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WSIS Executive Secretariat

DRAFT REPORT OF THE GENEVA PHASE OF THE SUMMIT

CHAPTER ...

Attendance and organization of work

A. Date and place of the Geneva phase of the Summit

1 The Geneva phase of the World Summit on the Information Society was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 10 to 12 December 2003, in conformity with the decision of the ITU Council and General Assembly Resolutions 56/183 and 57/238. The Summit held ... plenary meetings (1st to ..th).

B. Attendance

The following States were represented at the Summit:

Afghanistan	Belgium
Albania	Belize
Algeria	Benin
Andorra	Bhutan
Angola	Bolivia
Argentina	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Armenia	Botswana
Australia	Brazil
Austria	Brunei Darussalam
Azerbaijan	Bulgaria
Bahrain	Burkina Faso
Bangladesh	Burundi
Barbados	Cambodia

Belarus	Cameroon
Canada	Italy
Cape Verde	Jamaica
Central African Republic	Japan
Chad	Jordan
Chile	Kazakhstan
China	Kenya
Colombia	Kuwait
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan
Congo	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Costa Rica	Latvia
Côte d'Ivoire	Lebanon
Croatia	Lesotho
Cuba	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Cyprus	Liechtenstein
Czech Republic	Lithuania
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Luxembourg
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Madagascar
Denmark	Malawi
Djibouti	Malaysia
Dominican Republic	Maldives
Ecuador	Mali
Egypt	Malta
El Salvador	Mauritania
Equatorial Guinea	Mauritius
Eritrea	Mexico
Estonia	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Ethiopia	Monaco
Fiji	Mongolia
Finland	Morocco
France	Mozambique
Gabon	Myanmar
Gambia	Namibia
Georgia	Nepal

Germany	Netherlands
Ghana	New Zealand
Greece	Nicaragua
Guatemala	Niger
Guinea	Nigeria
Haiti	Niue
Holy See	Norway
Honduras	Oman
Hungary	Pakistan
Iceland	Palau
India	Panama
Indonesia	Papua New Guinea
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Paraguay
Iraq	Peru
Ireland	Philippines
Israel	Poland
Qatar	Portugal
Republic of Korea	Sweden
Republic of Moldova	Switzerland
Romania	Syrian Arab Republic
Russian Federation	Thailand
Rwanda	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Timor-Leste
Saint Lucia	Togo
Samoa	Tonga
San Marino	Trinidad and Tobago
Saudi Arabia	Tunisia
Senegal	Turkey
Serbia and Montenegro	Uganda
Seychelles	Ukraine
Sierra Leone	United Arab Emirates
Singapore	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Slovakia	United Republic of Tanzania

Slovenia	United States of America
South Africa	Uruguay
Spain	Uzbekistan
Sri Lanka	Venezuela
Sudan	Viet Nam
Suriname	Yemen
Swaziland	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

[To be finalized]

2 The European Community was represented in conformity with the rules of procedure of the Summit.

3 The following entity having received an invitation to participate as an observer at the Summit was represented: Palestine

4 The following regional commissions were represented:

[To be completed]

5 The following United Nations bodies and programmes were represented:

[To be completed]

6 The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented:

[To be completed]

7 The following intergovernmental organizations were represented:

[To be completed]

9 Other entities having received an invitation and participating as observers are:

[To be completed]

10 [...] non-governmental organizations accredited to the Summit during its preparatory process also attended.

[To be completed]

11 [...] business entities accredited to the Summit during its preparatory process also attended.

[To be completed]

C. Documentation

12 The list of documents before the Summit is contained in Annex ... to the report.

D. Opening ceremony

13 At the opening ceremony, on 10 December 2003, addresses were delivered by His Excellency Mr Pascal Couchepin, President of the Swiss Confederation; His Excellency Mr Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations; His Excellency Mr Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia; His Excellency Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union; Ms Kicki Nordström, President of the World Blind Union; Mr Mohammad Omran, Chairman of the Board of Thuraya Satellite Telecommunications Company; and His Excellency Mr Adama Samassékou, President of the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit on the Information Society.

E. Organizational meeting

14 The World Summit on the Information Society held an organizational meeting on 10 December 2003. The Secretary-General of the Summit made an opening statement.

