WSIS+10 High-Level Event

Open Consultation Process

Official Submission Form #1 on the
Outcome Documents of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event

13-17 April 2014, Sharm el-Sheikh

Background: The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will be an extended version of the WSIS Forum to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes related to the WSIS Action Lines under mandates of the participating agencies, while providing a platform for multistakeholder coordination of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, with involvement and participation of all WSIS action line facilitators, other UN agencies and all WSIS stakeholders.

The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will review the WSIS Outcomes (2003 and 2005) , in particular, related to the Action Lines with a view to developing proposals on a new vision beyond 2015, potentially also exploring new targets. The meeting will be organized taking into account decisions of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly.

This open and inclusive open consultation process will result in:

- Draft Outcome Documents for consideration by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, by 1st March 2014:

    - Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

    - Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating Agencies

    (Please see the Official Submission Form #1)

- Multistakeholder guidance on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event.

    (Please see the Official Submission Form #2)

Please note that formal submission should be sent to the wsis-info@itu.int not later than **20 September 2013**.

A. Your Information

Title:	Ms		
First name:	Brenda	*Last name:*	Aynsley
Organization:	IFIP IP3		
Organization type:	International	*Country:*	Austria

A. Formal Input on the WSIS+10 High-Level Event Outcome Documents

Referring to the background documents i.e. the WSIS +10 Visioning Challenge, the Final Statement and Final Recommendations from the WSIS+10 Review Event Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, the Booklet WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013: Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015 and the WSIS Forum 2013 Outcome Document, all WSIS Stakeholders are kindly invited to provide formal submissions and inputs towards the Outcome Documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

1. Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes
No comments being made on this aspect by IFIP IP3

Since the two Summits, in 2003 and 2005, WSIS Stakeholders have made every effort in implementing a common vision of the Information Society.

Overall;

a) What are the main achievements in the area of the information society, in particular, in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines, in the past ten years?

Click here to enter text.

b) What key identified challenges would need to be addressed in the next 10 years?

Click here to enter text.

c) What do the WSIS Stakeholders envision for an information/ knowledge society ensuring that the youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples benefit from the enormous opportunities provided by the ICTs?

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2. **Draft WSIS +10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating agencies (Definition of new priorities and objectives for WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015)**
   Please note: Participating agency refers to the Agencies tasked by the WSIS Outcomes to lead facilitation of WSIS Action Lines; See Annex to the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

   a) In your opinion, what are the **key emerging trends** in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) landscape that should be considered in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for**.

   Please note: You may wish to refer to the WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013 Booklet on Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015, available at www.wsis.org/review/mpp.

   - C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C2. Information and communication infrastructure
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C3. Access to information and knowledge
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C4. Capacity building
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C6. Enabling environment
     - Click here to enter text.
   - C7. ICT Applications:
     - E-government
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-business
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-learning
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-health
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-employment
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-environment
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-agriculture
       - Click here to enter text.
     - E-science
       - Click here to enter text.

- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - Click here to enter text.
- C9. Media
  - Click here to enter text.
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - Click here to enter text.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - Click here to enter text.

b) What are areas that have **not been adequately captured by the framework of the existing 11 WSIS Action Lines** and would need to be addressed beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for**.

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c) In your opinion are there any priority areas that need to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015.

IFIP IP3 believes that the time is right and the imperative exists to include the topic of ICT professionalism in the period 2015 and beyond. This is because of both the success of the WSIS process and also the pervasiveness of ICT to affect and influence everyday life in all societies.

As has been said recently "*The most important reason [to examine and build ICT professionalism] stems from the extent to which the increasing pervasiveness of ICT has the potential to harm our economy and society. 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 to unacceptable levels.*[1]

This theme pervades all Action Lines in some way since it is concerned with the competence, reliability and honesty ie the trustworthiness, of all those practitioners who provide services in support of economic and social activity utilising ICT and ICT infrastructure. In this context trustworthiness is synonymous with professionalism.

We bring to your attention the presentation we did at the most recent WSIS Forum 2013 which can be located at http://ipthree.org/files/WSISGenevaFinalMay2013v3.pptx which amply identifies the environment that defines the society and economy going forward.

It is IFIP IP3's contention that at the highest level of dialogue those who are engaged in the business of providing ICT services and products as well as those who are charged with the governance of each economy need now to be concerned with ensuring that adequate training is available to practitioners set against internationally recognised standards of practice.

3. **Ensuring accountability of the WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015 (Targets and Indicators for an open and inclusive information/knowledge society for all beyond 2015)**
Please note that information provided under this point will be relevant to the second physical meeting of the open consultation process on WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

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[1] E-SKILLS: Promotion of ICT Professionalism in Europe, an EU Call for Tender, July 2013

a) How can the **monitoring and evaluation** of future implementation of the WSIS process, in particular, the Action Lines be better enabled?

Monitoring and evaluation is even more essential in future implementations of the WSIS process. It gets harder to judge when looking at incremental change. Qualitative data is necessary around standards and performance to indicate how and in which ways improvements in programs and services has occurred. Reference to international standards ought to be an essential part of that evaluation by those participating in future implementation of the WSIS process.

b) What are the **priority areas** that the post-2015 WSIS process should focus on and which goals and targets could monitor the new vision for WSIS beyond 2015?

- C4. Capacity building – having many practitioners is needed. Europe has already identified a skills shortage approaching 1 million within Europe as we get closer to 2015 without corrective action being taken. This is multiplied many times for the entire world. It is essential that we encourage stakeholders to consider this skills shortage and ensure that not only quantity is produced but also quality practitioners who can evaluate options against a framework of ICT professionalism.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs – professionalism so far has not been identified as an important part of this action line.
- C6. Enabling environment - legislation/regulation and/or co-regulation with appropriate professional bodies of professionals operating in ICT practice is an essential aspect of enabling the environment for ICT-enabled business and social use.
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society – ethics is the foundational aspect of professionalism. Its remit needs to be explicit in this. That is C10 needs to encompass not just ethical use of the internet but also the global ethics of the provision of all ICT by all actors, governments, industry, employers, educators as well as users. Considering the growth in the creation of mobile applications by amateurs ethical considerations and professionalism are even more important beyond 2015.
- C11. International and regional cooperation – it is true that a global position on ethical matters will require an enormous effort in cooperation and collaboration in terms of professional practice and standards, but we must not shirk from undertaking this effort. I was asked last week in Poland: "Is it even possible to develop a position on global ethics?" and the answer is, yes but it will take time and effort, IFIP and IP3 will make that effort, we believe the WSIS process should also. It is not just ICT4D that is involved here, but it must be a global response covering a global profession.

4. Any additional comments or suggestions

Professionalism in ICT practice is THE issue for the next WSIS process because as users of the Information Society become more practiced they will become more demanding and this demand

must be satisfied through professional practitioners to ensure that all action lines are impacted for outcomes that best serve the multistakeholders to the WSIS process.