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WSIS+10

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Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015

C8: Cultural Diversity

Recognizing the central role of the link between culture and development to build inclusive Information Society as well as the efforts dedicated towards implementation of WSIS Outcomes, in particular related to Action Line C8, since 2003, significant progress has been achieved and several emerging trends and challenges have been identified.

Following provides guidance and priorities for implementation of WSIS Action Line C8 beyond 2015,

- 1) Reinforce and implement 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.
- 2) Open up cyberspace to content production and content fruition in more languages, be they local, national or international, including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
- 3) Advocate worldwide of the strategic link between culture and development.
- 4) Integrate culture within all development policies and programmes.
- 5) Mobilize culture and mutual understanding to foster peace and reconciliation.
- 6) Ensure cultural rights for all to promote inclusive social development
- 7) Leverage culture for poverty reduction and inclusive economic development.
- 8) Build on culture to promote environmental sustainability.

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- 9) Strengthen resilience to disasters and combat climate change through culture
- 10) Value, safeguard and transmit culture to future generations.
- 11) Harness culture as a resource for achieving sustainable urban development and management.
- 12) Capitalize on culture to foster innovative and sustainable models of cooperation
Focus national policy on languages as a strategic factor for development policy.
- 13) Bridge differences and discrepancies among the objectives of the diverse stakeholders in the field of linguistic policies worldwide, to create a global platform for joint action.
- 14) Advocate and implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which contains a number of articles relevant in the context of WSIS and the ICT landscape, including relating to media, education, free, prior informed consent and full and effective participation. Close the digital divide with regard to Indigenous Peoples.
- 15) Support the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the WSIS process and beyond.
- 16) Foster policies and programmes that promote medial pluralism with a focus on Indigenous media.
- 17) Ensure adequate protection of traditional knowledge
- 18) Ensure that Indigenous knowledge is recognized to have an important place in inclusive knowledge societies.
- 19) Facilitate local content production with measures at governmental and community level.
- 20) Develop North South, and South South cooperation in all areas relating to C8 AL.
- 21) Promoting the public service value on the Internet and particularly through safeguarding freedom of expression implemented by a multiplicity of platforms and services.

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- 22) Launching and supporting governmental and regional initiatives as well as supporting endeavors taken by the private sector, individuals and civil society for digitization and digital archiving of cultural heritage.
- 23) Support national entrepreneurial and start-up ecosystem to help the digital content industry to flourish, including incubators, accelerators, mentorship, investments, and venture capital, focusing on DAC applications and emphasizing the recent technology trends such as mobile devices, tablet computers, and cloud computing.
- 24) Develop an enabling environment that will support the private sector by facilitating access to national and regional funds and making these funds available, providing facilities such as the simplification of processes to establish a business, and providing incentives such as tax exemptions for start-ups and SMEs in the field of DAC development.
- 25) Streamline DAC initiatives and programmes launched and/or implemented by different international and regional organizations such as LAS, ESCWA, ITU, and AICTO.
develop region-wide standards for developing digital content specific to the vehicular languages that will enhance quality, interoperability, and inter-regional collaboration.
- 26) Promoting infrastructure to facilitate development of local content, given the relationship between the deployment of Internet infrastructure and the development of local digital content.
- 27) Expand and appropriate culturally sensitive e-government and e-community initiatives with a specific indigenous peoples focus when these strategies are being developed in local area.
- 28) Support Cultural institutions like libraries and museums for digitalization of cultural heritage and to better public access to Internet.
- 29) Promote the creation of relevant academic content in local language.
- 30) Develop ICT infrastructure and light regulatory and competitive regimes.
- 31) Develop specific policies that will encourage increased creation of locally relevant content including protections for expression, the press, privacy and intellectual property as well as the development of e-commerce infrastructure such as consumer protection practices and trusted online payment systems. Such policies

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should not establish mandatory must-carry regimes that unduly burden distributors of content.

- 32) Continue the development of internationalized domain names (IDNs) now being further effected through the expansion of the gTLD space to enable more communities to engage with the Internet in their own language.
- 33) Develop Broadband development and penetration as a key to allowing better accessibility and hence better cultural and linguistic diversity through the provision of new related content
- 34) Build Universal access to information through the agreed creation of business and policy models conducive to its concrete financing.
- 35) Enhance the issue of the economy of information, more than its normative side, should be enhanced.
- 36) Integrate concepts and high skills for digital content development into higher education IT curricula as well as encouraging the establishment of specialized training centres that provide hands-on education in software development, technologies and platforms needed for the distribution of content such as e-books, smart phone applications, and social networks.
- 37) Introduce inter-disciplinary post-graduate programmes by combining ICT with linguistic knowledge as well as strengthening the links between universities, higher education institutions and research centres with the private sector on developing and commercializing tools and applications for vehicular languages - including Arabic – processing.
- 38) Set a framework for measuring digital content, and digital local content such as digital content in vehicular languages, including Arabic, and develop a list of digital content indicators to be adopted at the regional and then global levels.
- 39) Reinforce education about the range of fellowships available for participants at the meetings of the multistakeholder organizations, as well as the opportunities for remote participation. The multistakeholder model has shown that it is well-suited to improving cultural diversity on the Internet, but this can only continue if stakeholders are made aware of the tools available which exist to widen participation from developing and less-developed countries.

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- 40) Enhance the local content industry with respect to the cultural diversity among and within countries.
- 41) Develop domain names in different languages to meet the multilingualism aspect.
- 42) Encourage the use of Social media and new networks by developing its use in different languages.

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