F. Adoption of the agenda of the organizational meeting

15 At its organizational meeting on 10 December, the Summit adopted the agenda of its organizational meeting as contained in Document WSIS-03/GENEVA/ADM/4. The agenda was as follows:

1. Opening of the Geneva phase of the Summit
2. Adoption of the Agenda of the Organizational Meeting
3. Election of the President of the Summit and of the President of the Organizational Meeting
4. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
5. Adoption of the Agenda of the First Phase of the Summit
6. Election of other officers of the Summit
7. Organization of work
8. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
9. Report of the Preparatory Committee
10. Other Business

G. Election of the President of the Geneva phase of the Summit and the President of the organizational meeting

16 At its organizational meeting, the Summit elected the President of the Swiss Confederation, H.E. Mr Pascal Couchepin, President of its Geneva phase by acclamation.

17 At the same meeting, the Summit elected the Secretary of State for Communications of Switzerland, H.E. Mr Mark Furrer, President of the organizational meeting of its Geneva phase, by acclamation.

18 The President of the organizational meeting made a statement.

H. Adoption of the rules of procedure

19 At its organizational meeting, on 10 December 2003, the Summit adopted the rules of procedure as contained in document WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/2.

I. Adoption of the agenda of the Geneva phase of the Summit and other organizational matters

20 At its organizational meeting, on 10 December 2003, the Summit adopted the agenda of the Geneva phase of the Summit as contained in Document WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Opening of the Geneva phase of the Summit
2. Election of the President of the Summit and of the President of the organizational meeting
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Election of other officers of the Summit
6. Organization of work
7. Credentials of representatives to the Summit
 - a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
 - b) Report of the Credentials Committee
8. Report of the Preparatory Committee
9. General Debate
10. Round tables
11. Report from Multi-stakeholder Events
12. Adoption of the Declaration of Principles
13. Adoption of the Plan of Action
14. Arrangements for the Tunis phase of the Summit
15. Adoption of the Report of the Geneva phase of the Summit
16. Closing of the Geneva phase of the Summit

J. Election of other officers of the Geneva phase of the Summit

Election of fifteen Vice-Presidents

21 At its organizational meeting, on 10 December 2003, the Summit elected the following Vice-Presidents:

African States: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, South Africa

Asian States: China, India, Islamic Republic of Iran

Latin American and the Caribbean States: Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico

Eastern European States: Latvia, Romania, Russian Federation

Western European and Other States: Finland, France, United States of America

Election of two ex officio Vice-Presidents

22 The Summit elected by acclamation Mr Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia, and Mr Moritz Leuenberger, Federal Councillor and Head of the Department of Transport, Communications and Energy of Switzerland, as ex officio Vice-Presidents.

Designation of the Rapporteur

23 The Summit designated Mr Petru Dumitriu (Romania) to serve as its Rapporteur.

K. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

24 At its organizational meeting, on 10 December, the Summit appointed a Credentials Committee for its Geneva phase based on the membership of the Credentials Committee of the fifty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly. Since Antigua and Barbuda was not present at the Summit, the Summit agreed that it be replaced by Barbados. The members of the Credentials Committee for the Geneva phase of the Summit were thus as follows: Barbados, Cape Verde, China, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Fiji, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

L. Report of the Preparatory Committee

25 The Secretary-General of the Summit, Mr Yoshio Utsumi, made a statement.

26 At its organizational meeting, on 10 December, the President of the Preparatory Committee, H.E. Mr Adama Samassékou, made a statement in which he reported on the work undertaken during the preparatory process.

M. Other business

27 The Secretary of the Plenary of the Summit, in response to a question raised by the representative of the United States, clarified that interpretative statements on the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action submitted in writing would be included as part of the final report of the Geneva phase of the Summit.

CHAPTER ...

General debate

28 The Summit held its general debate at its 1st to 5th plenary meetings, from 10 to 12 December 2003.

29 At the 1st meeting, on 10 December, statements were made by: Her Excellency Ms Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland; His Excellency Mr Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan; His Excellency Mr Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique; His Excellency Mr Zafarullah Khan Jamali, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; His Excellency Mr Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Prime Minister of the French Republic; His Excellency Mr Mohamed Hosny Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt; His Excellency Mr Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, President of the Republic of Cape Verde; His Excellency Mr Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda; His Excellency Mr Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran; His Excellency Mr Amadou Toumani Toure, President of the Republic of Mali; His Majesty King Letsie III, King of the Kingdom of Lesotho; Her Excellency Ms Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of the Republic of Latvia; His Excellency Mr El Hadj Omar Bongo Ondimba, President of the Gabonese Republic; His Excellency Mr Askar Akaev, President of Kyrgyz Republic; His Excellency Mr Festus Gontebanye Mogae, President of the Republic of Botswana; His Excellency Dr Robert Gabriel Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe; His Excellency Mr Otmar Hasler, Head of Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein; His Excellency Mr Emile Lahoud, President of the Lebanese Republic; His Excellency Chief Olusegun Obasanjo GCFR, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; His Excellency Mr Stjepan Mesic, President of the Republic of Croatia; His Excellency The Honourable Moody Awori, Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs of the Republic of Kenya; His Excellency Mr Petr Mares, Deputy Prime

