

Received  
CSN

05 MAY 2008 → BP



Ministry of Communications and Information Technology  
Minister's Office  
International Affairs

Ref No : 201/100  
Date : 27-04-2008  
Encl. : -3-

UIT Communications  
28 APR 2008  
SPM 2320

**FAX MESSAGE**

To : **H.E. Dr. Hamadoun I. Toure**  
Secretary General  
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)  
Fax: + 41 22 733 7256, 730 6500

RECEIVED on  
30 APR 2008  
SPM

Subject : **Open consultations on the inclusion of the relevant stakeholder in the activities of the ITU related to the WSIS**

**Dear Br. Dr. Hamadoun:**

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

This is with reference to your letter Ref: CL 66, dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, with regard to "Open consultations on the inclusion of the relevant stakeholders in the activities of the ITU related to the WSIS". Kindly find enclosed with the said questionnaire after duly filled by our Administration as requested by you.

Thanks for you cooperation and best regards.

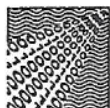
Yours sincerely,

**Fareed Y. Khashoggi**

Deputy Minister  
International Organizations Affairs  
Ministry of Communications and I.T. (MCIT)  
E-mail: [intaff@mcit.gov.sa](mailto:intaff@mcit.gov.sa)

CSN ✓

B. Khashoggi



Ministry of Communications and Information Technology  
Minister's Office  
International Affairs

Ref No : 201/100  
Date : 27-04-2008  
Encl. : - 3 -

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

**QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE ITU MEMBER STATES**

**Name:** Fareed Y. Khashoggi  
**Title/Position:** Deputy Minister  
**Country :** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**E-mail:** intaff@mcit.gov.sa

- a) **What are the spheres of competence that ITU Member States reserve for themselves with regard to WSIS stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) and the possible denunciation of their participation in ITU.**

The spheres of competence that ITU Member States reserve for themselves are provided for in the ITU Constitution and Convention. These include the right to vote, to approve the participation in the ITU of entities and organizations from their States and to be eligible for election to the Council, among others. The ITU basic texts also define the rights of Member States with regard to the possible denunciation of participation in the ITU. The sovereign rights of States with regard to Internet Governance issues are also reconfirmed in the WSIS Principles.

- b) **Are the definitions of Sector Members, Associates and experts contained in the ITU basic texts sufficient to include all stakeholders in ITU WSIS related activities?**

The definitions are sufficient to include all relevant parties interested in participating in ITU related WSIS activities. Any interested parties that are not willing to become, or do not qualify as, Sector Members, Associates or experts as defined in the ITU basic texts may participate as part of their Member State's delegation, or as observers, or may communicate their views through the Internet Governance Forum.

- c) **What are possible amendments to the definitions of Sector Members, Associates and experts contained in the ITU basic texts which would enhance participation in ITU WSIS related activities?**  
There is no need to change the definitions of Sector Members, Associates and experts in the ITU basic texts. (See also the answer to Question b)

1/3

- d) **What might be the financial implications of the participation of all stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) in the activities of the Union?**

The provisions related to the financial implications for participation of Sector Members, Associates, experts and observers in the ITU are covered in the ITU basic texts. (See also the answer to Question b)

- e) **What are the other challenges to the Union and its members posed by the participation of all relevant stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) related to WSIS and how can such challenges be met?**

The ITU already has well defined processes in its basic texts to facilitate the participation of all relevant parties in its activities.

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

Relevant parties may help build awareness and commitment to the building of the information society.

- g) **What criteria could be suggested for defining which stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) might be 'relevant' to participate in ITU activities.**

The ITU basic texts provide the criteria for becoming Sector Members Associates, experts and observers. The same criteria could be used to assess which parties are relevant to participate in ITU WSIS related activities.

- h) **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?**

Developing countries have a limited number of business sector entities and non-governmental organizations which are relevant to ITU WSIS related activities, and of these, most have limited resources (including financial) for participation in such activities. This could result in an imbalance in representation between developed and developing countries in ITU WSIS related activities. There are existing provisions and procedures within the ITU for facilitating participation of parties from developing countries in ITU activities including lower financial contributions, holding conferences and meetings in the Regions and encouraging the use of remote attendance through e-communications

- i) **How can existing mechanisms (e.g. partnerships, symposia, seminars, workshops, focus groups, policy forums, experts) for participation by stakeholders be used more effectively, and what other mechanisms could be suggested?**

The existing mechanisms for participation of Sector Members, Associates, experts and observers in ITU activities are reasonably efficient and are also appropriate to addressing WSIS related activities. No additional mechanisms are needed.

- j) **What specific efforts may be needed to mobilize and ensure the participation of all relevant stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) from developing countries, and stakeholders in the development field?**

The existing mechanisms for fostering the participation of Sector Members, Associates, experts and observers in ITU activities, particularly in the Development Sector, can be used for fostering participation from developing countries in ITU WSIS related activities. (See also the answer to question h)

— x —