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## Connect CIS Declaration

### *Towards a Digital Future*

1. **We, the leaders of the peoples of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)**, assembled in Belarus from 26-27 November 2009 for the Connect CIS Summit, have come together to forge a common future of prosperity for our region by leveraging the potential of information and communication technologies (ICTs).
2. **We reiterate our common desire** to build an inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where people can achieve their full potential and improve their quality of life.
3. **We recognize** the important contribution of ICTs in stimulating economic growth, employment and broader sustainable development in the region, and in turn, their potential to help achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.
4. **We further recognize** the essential role of governments in devising national e-strategies and establishing an enabling policy and regulatory framework to foster ICT investment.
5. **We reaffirm our commitment** to achieving the internationally agreed vision and goals of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva 2003; Tunis 2005).
6. **We note** the key proposals and initiatives brought to the attention of the Connect CIS Summit by the International Telecommunication Union and various partners.
7. **We reach out** to partners including those from the telecommunication/ICT sector, development banks and financial institutions, international and regional organizations and civil society to mobilize human, financial and technical resources for these and other initiatives, which help achieve the vision and goals of the World Summit on the Information Society in the CIS region.