Minister of Office of the Government of the Czech Republic; His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, Minister of Communications, Minister of Planning and State Minister of Administrative Development Affairs of the State of Kuwait; His Excellency Mr Leonid Reiman, Minister for Communications and Informatization of the Russian Federation; His Excellency The Honourable Deechand Jeeha, Minister of Information Technology and Telecommunications of the Republic of Mauritius; His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al-Faisal, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; His Excellency Mr Pavol Prokopovic, Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of the Slovak Republic; His Excellency Mr Xudong Wang, Minister of Information Industry of the People's Republic of China; His Excellency Dr Lucio Stanca, Minister of Innovation and Technology of the Italian Republic; His Excellency Mr Erkki Liikanen, Commissioner of the European Community; Her Excellency Ms Torild Skogsholm, Minister of Transport and Communications of the Kingdom of Norway; His Excellency Mr Tómas Ingi Olrich, Minister of Education, Science and Culture of the Republic of Iceland; His Excellency Mr George Papandreou, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece; His Excellency Mr Orlando Jorge Mera, Minister, President of the Dominican Institute of Telecommunications of the Dominican Republic; His Excellency Mr Bachir Al-Mounajed, Minister of Communications and Technology of the Syrian Arab Republic; His Excellency Mr Oleh Yatsenko, Minister for Communications and Informatization of Ukraine; His Excellency Dr Do Trung Ta, Minister of Post and Telematics of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; His Excellency Sheikh Abdulla Bin Mohammed Bin Saoud Al-Thani, Minister, Chief of the Diwan Amiri and Chairman of Qatar Telecommunication Company of the State of Qatar; His Excellency Mr Branko Dokic, Minister of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina; His Excellency Mr Juan Costa Climent, Minister of Science and Technology of the Kingdom of Spain; His Excellency Mr Nabil Ben Abdallah, Minister of Communications, Spokesman of Government of the Kingdom of Morocco; His Excellency Ambassador Samuel Pinheiro Guimarães Neto, Acting Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil; His Excellency Ambassador Hernán Escudero, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Ecuador; Mr José Maria Figueres-Olsen, Chairman of the United Nations ICT Task Force; Ms Lynne Muthoni Wanyeki, Executive Director of the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET); Ms Brigita Schmögnerová, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; Mr Shu-Khun Lin, Founder of Molecular Diversity Preservation International; Mr Vittorio Colao, Chief Executive Officer, SEMEA Region, Member of the Board of Directors of Vodafone; Mr K.Y. Amoako, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa; Ms Titilayo Akinsanmi, Co-founder of Paradigm Initiative Nigeria; Mr Jean-Philippe Courtois, CEO EMEA - Senior Vice President of Microsoft Corporation; Mr Eduardo Doryan, Special Representative of the World Bank; Mr Ayisi Makatiani, Founder of Africa Online; Mr Ad de Raad, Executive Coordinator, a.i., of the United Nations Volunteers.

30 At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 11 December, statements were made by: His Excellency Mr Ion Iliescu, President of Romania; His Excellency Mr Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal; His Excellency Mr John A. Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana; His Excellency Colonel Azali Assoumani, President of the Union of Comoros; His Excellency Mr Robert Kocharyan, President of the Republic of Armenia; His Excellency Mr Alyaksandr Lukashenka, President of the Republic of Belarus; His Excellency Mr Marc Forné, Head of Government of the Principality of Andorra; His Excellency Mr Arnold Rüütel, President of the Republic of Estonia; Her Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; His Excellency Mr Kim Yong Dae, Vice President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; His Excellency Mr Ricardo Alarcón de Quesada, President of the National Assembly of People's Power of the

