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**Note: This document is the WSIS+10 MPP Vice Chair’s (Egypt’s) proposal for Chapter A, Preamble reviewed on the 15th of April by the 4th MPP meeting with some items pending further consideration, text highlighted in Yellow.**

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Draft WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

1. **Preamble**

The ITU coordinated WSIS+10 High Level Event took place in close collaboration with all UN Agencies under their respective mandates, pursuant to ITU Council Resolution 1334. [agreed]

This statement and the related WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 have been developed keeping in mind the following principles:

a. Focus on the WSIS Action Lines and measurement of their implementation.

b. Develop a vision upon existing framework of Action Lines, identifying emerging trends, challenges and priorities for new decade, without making existing framework of Action Lines obsolete.

c. Geneva Declaration and Geneva Plan of Action still remain valid until further decisions by General Assembly.

d. Restrict the proposals on Action Lines, under the responsibility of the respective UN Agencies, to the Geneva Plan of Action.

e. Avoid proposals referring to the outcomes of the Tunis phase of WSIS on the following, implementation mechanism, follow up, internet governance (other than internet issues relevant to action lines), IGF, enhanced cooperation, CSTD.

f. Avoid prejudging the outcomes of the 68th Session of the General Assembly on modalities of the Overall Review.

g. Respect mandates given by Tunis Agenda and respect for the multi-stakeholder principles.

[agreed]

Ten years ago, at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in its two phases (Geneva 2003, & Tunis 2005), the representatives of the peoples of the world adopted a common vision on the Information Society, identifying its main principles and challenges towards a people-centered inclusive and development-oriented Information Society. The fundamental aim of the WSIS process was to foster the use of technology to improve peoples’ lives and to bridge the digital divide. [agreed]

The uses of ICTs have developed considerably and become a part of everyday life since the second phase of the WSIS in 2005, accelerating social and economic growth, sustainable development, increasing transparency and accountability, where applicable, and offering new opportunities to leverage technology, in developed and developing countries.[agreed]

The information and communication technologies (ICTs) have also demonstrated their value as a facilitator and development enabler in reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, major challenges still lay ahead for counteracting the wide disparities in development and enabling all groups and all countries to benefit from universal access to information and knowledge. Moreover reaping the benefit of ICTs use has yet not been shared in all countries proportionately. [agreed]

In particular we reaffirm para 36 of the Tunis Commitment regarding the potential of ICTs to promote peace and to prevent conflict. [agreed]

To this effect, international law, and in particular, the charter of UN is applicable and is essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open secure peaceful and accessible ICT environment. [agreed]

Since the WSIS process started, emphasis has been given to the multi-stakeholder approach and its vital importance in the WSIS implementation at the national, regional and international levels and in taking forward the WSIS themes and Action Lines. Such approach contributed to strengthening the engagement of all stakeholders[[1]](#footnote-1) to work together, within their respective roles and responsibilties. [agreed]

We recall the WSIS+10 Review Event *Towards Knowledge Societies, for peace and sustainable development* hosted by UNESCO and co-organized with ITU, UNCTAD and UNDP in February 2013 [and its Final Statement *Information and Knowledge for All: An Expanded Vision and a Renewed Commitment*, as endorsed by Member States at the 37th session of UNESCO’s General Conference.]

Alt: We note the event titled “First WSIS+10 Review Event *Towards Knowledge Societies, for peace and sustainable development”* hosted by UNESCO and co-organized with ITU, UNCTAD and UNDP in February 2013 and its results [related to the WSIS Action Lines].(**led by Saudi Arabia )**

***In this context;***

We reaffirm the great importance of ICTs in further development of Information Society, stimulating innovations, empowering different groups of people in developed and developing countries, providing access to information and fostering economic and social growth. [agreed]

*We invite* the UN system organizations and all stakeholders within their respective roles and responsibilities to take full advantage of ICTs in addressing the development challenges of the 21st century and to recognize them as cross-cutting enablers for achieving the three pillars of sustainable development. [agreed]

