



**OPEN CONSULTATIONS ON THE PARTICIPATION OF RELEVANT
STAKEHOLDERS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF ITU RELATED TO WSIS**

QUESTIONNAIRE TO ITU WSIS ACCREDITED ENTITIES

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a) What “added value” might stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) bring to the work of ITU in its WSIS-related activities?

- Representation of minorities from within ITU member states, which governments do not represent in developing countries.
- To give developing countries minorities the opportunity to voice opinion at the ITU's international platform.
- Reflect opinion on regulatory authorities from within developing countries that might not be highlighted otherwise.

b) What criteria could be suggested for defining which stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) might be “relevant” to participated in ITU activities related to WSIS, taking into account a) above ?

1. A map reflecting all stakeholders' positions should be 'drawn out' to reflect a diverse spectrum of opinion.
2. Such maps from developed countries should be compared to that of developing countries in order to understand shortfall of representation.
3. Accept participants until all stakeholder positions are covered.
4. Push towards lacking stakeholders in order to convey a wide spectrum of opinions.
5. Deal with more researchers dealing with WSIS related issues to input more natural opinion, and that of missing stakeholders.

c) What are the challenges (including financial) to stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) posed by their participation in the activities of the Union related to WSIS, and how can such challenges be met ?

I believe that developing countries non-state actors are less able to attend such activities due to:

1. Lack of option due to repressive countries (more within developing countries)

2. Less broadcasted issues within member states
3. Financial-- Civil Societies, NGO's, non-funded Researchers.

These issues can be dealt with, by 'requesting' from member states to include, advertise and 'help' (either financially or enabling such voices to be heard) non state actors from within there states in order to deal with the imbalances of opinion regarding to WSIS related issues. Additionally, the ITU can help fund non-represented stakeholders from developing countries in order to 'fill out' the map that was drawn out that represents all stakeholders' positions.

- d) **How can existing mechanisms (e.g. partnerships, symposia, seminars, workshops, focus groups, policy forums, experts) for participation by stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) be used more effectively, and what other mechanisms could be suggested ?**
- Creating more 'main' workshops as a platform for these participating stakeholders in order to create more diversity in discussion.
 - Using more online discussion forums for WSIS related issues, issues are then analysed and raised on behalf of the 'non-able' to attend (either due to financial or political reasons) stakeholders.
 - Find funding for 'non able' to attend stakeholders, in order to create a platform for voices.
 - ITU should not only represent member states, but civil societies and NGO's and academics within these nation states.
- e) **What specific efforts may be needed to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) from developing countries, and stakeholders in the development field?**
- This can be done by 'helping' (financially or otherwise) these stakeholders via online forums.
 - Funding and 'helping' researchers reflecting the opinions of non-members to voice opinions on their behalf via existing mechanisms (e.g. partnerships, symposia, seminars, workshops, focus groups, policy forums, experts).