Republic of Cuba; Her Excellency Mrs Isatou Njie-Saidy, Vice-President of the Republic of the Gambia; His Excellency Mr Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, Minister of Economic Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; His Excellency Mr Philippos W. Mariam, Minister of Infrastructure of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Her Excellency Ms Ulla Tørnæs, Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Denmark; His Excellency Mr Kálmán Kovács, Minister of Informatics and Communications of the Republic of Hungary; His Excellency Mr Bertie Ahern, T.D., Prime Minister of Ireland; His Excellency Mr Rezzo Schlauch, Secretary of State, Federal Ministry for Economics and Labour of the Federal Republic of Germany; His Excellency Mr Maqbool Ali Sultan, Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Sultanate of Oman; His Excellency The Honourable Bernard Chisale, M.P., Minister of Information of the Republic of Malawi; Her Excellency Ms Carin Jämtin, Minister for Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of Sweden; His Excellency Mr Eduardo Cáliz, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of El Salvador; His Excellency Mr Saeed Mohamed Al-Faihani, Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Bahrain; His Excellency Mr John Rimmer, Head of the Delegation of Australia; His Excellency U Mya Than, Head of the Delegation of the Union of Myanmar; Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Mr Philip Jennings, General Secretary of Union Network International; Mr Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; Mr Adnan Kassar, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Fransabank Group; Ms Mercedes Bresso, President of the World Federation of United Cities (FMCU); Mr Thomas Ganswindt, Group President of Siemens Information and Communication Networks; Mr Robert Blois, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union; Mr Paul Twomey, Chief Executive Officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN); Mr Marcel A. Boisard, Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

31 At the 3rd plenary meeting, on 11 December, statements were made by: His Excellency The Honourable Prof. Apollo Nsibambi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda; His Royal Highness Prince Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga; His Excellency Mr Boris Trajkovski, President of the Republic of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; His Excellency Dr José Rizo Castellón, Vice-President of the Republic of Nicaragua; His Excellency Mr Kayser Bazán, Vice-President of the Republic of Panama; His Excellency Dr Dragoljub Micunovic, President of the Assembly of Serbia and Montenegro; His Excellency Mr Aripov Abdulla, Deputy Prime Minister, General Director of Communication and Information Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Her Excellency Ms Fatimetou Mint M. Saleck, Secretary of New Technology of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; His Excellency Mr Taro Aso, Minister of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications of Japan; His Excellency Professor Michal Kleiber, Minister of Scientific Research and Information of the Republic of Poland; His Excellency Dr John Marburger, Science Advisor to the President of the United States of America; His Excellency Mr Binali Yildirim, Minister of Transport and Communications of Turkey; His Excellency Dr Roberto Emilio Argueta Reina, Telecommunication Commissioner of the Republic of Honduras; Her Excellency Mrs Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri, Minister for Communications of the Republic of South Africa; His Excellency Dr Pavel Gantar, Minister of Information Society of the Republic of Slovenia; Her Excellency Mrs Joséphine Rebecca Moerman, Minister for Economy, Energy, Foreign Trade and Science policy of the Kingdom of Belgium; Her Excellency Mrs Flora de Ramos, Minister of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing of the Republic of Guatemala; His Excellency Mr Alvaro Díaz, Minister of Economy of the Republic of Chile; His Excellency Mr François Biltgen, Minister of Labor and Employment of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; His Excellency The Honourable Kamal Thapa, Minister for Information and Communication, Local Development and Health of the Kingdom of Nepal; His Excellency Archbishop John Foley, President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications of the

