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Draft Interim Report of the Preparatory Meeting
(PrepCom-3 of the Tunis phase)

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

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I Introduction

1 In its Resolution 56/183 of 21 December 2001, the General Assembly of the United Nations welcomed the resolution of the Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in which the Council endorsed the proposal put forward by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union for the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society in two phases, a first phase in Geneva from 10-12 December 2003 and a second phase in Tunisia. The General Assembly also invited the International Telecommunication Union to assume the leading managerial role in the Executive Secretariat of the Summit and its preparatory process, in cooperation with other interested organizations and partners.

2 The General Assembly further recommended that preparations for the Summit take place through an open-ended intergovernmental Preparatory Committee that would define the agenda of the Summit, finalize both the draft declaration and the draft plan of action, and decide on the modalities of the participation of other stakeholders in the Summit.

3 The second PrepCom of the Tunis phase of the Summit was held in Geneva from 17-25 February 2005. In the Final Report (Document WSIS-II/PC-2/DOC/12), Governments decided to hold the third PrepCom in Geneva, for a duration of 10 working days, starting on 19 September 2005.

II Organization

A) Opening and duration of the session

4 The Preparatory Committee for the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society held its third session from 19 to 30 September 2005 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The Committee held ... Plenary meetings and ... Subcommittee meetings.

5 Opening addresses were held by H.E. Mr. Montasser Ouaili, Minister for Communication Technologies (Tunisia), by H.E. Mr. Moritz Leuenberger, Vice-President of the Swiss Confederation and Head of the Federal Department of Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications and by Mr. Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of ITU. The opening addresses can be found on the WSIS website at www.itu.int/wsis/documents.

6 After the Opening Ceremony, the President of the Preparatory Committee, H.E. Ambassador Janis Karklins, opened the first Plenary Meeting.

B) Agenda and organization of work

7 At its first Plenary meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the agenda of the third Preparatory Meeting (PrepCom-3 of the Tunis phase), as contained in Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/1(Rev.1). The agenda was as follows:

1. Approval of the agenda and other organizational matters
2. Election of the Chairpersons of Sub-Committees A and B and of the Rapporteur
3. Accreditation of NGOs, civil society and business sector entities
4. Report of the Secretary-General of ITU on the activities between PrepCom-2 and PrepCom-3
5. Presentation of reports on activities directly related to WSIS
 - a. Report on WSIS Stocktaking
 - b. Report of the Group of Friends of the President of the Preparatory Committee

- c. Report of the Working Group on Internet Governance
- d. Reports on regional conferences
- e. Reports on thematic meetings
6. Consideration of the following items of the final document(s):
 - a. Text of Political Chapeau
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7. Adoption of the report of the third meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Tunis phase
8. Other business

8 The Executive Director of the WSIS Executive Secretariat presented the Draft Time Management Plan (WSIS-II/PC-3/ADM/2) and informed that the Bureau recommends that observers should be given the floor in the subcommittees for an average of 45 minutes for every six hours of subcommittee meetings.

C) Election of the Chairpersons of Sub-Committees A and B and of the Rapporteur

9 At its first Plenary meeting, the Preparatory Committee elected H.E. Ambassador Masood Khan (Pakistan) as Chairperson of the Sub-Committee A (Chapter 3 of the Operational Part, Internet Governance) and Ms. Lyndall Shope-Mafole (South Africa) as Chairperson of Sub-Committee B (Political Chapeau and all other chapters of the operational part except Internet Governance) by acclamation. Dr. George Papadatos (Greece) was re-elected as the Rapporteur of the third Preparatory Committee of the Tunis phase of WSIS, by acclamation.

D) Accreditation

10 At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee approved the lists of NGOs, civil society and private sector entities recommended by the Executive Secretariat for accreditation. The list of entities is contained in Document WSIS-II/PC-2/DOC/4 and Add.1.

11 The United States asked the Secretariat to clarify the reason why the NGO named "Human Rights in China" was not part of the recommended list. The Executive Secretariat explained that the file of the NGO was not complete and that NGOs with incomplete files did not figure on the list. An explanation by the Secretariat as to the reasons why HRIC's file was incomplete did not satisfy U.S. concerns. The United States then proposed that the NGO "Human Rights in China" should be recommended for accreditation. China then proposed a motion "not to consider NGOs that were not on the list recommended by the Executive Secretariat" and asked for a roll-call vote. The motion introduced by China was adopted by the Preparatory Committee by a recorded roll-call vote of 52 to 35, with 35 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstentions:

Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Chile, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Japan, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tanzania, Uruguay.

E) Report of the ITU Secretary-General on activities leading to the third Preparatory Meeting (PrepCom-3 of the Tunis phase)

12 At the same meeting, the Secretary-General presented a written report on activities undertaken by ITU and the UN system to prepare for the third meeting of the Preparatory Committee (Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/2). At the end of his presentation, he thanked delegations and stakeholders for their financial contributions and financial commitments.

F) Presentation of reports on activities directly related to WSIS

13 The Preparatory Committee heard the following reports:

- a. Report on WSIS Stocktaking (Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/3). The revised Report was presented at the first Plenary meeting by Dr. Tim Kelly, ITU/WSIS-ES.
- b. Report of the Group of the Friends of the President of the Preparatory Committee (Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/6). The President of the Preparatory Committee introduced this Report.
- c. Report of the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG). Mr. Nitin Desai, Chairman of the WGIG presented the Report of the Working Group on Internet Governance (Document WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/5).
- d. Reports on regional conferences The Preparatory Committee heard reports on the following regional conferences:
 - Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, 31 May – 2 June 2005, Tehran, The Islamic Republic of Iran, presented by Iran.
 - Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Conference, 8-10 June 2005, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, presented by Brazil.
 - The Pan Arab Conference on WSIS Phase II, 8-10 May 2005, Cairo, Egypt, presented by Egypt.
- e. Reports on Thematic meetings. The Preparatory Committee heard reports on the following thematic meetings
 - Africa's Common Position on Internet Governance (Dakar Resolution), 5-6 September 2005, Dakar, Senegal, presented by Senegal.
 - Indigenous Peoples in the Information Society, 14-18 March 2005, Ottawa, Canada, presented by the Indigenous Media Network / Canadian Government.

