diversity, in fact, Indigenous Peoples are a marginalized group which should be prioritized across all the action lines (for instance, e-learning, media, access are all of great importance to Indigenous Peoples). A separate action line focusing specifically on inclusivity of Indigenous Peoples would highlight this important issue.

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?

Clear indicators should be established, in the absence of which monitoring and evaluation cannot be rigorously conducted. Sources of financing for the monitoring and the evaluation should be identified. There should also be an emphasis on providing disaggregated data to highlight exactly who, within a population, is benefitting and who is marginalized by programmes.

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?

Culture and Development, Language Policies and Indigenous People.

4. Any additional comments or suggestions

The rejuvenation of the WSIS conceptual basis and process, with the possible reform of the action lines, should be discussed. Some action lines may appear obsolete as concerns their definition and content, while new action lines (like one on Indigenous Peoples) require to be established. There could also be a reconsideration of the action line approach as many of the issues affecting the most marginalized are cross-

cutting (for instance, poor infrastructure leads to poor access, which leads to a lack of e-education opportunities, underrepresentation in governance and the media, lack of e-business opportunities and a vulnerability to unethical practices).