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**Please note that this is a submission for the Fourth Physical meeting of the WSIS +10 MPP to be held on 14-17 April 2014.**

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Note: This para has been **submitted by the Ad-hoc Group on Gender facilitated by the Government of Egypt** duringthethird physical meeting of the WSIS+10 MPP. This para, once agreed upon, will be reflected in the Preambles of the Statement and Vision to avoid duplication in the rest of the chapters.

This document is available at:

<http://www.itu.int/wsis/review/mpp/pages/consolidated-texts.html>

While there is recognition of the potential of ICT as a tool for promoting gender equality, a “gender divide” has been identified in the access to and use of ICTs worldwide. Accordingly, we reaffirm the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women’s empowerment to guarantee the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society. Recalling 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, and RESOLUTION 70 (Rev. Guadalajara 2010) Gender mainstreaming in ITU; we wish to emphasize the importance of taking into account throughout the WSIS +10 Statement and Declaration that the development of ICTs provides enormous opportunities for women. Women 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 ensure the use of ICTs as a tool to gender mainstreaming.