**Chairman of Sub-Committee 2**

DRAFT REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF SUB-COMMITTEE 2
(CONTENT AND THEMES)

1.        At its First Plenary Meeting, on 1 July 2002, the WSIS PrepCom 1 agreed to create a sub-committee to discuss the content and themes of the Summit. PrepCom approved the nomination of Mr. Pablo MACEDO (Mexico) to chair it. Sub-committee 2 held two meetings on Thursday 4 July. The meeting was open to all stakeholders involved in WSIS preparations.

2.        On the basis of the discussions, the chairman presented two non-papers, containing the Principles guiding the preparatory work and the WSIS and proposed themes for the WSIS. These non-papers were discussed during informal consultations. The first non-paper (Principles) was adopted by the Sub-Committee. The second non-paper (Themes) appears under the authority of the Chairman as an Annex to this report and could serve as a guide for future work.

**Principles guiding the preparatory work and the WSIS**

The first Preparatory Committee identified, in a preliminary manner, the following general set of principles to guide the preparatory work and the Summit:

- The Preparatory Committee and the Summit should be aimed at extending the benefits of the Information Society to all and should be development-oriented, overcoming the digital divide

- The need to find a shared understanding of and to raise awareness of:

  o The information society; and

  o How the challenges of the digital divide can be met

- [The Summit should consider, in a balanced manner, infrastructure and content issues]

- Preservation of linguistic diversity and cultural identity should be a priority

- [Ethical values should be considered an essential component]

- A spirit of international co-operation should prevail

- ICTs are a tool for achieving economic and social goals, such as those stated in the UN Millennium Declaration, and not an end in itself

- The importance of universal and inclusive access to the Information Society

- [There is a need for broad-based partnerships among stakeholders]

- The importance of utilising ICTs for the benefit of disadvantaged communities (e.g., women, youth, children, the disabled, indigenous groups, migrants)

- [The importance of the issue of information network security].

Annex 1:

**Proposal from the Chairman of Sub-Committee 2**
**Themes for the WSIS**

The Chairman of sub-committee 2, based on the discussions and informal consultations that were held, identified the following themes as an initial basis for further work:

- Infrastructure: financing, deployment and sustainability

- Identifying and overcoming barriers to the achievement of the information society

- The role of government, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development

- Education, human resources development and training

- Access to information and communication technologies

- Information network security

- Development of a policy and regulatory framework

- ICT applications (education, health, culture, poverty eradication, government, employment, business).