



## 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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## 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?

For clarification, please note that Saudi Arabia's responses to this questionnaire are related to the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes under the ITU's mandate, and not to the Overall Review to be held by UNGA in 2015, as recognized in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda and for which UNGA will consider the modalities by the end of 2013. Further, our responses pertain primarily to action lines under the responsibility of ITU.

Many reports and studies document the achievements in the area of the information society. Saudi Arabia has been especially committed to the WSIS outcomes and action lines and has made significant progress in all areas. However, we still have a long way to go, and this underscores the continuing need for commitment, diligence, mutual support and goals among all countries.

One achievement which we would like to highlight, however, is the establishment of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy (CWG-Internet) Issues within ITU.

The CWG-Internet represents the only international body intended for governments to directly address public policy issues related to the information society.

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

The Ministerial Round Table at WSIS Forum 2013 identified a number of challenges. We would reaffirm the following:

- Internationalization of Internet governance.
- Actualization of enhanced cooperation, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
- Full multilingualization of the Internet including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
- Technical evolution of the Internet to address known weaknesses and to increase speed and capability, while maintaining full interoperability and stability.
- Full deployment of IPv6 and retirement of IPv4.
- Deployment of e-services to marginalized and disadvantaged members of society.
- Addressing ethical issues related to emerging technologies and the information society.
- Addressing e-environment issues and challenges.
- Developing agreed goals and time-based targets along with enhanced monitoring and reporting.

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?

Different marginalized and disadvantaged groups have different needs and all must be taken into account in national and regional e-strategies. Factors which are common to all include:

- Reach of broadband infrastructure and affordable services to everyone, including through universal service and universal access.
- Availability of affordable user devices, including through subsidization programs.
- Availability of simplified devices, including text-free interfaces and applications aimed at the illiterate.
- Ongoing education and support programs on the advantages, uses, options and applications of ICTs, including education on inclusion of marginalized and disadvantaged groups.
- Development and availability of relevant and meaningful local content in local languages and scripts, including content aimed at marginalized and disadvantaged groups.
- Support of local ICT industry and related employment.
- E-services programs aimed at all segments of society.

## 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
  - - A coordinated approach by governments in the support of ICTs for development.
  - Greater emphasis on accurate data and measurement of progress.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
  - - Techniques, policies and collaborations for more efficient use of available spectrum.
  - Emphasis on lower cost network infrastructure, through technology, standards, sharing, partnerships, and new business models, to maintain the economic viability of broadband networks and to extend their reach into unserved and underserved areas.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
  - - Greater emphasis on open software systems to promote open access to information and education.
- C4. Capacity building
  - - Greater emphasis on affordable and relevant devices, content and connectivity to increase ICT penetration.
  - More public private partnerships aimed at “train the trainer” and upgrading e-skills.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
  - - The growing deployment of national Computer Incident Response Teams.
  - The growing importance of developing national, regional and international frameworks for security.
  - The growing emphasis on safety and security by design.
- C6. Enabling environment
  - - The growing importance of developing and implementing national broadband strategies in collaboration with all stakeholders.
  - Adapting the legislative and regulatory environment to meet new challenges resulting from increased competition, the need for universal service, and new services from from IP networks and cloud computing.
- C7. ICT Applications:
  - E-government
    - - Greater reach of e-government to the disadvantaged and the disabled.
    - More capability such as through e-signatures.
  - E-business
    - - Recognition of the need for better data and analysis to allow decision makers to better understand e-business trends and impacts.
  - E-learning
    - - Recognition of the impact and applications of mobile technology to expand the reach and options available for distance learning.
  - E-health
    - - Commitment to national e-health strategies and adoption of ICTs to support health sector priorities.
    - Increasing use of mobile technologies in health projects.
    - The continuing need to ensure affordable and reliable connectivity from remote areas to health centers.
  - E-employment
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-environment
    - - Recognition of the need for greater collaboration between the ICT community and the environmental, meteorological and other communities, at the the national, regional and international levels, on programs and strategies for environmental issues, climate change, electronic waste management, and disaster risk reduction.
  - E-agriculture

- - Continued growth of mobile technology and information services related to e-agriculture.
    - Mentoring and encouragement of youth to enhance the agricultural sector through implementation of ICT innovations.
    - Integrating ICT content and capacity into national and regional agricultural policies.
  - E-science
    - - Recognition of the need for a web-based platform to support policy decisions and for the benefit of science and society, allowing open and free access to scientific knowledge.
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - - There is a relationship within countries between the deployment of Internet infrastructure and the development of local digital content, so promotion of infrastructure will facilitate development of local content.
- C9. Media
  - - The Internet has profoundly impacted the scope, reach and richness of the media, and sustained efforts are needed to maintain a balance between online freedom and rights of privacy, and between freedom of expression and other national, regional and international imperatives.
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - - Recognition of the need to support equitable participation of all stakeholders and to build national and regional capacity to analyze, discuss and respond to ethical challenges of the information society.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - - Recognition of the need to step up the use of internationally agreed ICT indicators.

