

**Document Number: V1/B/11**

**Submission by: Access, Civil Society**



Draft WSIS+10 Vision for Beyond 2015

### B. Priority areas to be addressed Beyond 2015.

There are a number of areas that have been identified by WSIS stakeholders as priorities for the post- 2015 development agenda. Those areas come in light of the improvements that emerge from the ICT sector itself, in addition to the demands of the other sectors of the economy and the society which urges its enhancement. But with the rapid development of ICTs over the past ten years and the mainstreaming of ICTs into everyday life, the link between ICTs and human development is increasingly important. Therefore, it is necessary for the role of the Information Society going forward to be seen and developed in the broader context of the post-2015 development agenda. A comprehensive and objective assessment of the WSIS framework and its Action Lines will be critical for determining the most appropriate and effective vehicle for harnessing the potential of ICTs for development.

We, the WSIS Stakeholders have identified the topics below as priority areas to be addressed beyond 2015:

* *Bridging* the **digital divide** still remains a crucial task.
* Achieving the global concept of **Information society** is still to be attained.
* *Increasing* **access to and use of ICTs**, including broadband and mobile services through continued and increasing practical implementation measures, should be the primary focus for WSIS for the next 10 years.

*Fully, independently, and objectively assessing* the WSIS framework, in particular the Action Lines, to determine whether they are the most appropriate and effective model for harnessing the potential of ICTs for development in a post 2015 development agenda.

