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Contact: J.K.Ponder

Tel: +41 22 730 60 65

Fax: +41 22 730 64 53

E-mail: wsis-info@itu.int

To all WSIS Stakeholders:

- Governments
- Private Sector
- Civil Society
- International Organizations

WSIS Forum 2013: Invitation to contribute to the Open Consultation Process on the Thematic Aspects and innovations on the Format

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the outcomes of the WSIS Action Line Facilitators meetings during the WSIS Forum 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 and the exchange of views amongst several WSIS stakeholders, the organizers of the WSIS Forum, ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP are pleased to announce the Open Consultation Process on the thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the WSIS Forum 2013.

This consultation process aims at ensuring the participatory and inclusive spirit of the WSIS Forum 2013, scheduled to be held from 13 to 17 May at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva, by actively engaging governments, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental organizations in the preparatory process.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2013 is structured in five phases as follows:

- Phase I :** 8 October 2012 Opening of the Open Consultations:
- Online Dialogues on the WSIS Knowledge Communities
 - Official submissions at wsis-info@itu.int
- Phase II :** 16 November 2012 First Physical Meeting
- Phase III :** 21 January 2013 Deadline for Submission of the Official Contributions and binding requests for Workshops
- Phase IV :** 15 February 2013 Final Review Meeting (3 months prior to the meeting)
- Phase V :** 16 April 2013 Final Brief on the WSIS Forum 2013

On behalf of ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, I am pleased to invite you to contribute to the Open Consultation Process on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS Forum 2013. We look forward to your active and enthusiastic participation and to seeing you at the WSIS Forum 2013.

Yours faithfully,

[Signed]

Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré
ITU Secretary-General