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**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?**

Stakeholders are bringing new perspectives to the planning of action lines and new views to ways and possibilities of their realisation. They (we) opened up non-trailed and autonomous, somehow independent sensitivity of the direct experience from a terrain with respected topics as open source, public access, free flow of information etc. without doubting them by expectations of the industry. I'm coming from the education, culture and science sector and primarily I'm interested in the non-for profit use of information-communication technologies as meant on hardware and software usage and development.

**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 ?**

I suppose all stakeholders might be relevant and their opinions should be listened to and discuss, if they have constructive proposals or challenging opinions on anything that is taken into account as activities related to WSIS. To accentuate stakeholders' interaction with ITU or other WSIS important groups and sectors it would be important to include their participations enough to the debate and made the agenda also according their interests with presenting their papers to interested audiences (it's not needed to be the verbal presentation, it could be enough to be included in proceedings).

I think that with more stakeholders\participation, better overview of the WSIS action lines will bring more persuasive common goals.

- 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 ?**

The most important challenge for me is to listen to as many presentations as possible (as some of the meetings are happening in parallel) and actively participate in the discussions.

The next challenge is to present my own experience in the ICT field in connection with academic and professional issues and out-takes, which are important for fields of activities I'm working in and could have potentially big impact also on other fields the sector, e.g. environment, security on the Internet, Digital Rights Management etc., with special advantages of the open public access and free information flows of information according to statements of wider public knowledge, publicly funded activities as science, research, culture and education are etc.

I don't see any financial challenge though as I'm coming from non-for-profit sector.

This challenge can be met with active inclusion of stakeholders on meetings, with opening doors for presentations and with involving them into the action lines creation process.

- 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 ?**

More effectively will be active stakeholders, who are not only allowed to attend the WSIS implementation meetings, but are also invited to participate in evolving of the overall development of the whole process with the short-, mid- and long-term results.

Mechanisms suggested would be also information letters and frequent newsletters (monthly) about directions to which actions are turning, what are the most important issues to discuss, who is actively involved or could even be personally or professionally interested for certain results (to maybe prevent single industry or lobby-groups interests, that might not be common goals of ITU or UN).

The other point should be building concrete collaborative projects with inclusion of several ITU members and non members to get them into the interaction process, from which all of them could get applicable and positive results. Maybe only the definition of being a member or not is not satisfactory on the global scale, which is built by even wider (target?) groups – users, producers, sellers etc.

- 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?**

Specific efforts should be done through the year by informing stakeholders, by organising presentations and workshops involving as wide aspect of public as possible. Therefore the best way might be some kind of travelling expedition going to different places and explaining the state of beings in the ICT industry and in reality of its implementation.

Definitely this shouldn't be the patronizing gesture, but on the first place the educational process with taking into consideration all relevant topics, not missing even potentially bad consequences and eloquently judging every criteria important for some society or defined environment.

With this I'd also suppose meeting in Geneva would continue regularly and would involve more interactive programs like workshops or free-floor discussions for all stakeholders, especially important for those in the development field and also from developing countries as they don't have a chance to gather under such valuable content and technology umbrella.

I'm looking forward for next years continuation of ITU international ICT days and of WSIS Implementation meetings.