* **Reviewing the WSIS Action lines**, in order to determine whether they address the challenges we face today.
* Emphasizing on the importance of national strategies and policies for the advancement of **WSIS /ICT for development goals.**
* *Cooperati*on among all stakeholders at the **National, Regional and Global level** is essential.
* *Creating* **global guidelines or principles for online code of ethics** rooted in international human rights frameworks, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, may be desirable.
* *Encouraging* **laws and frameworks that converge** with the basic principles of inclusive information society.
* **International Structures and organization** should play a central role in the post-2015 development framework.
* *Encouraging* and maintaining of **open standards and open innovation** in the ICT sector and the internet.
* *Focusing* on the **quality of e-services** is crucial.
* *Promoting a* **Digital Economy.**
* *Ensuring* the **free flow of data** to promote e-commerce and international free trade
* *Using* **providers of public access**, such as libraries as the main platform to access the information resources .
* *Exploring* all **affordable options** for information access rather than reliance on market-based information.
* *Supporting* the **development and implementation of cloud computing** and its policies.
* *Ensuring***accessibility for people with disabilities.**
* *Clear commitment* from governments and intergovernmental organizations to **support and facilitate enabling regulatory and investment environments**.
* ***Use of ICTs for Social and Economic Development***
* *Strengthening* the use and development of **transformative technology** to enable more sustainable social and economic development.
* *Using* the information society **as a tool to realise the post 2015 development goals**.
* *Ensuring* a direct link between the key aim of the WSIS, that of harnessing the potential of information and communication technology to promote and realize development goals, and the **post 2015 development agenda**.
* ***Human Rights:***
* Respecting and promoting humanrights are essential prerequisites to realizing the **development and policy goals of a post 2015 development agenda**.
* *Strengthening* the **interconnection between human rights online and offline** – both the reinforcement of the rights of freedom of expression, the right to privacy, access to information, and association on the internet as well as economic, social and cultural rights;
* *Encourage and facilitate* **people-centered and inclusive governance models** and mechanisms that are based on human rights and the rule of law.
* *Ensuring* that surveillance conforms to universally accepted **human rights** principles. The International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance (necessaryandproportionate.org) provide guidance on how international human rights law applies in the current digital environment, particularly in light of the increase in and changes to communications surveillance technologies and techniques.
* ***Multistakeholderism*** 
  + *Ensuring* open and decentralized **multi-stakeholder models and mechanisms** in all internet/ICT-related public policy making.
  + Improvement in the **governance of ICTs**, including the extension of the principle of multi-stakeholder participation, which has been so successful on the **internet**, into other areas of national and international ICT governance.
* ***Gender:***
* *Prioritizing* **gender as a standalone goal** and action line, there needs to be both reference to gender within action lines, as well as discrete and fuller treatment of gender issues in their own right. This dual stream approach to gender is similarly being advocated for in the post 2015 context.
* *Ending* **technology-based violence and harassment against women, girls, and any individual based on their sexual orientation or gender identity**.
* *Ensuring* that women's rights are taken into account in **internet rights and principles** and dialogue.
* ***Internet:***
* *Emphasizing* the importance of **maintaining an open Internet** based on open standards development processes, and open governance as key enablers for an inclusive knowledge and information societies as a priority issue in the next ten years.
* *Enabling* **Internet access** for all and Internet, as an enabler for development.
* Ensuring the protection of the **internet's** security and integrity through a multistakeholder approach.
* Working towards lowering the cost of Internet access for users in developing countries.
* Working towards **multilingualization of the Internet** including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
* *Exploring* ***t*echnical evolution of the Internet** to address known weaknesses and to increase speed and capability, while maintaining full interoperability and stability.
* *Promoting* **affordable internet** through infrastructure development and free competition.
* *Building* **enabling environments** and ensuring the continued openness and neutrality.
* *Enabling* open, democratic, transparent and multistakeholder mechanisms for **internet governance**;
* *Strengthening* **enhanced cooperation**, to enable governments, as well as all stakeholders, to carry out their roles and responsibilities on an equal footing, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
* ***Cybersecurity***
  + *Generating* trust in the use of ICTs, such as **personal data protection and cyber security** is critical. Multistakholder governance and strengthened cooperation between all stakeholders in cybersecurity are other areas that should be prioritized.
  + *Protecting* the privacy of **ICT and internet users** against commercial exploitation and government intrusion.
  + *Promoting* **online safety** and attention to child on line protection.
* **Broandband:** 
  + Provision of **affordable access to broadband and networks and services** for all people to ensure inclusiveness, social and geographical equity;
  + Developing and advancing broadbandnetwork that supports the **economic growth of the country and facilitate the utilization of ICT tools** by the citizens.
  + *Providing* **developing countries with assistance in rolling out broadband infrastructure and Internet Exchange Points** – which will enable more local content and local e-Services to be provided in those countries.
  + Providing assistance for those countries that would like to embrace **light regulatory regimes for their domestic telecoms/ ICT markets** in the future.
* Using **social networks in e-government**
* Focusing on **ICT professionalism** in the period 2015 and beyond. The extent to which ICT is embedded in our lives is inevitably growing. If we fail to take steps to mature the ICT profession, it is likely that the risks to society from ICT will grow.
* Addressing **e-environment** issues and challenges, developing of Green IT and using ICT to combat climate change.
* Integrating ICT with **educational initiatives** and activities.
* Exploring mechanisms for accreditation of **on-line learning.**
* *Implementation* of practical mechanisms to support **e-Science** related recommendations of the WSIS +10 Review process at the national, regional and global level. This includes funding modalities and financial support.
* *Inclusion* of **Indigenous Peoples,** who are a marginalized group, should be prioritized across all the action lines (for instance, e-learning, media, access are all of great importance to Indigenous Peoples). A separate action line focusing specifically on inclusivity of Indigenous Peoples would highlight this important issue.
* Addressing the issue of **affordable access**.
* *Encouraging* the full deployment of **IPv6 and IPv4**.
* *Deploying* of e**-services to marginalized and disadvantaged** members of society.
* *Developing* **agreed goals and time-based targets** along with enhanced monitoring and reporting.
* *Making* efforts towards **developing the content industry** to meet the diversity in cultural and religious aspects, and be in accordance with the WSIS target to assure on the multilingualism aspect.
* **Social Networking and Freedom of Expression** are vital for WSIS beyond 2015 to guarantee adopting the policies and strategies for access and openness for the different actors to be engaged in those tools.
* *Promoting* the use of **ICT for Democracy**
* *Promoting* **Access for All;** Access to information and knowledge
* *Prioritizing* on how all stakeholders can **build on existing expertise and best-practice** solutions.
* ***Connecting* the unconnected** especially people with disability
* ***Generating* trust** in the use of ICTs should be deemed a priority. Generating guarantees regarding topics such as personal data protection and cyber security is critical.
* *Assuring* the **quality of e-services.**
* *Highlighting* **network traffic management.**
* *Ensuring* **Network neutrality**.
* *Protection* of **data and network users**.
* Highlighting the importance and role of **National Centers for Warning and Management of IT Incidents Exchange and Personal Data protection** in Cloud computing.
* Creating **replicable and sustainable** ICT projects.