- Three UNESCO thematic meetings: Cultural Diversity in Knowledge Societies, 17-19 May 2005, St. Petersburg, Russia; World Conference on ICT for Capacity-Building: Critical Success Factors, 11-13 May 2005, Paris, France; Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace, 6-7 May 2005, Bamako, Mali; presented by UNESCO.
- Tokyo Ubiquitous Network Conference, 16-17 May 2005, Tokyo, Japan, presented by Japan.
- WIPO Online forum on Intellectual Property in the Information Society, 1-15 June 2005, online, presented by WIPO.
- World Summit Contributory Conference on ICT and Creativity, 2-3 June 2005, Vienna, Austria, presented by the Austrian International Center of New Media.
- The Forum on Paperless Trade in International Supply Chains: Enhancing Efficiency and Security, 20-21 June 2005, Geneva, Switzerland, presented by UNECE.
- International Policy Dialogue: Mainstreaming ICT for Development: the Key Role of the Private Sector, 21-22 June 2005, Berlin, Germany, presented by Germany.
- WSIS Thematic Meeting on Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for Bridging the Digital Divide, 23-24 June 2005, Seoul, Korea, presented by the Republic of Korea.
- WSIS Thematic Meeting on Cybersecurity, 28 June – 1 July 2005, Geneva, Switzerland, presented by ITU.
- Role of ICT for Disaster Reduction, 28 February 2005, Bangkok, Thailand, presented by ITU.
- Forum on ICTs and Gender for WSIS 2005, 24-25 June 2005, Seoul, Korea, presented by ITU.
- Asia Media Summit, 9-11 May 2005, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, presented by Orbicom

G) Attendance

14 In accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 56/183 and rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Preparatory Committee, the third session of the Preparatory Committee of Phase II was open to the full participation of all States that were members of the United Nations or any of its specialized agencies.

15 The following 153 States were represented: Algeria; Andorra; Angola; Argentina; Armenia; Australia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belarus; Belgium; Benin; Bhutan; Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Comoros; Congo (Rep. of); Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Democratic Republic of Congo; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; Finland; France; Gabon; Gambia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Guatemala; Guinea; Haiti; Honduras; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Iraq; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea (Republic of); Kuwait; Latvia; Lebanon; Lesotho; Libya; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mali; Malta; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Micronesia; Moldova; Monaco; Mongolia; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Samoa; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Serbia and Montenegro; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Somalia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Syria; Tanzania; Thailand; The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Togo; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey;

Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vatican; Venezuela; Viet Nam; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

16 The European Community was represented, conforming with the Rules of Procedure of the Preparatory Committee.

17 Palestine, having a standing invitation from the United Nations General Assembly, was represented.

18 The following United Nations bodies were represented: International Trade Centre (ITC); Joint Inspection Unit (JIU); Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations (UN); United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD); United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC); Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT); United Nations ICT Task Force (UN ICT); the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UNNGLS); United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); United Nations University (UNU); United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance.

19 The following specialized agencies of the United Nations and related organizations were represented: International Labour Organization (ILO); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Universal Postal Union (UPU); The World Bank; World Health Organization (WHO); and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

20 The following invited intergovernmental organizations were represented: African Development Bank (AFDB); African Telecommunications Union; African Union; The Arab League Educational, Cultural & Scientific Organization (ALECSO); Union de radiodiffusion des Etats Arabes (ASBU); African Virtual University (AVU); African Women Organization (AWO); Caribbean Community (CARICOM); The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN); Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization (CTO); Council of Europe; Council of the European Union; International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO); League of Arab States (LAS); Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF); Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC); Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud; Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; Pan-African Postal Union; Regional African Satellite Communications Organization (RASCOM); Regional Commonwealth in the field of communications (RCC); South Centre; Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

21 A large number of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities, including ITU Sector Members, attended the session.

H) Documentation

22 The third session of the Preparatory Committee of the Tunis Phase of the WSIS had before it the following official documents:

- Draft agenda (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/1(Rev.1))

- Report of the ITU Secretary-General on activities leading to PrepCom-3 of the Tunis Phase of the Summit (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/2)
- Revised Report on the WSIS Stocktaking (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/3)
- Accreditation of NGOs, Civil Society and Business Sector Entities to the WSIS (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/4 and Add.1)
- Report from the Working Group on Internet Governance (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/5)
- Report on the Work of the Group of Friends of the Chair during the Inter-Sessional Period (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/6)
- Revised Chapter 2 of the Operational Part (Financial Mechanisms) (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/7)
- Political Chapeau and Operational Plan (Chapters One and Four) (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/8)
- Stakeholder Commitments Questionnaire (WSIS-II/PC-3/DOC/9)

23 These documents can be found on the WSIS website at the following address:

<http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents>.

III Consideration of the following items of the final document(s)

- a. Text of Political Chapeau**
- b. Text to Operational Part**
- c. Any other questions related to the final document(s)**

(The text of this chapter will be finalized by the Rapporteur, with support from the Executive Secretariat)

IV Adoption of the Report of the third meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Tunis phase

(The text of this chapter will be finalized by the Rapporteur, with support from the Executive Secretariat)

V Other business

(The text of this chapter will be finalized by the Rapporteur, with support from the Executive Secretariat)

VI Annexes

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