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
  - - Better regional and international governmental and multistakeholder collaboration on models, strategies and programs.
  - Greater funding involvement from governments and the private sector, particularly in support of developing countries.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
  - - Spectrum management and more efficient policies, techniques and standards for spectrum utilization, allocation and sharing.
  - Increasing usable bandwidth by eliminating spam and related abuses.
  - Reducing the cost of infrastructure for operators, including more efficient standards and technologies as well as network and infrastructure sharing.
- 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
  - - Development and integration of technology, protocols and standards improvements that introduce native capability for Internet security while maintaining stability and interoperability.
  - Actualization of enhanced cooperation, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
  - Leveraging enhanced cooperation to develop solid legal frameworks and operational

processes to address security, cybercrime, spam and related abuses at the national, regional and international levels.

- C6. Enabling environment
  - - Development and implementation of national and regional broadband strategies, including assistance to developing and least developed countries.
  - Frameworks, technologies and standards for cloud computing, including addressing security issues.
  - Migration to IPv6 and retirement of IPv4.
- C7. ICT Applications:
  - E-government
    - - Leveraging mobile technologies for greater reach and inclusiveness.
    - Programs and systems aimed at marginalized and diasadvantaged groups.
  - E-business
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-learning
    - - Same as for e-government.
  - E-health
    - - Same as for e-government.
    - Development and implementation of national e-health strategies.
    - Programs and systems aimed at remote areas.
  - E-employment
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-environment
    - - Leveraging enhanced cooperation to develop policies and programs to address e-environment and e-sustainability issues.
    - Development of ICT-based systems for prediction and early warning of natural disasters.
  - E-agriculture
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-science
    - - National strategies for improving and expanding science education, including through e-learning.
    - Availability of scientific knowledge in local languages and scripts.
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - - Full multilingualization of the Internet including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
  - Providing all e-services in all local languages and scripts.
- C9. Media
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - - Leveraging enhanced cooperation to develop international codes of ethics related to Internet use.
  - Developing international guidelines on treatment of and response to abusive uses of the Internet.
  - Developing international guidelines on ownership and ethical use of data related to the Internet of Things.
  - National programs to introduce Internet ethics into ICT-related education, particularly in view of the widespread use of social media.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - - Collection and responsible and ethical use of real Internet data to guide policy makers and decision makers.



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

- Internationalization of Internet governance.
- Actualization of enhanced cooperation, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
- Implementation of a true and inclusive multistakeholder model related to developing and implementing policies, plans, strategies and programs at the national, regional and international levels.
- Full multilingualization of the Internet including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
- Technical evolution of the Internet to address known weaknesses and to increase speed and capability, while maintaining full interoperability and stability.
- Full deployment of IPv6 and retirement of IPv4.
- Deployment of e-services to marginalized and disadvantaged members of society.
- Addressing ethical issues related to emerging technologies and the information society.
- Addressing e-environment issues and challenges.
- Cloud computing, particularly security issues.
- Developing agreed goals and time-based targets along with enhanced monitoring and reporting.

### 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?

- Integrate all reporting related to WSIS into the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development to ensure consistency.
- Include all relevant nongovernmental organizations in the Partnership.

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 following are among the priority areas and should be targeted for completion within three years:

- Actualization of enhanced cooperation, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet
- Internationalization of Internet governance; in particular, making ICANN subject to an international intergovernmental body.

### 4. Any additional comments or suggestions

For clarification, please note that Saudi Arabia's responses to this questionnaire are related to the ITU-coordinated WSIS+10 High-Level Event as an extended version of the WSIS Forum, to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes under the ITU's mandate, and not to the Overall Review to be held by UNGA in 2015, as recognized in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda, and for which UNGA will consider the modalities by the end of 2013. Further, our responses pertain primarily to action lines under the responsibility of ITU.