1. *We reaffirm* the vital role of youth and youth organizations as recognized in paragraph 11 in the WSIS Declaration of Principles, stating that "youth should be empowered as learners, developers, contributors, entrepreneurs and decision makers. We must focus especially on young people who have not yet been able to benefit fully from the opportunities provided by ICTs. We are also committed to ensuring that the development of ICT applications and operation of services respects the rights of children as well as their protection and wellbeing". The role of youth was also underlined in the World Programme of Action for Youth, where ICT is identified as one of the 15 priority areas, in the sense that it can provide youth with the opportunity to overcome the barriers of distance and socio-economic disadvantage. In addition, the ITU Global Youth Summit in 2013 declared youth as a force for progress, and assured the importance of their full participation in decision making processes to improve democracy, marking that the spread of information among young people can directly foster empowerment and innovation on a global scale (BYND 2015 Global Youth Declaration). While progress has been made, it is important to exert greater efforts to ensure the implementation of mentioned program, declarations and others alike.[ agreed]
2. We reaffirm the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of the Geneva Declaration; and recall relevant universally accepted Resolutions including, but not limited to those listed in Annex 1.[agreed]
3. While there is recognition of the potential of ICT as a tool for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women accessing and using ICTs, a “gender divide” has also been identified. We reaffirm the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women empowerment, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society and taking into account the mandate of the newly established agency UN-WOMEN, the recommendations of the High Level Panel in the post-2015, The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.. We therefore wish to recall and emphasise the importance of taking into account throughout the WSIS+10 Statement and Vision para 12 of the WSIS Declaration of Principles stating that the development of ICTs provides enormous opportunities for women, who should be an integral part of, and key actors, in the Information Society. We are committed to ensuring that the Information Society enables women’s empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes. To this end, we should mainstream a gender equality perspective and use ICTs as a tool to that end.[agreed]
4. We recognize and acknowledge that challenges on bridging the digital divide still remain unaddressed adequately and requires sustainable investments in ICT infrastructure and services, capacity building [[and] [including] [appropriate transfer of know-how] [transfer of technology], as the case may be.]
5. Recalling the UN Convention on the rights of people with disabilities, the Geneva principles paragraph 11, 13, 14 and 15, Tunis Commitment paras 20, 22 and 24, and reaffirming the commitment to providing equitable access to information and knowledge for all, building ICT capacity for all and confidence in the use of ICTs by all, including youth, older persons, women, indigenous and nomadic peoples, people with disabilities, the unemployed, the poor, migrants, refugees and internally displaced people and remote and rural communities, it is crucial to increase the participation of vulnerable people in the building process of information Society and to make their voice heard by stakeholders and policy-makers at different levels. It can allow the most fragile groups of citizens worldwide to become an integrated part of their economies and also raise awareness of the target actors on the existing ICTs solution (such as tolls as e-participation, e-government, e-learning applications, etc.) designed to make their everyday life better.[agreed]
6. We believe that ICTs have the potential to be a key enabler of development, and to be a critical component of innovative development solutions in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. ICTs should be fully recognized as tools empowering people, and providing economic growth towards achieving development, taking into account the growing importance of relevant content, skills and an enabling environment. [agreed]
7. Learning from the lessons of the past decade we need to turn our attention on the next period to those who provide create and manage the ICTs the professionals that empower the users of ICT to ensure that the rate of development can continue and increase. [agreed]
8. The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, inter alia, the development of  knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies. [agreed]

ANNEX 1 to document WSIS-10 4-4

**List of referenced resolutions**

A/RES/41/128. Declaration on the Right to Development

A/RES/68/140. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

A/RES/68/147. Rights of the child

A/RES/68/163. The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

A/RES/68/167. The right to privacy in the digital age.

A/RES/68/176. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity.

A/RES/68/227. Women in development

A/RES/68/243. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Vienna Declaration and program of action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna on 25 June 1993

A/HRC/20/8. The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet

A/HRC/RES/21/11. Extreme poverty and human rights.

A/HRC/RES/21/24. Human Rights and Indigenous People.

A/HRC/RES/21/30. Elaboration of international complementary standards on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination.

A/HRC/RES/22/6. Protecting Human Rights Defenders

**A/HRC/RES/**23/2. The role of freedom of opinion and expression in women’s empowerment

A/HRC/RES/23/3. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of Human Rights.

A/HRC/RES/23/4. The right to Education.

A/HRC/RES /23/10. Cultural rights and cultural diversity.

A/HRC/RES/23/20. Human Rights on Migrants.

A/HRC/RES/**24/5**. The rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

A/HRC/RES/24/8. Equal Political Participation

A/HRC/RES/24/10. Human Rights and Indigenous People.

A/HRC/RES/24/20. The human rights of older persons.

**A/HRC/RES/**24/21. **Civil society space: creating and maintaining, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment**

A/HRC/RES/24/31. Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity building in the field of human rights.

A/HRC/RES/25/3. Enhancement of international cooperation.

A/HRC/RES/25/11. Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights.

A/HRC/25/12. Freedom of religion or belief.

A/HRC/RES/25/19. Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity.

A/HRC/RES/25/32. Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerance.

A/HRC/RES/25/33. The international decade for people of African descent.

A/HRC/RES/25/34. Intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization; discrimination against persons based on religion or belief.

1. See Para 35 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society [↑](#footnote-ref-1)