Holy See; His Excellency Mr Daniel Filmus, Minister of Education, Science and Technology of the Argentine Republic; His Excellency Dr Fawaz Zu'bi, Minister of Communication and Information Technology, and Administrative Development of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; His Excellency The Honourable Bates Namuyamba, M.P., Minister of Communication and Transport of the Republic of Zambia; His Excellency Dr Bountiem Phissamay, Minister to the Prime Minister's Office and President of Science, Technology and the Environment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; His Excellency Mr Ahmed Humaid Al Tayer, Minister of Communications of the United Arab Emirates; His Excellency Mr Franz Morak, Secretary of State of the Republic of Austria; His Excellency Mr Moritz Leuenberger, Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications of the Swiss Confederation; His Royal Highness The Honourable Prince David Dlamini, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Kingdom of Swaziland; His Excellency Mr Arun Shourie, Minister for Communications and Information Technology of the Republic of India; His Excellency Mr Amar Tou, Minister of Posts and Information and Communication Technologies of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria; His Excellency Mr José Luís Arnault, Minister to the Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic; His Excellency Mr Mohammad Masoom Stanekzai, Minister of Communications of Afghanistan; His Excellency Mr Septimus Kaikai, Minister of Information and Broadcasting of the Republic of Sierra Leone; His Excellency Mr Palusalua Faapo II, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of the Independent State of Samoa; His Excellency Mr Ben Lashhar Ali, Minister of Information and Communication of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; His Excellency Mr Virgilijus Vladislovas Bulovas, Minister of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania; His Excellency Mr Vital Kamerhe, Minister of Press and Information of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; His Excellency Mr Virgilio L. Peña, Undersecretary for Information and Communications Technology of the Republic of the Philippines; His Excellency Dr Daniel Bervejillo, Vice-Minister of Education and Culture of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay; His Excellency Mr Alexei Volkov, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan; His Excellency Mr John Tiakia, Associate Minister for Post and Telecommunications of Niue; His Excellency Mr Tashi Phuntsog, Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan, His Excellency Mr Tilak Ranaviraja, Head of the Delegation of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; His Excellency Mr Panicos Poulos, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Cyprus; His Excellency Mr Azzam Alahmad, Observer of Palestine; Mr Juan Somavía, Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO); Mr Timothy Balding, Director General of the World Association of Newspapers; Mr Pasquale Pistrio, President and Chief Executive Officer of ST Microelectronics; Mr Thomas Leavey, Director-General of the Universal Postal Union (UPU); Ms Jane Lubichenco, President of the International Council for Science (ICSU); Mr Katsuji Ebisawa, President of NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation); Mr Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); Ms Liz Burns, President of the International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE); Ms Olga Uskova, President of Cognitive Technologies Companies; Ms Mervat Tallawy, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA); Ms Sally Burch, President of Agencia Latinoamericana de Información (ALAI); Mr Jorge Cassino, Chief Executive Officer and Director General of Sols Technologies; Mr Paulo Paiva, Vice-President of the Inter-American Development Bank; Mr Bertrand Ramcharan, Acting United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Dr Abdelouahed Belkeziz, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Round tables

32 In accordance with a decision taken at its third preparatory committee, the Summit convened a series of three round table discussions on 10 and 11 December 2003 as an integral element of the World Summit on the Information Society. Under the overarching theme of "An Information Society for All: Opportunities and Challenges", Round table 1 covered the topic: "Creating Digital Opportunities", Round table 2 covered the topic: "Opportunities and Challenges: Diversity in Cyberspace" and Round table 3 covered the topic: "ICT as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals". Participants included governments, United Nations agencies, organizations, funds and programmes, intergovernmental organizations and representatives of the business sector and civil society. Representation was at the highest level.

33 The Summit secretariat prepared a background document containing questions relevant to the topics.

34 An account of the round tables is set out below.

Round table 1: Creating digital opportunities

35 On 10 December 2003, Round table 1 (Creating digital opportunities) was convened under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, who made an opening statement.

36 The Moderator of the round table, Ms Maria Livanos Cattai, Secretary-General of the International Chamber of Commerce, also made a statement and opened the floor for the discussion.

37 Statements were made by the representatives of Rwanda, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Slovenia, Botswana, Colombia, Senegal, Singapore, Lesotho, Iceland, Azerbaijan and Thailand.

38 The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa made a statement.

39 Statements were made by the Director-General of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Vice-President for Infrastructure of the World Bank.

40 Statements were made by the following business sector participants: Chief Executive Officer of Maroc Telecom, Morocco; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Eutelsat, France; Head of Industries of Oracle Corporation EMEA, United States of America; Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Research Initiatives, United States of America.

41 Statements were made by the following civil society participants: President of the Free Software Foundation, United States of America; Professor, Faculty of Law at McGill University, Canada; the representative of the Electronic Privacy Information Centre (EPIC), Member of Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility, Canada; the representative of CIVICUS International Conference Volunteers (ICV), South Africa; the Mayor of Curitiba, World Federation of United Cities (FMCU), Brazil.

42 The Moderator made concluding remarks.

43 The summary prepared by the Chairman of Round table 1 (Creating digital opportunities) is contained in Annex ...

Round table 2: Diversity in cyberspace

44 On 11 December 2003, Round table 2 (Diversity in cyberspace) was convened under the chairmanship of H.E. Ms Vaira Vike Freiberga, President of the Republic of Latvia, who made an opening statement.

45 The Moderator of the round table, Mr Nick Gowing, Presenter, BBC World News, made a statement and opened the floor for the discussion.

46 Statements were made by the representatives of Lithuania, Egypt, Chile, Uganda, Pakistan, Morocco, Latvia, Algeria, New Zealand, Argentina, Benin, Chad, Austria and Bulgaria.

47 Statements were also made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the representative of United Nations University.

48 The representative of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization made a statement.

49 The representative of the Council of Europe made a statement.

50 Statements were made by the following business sector participants: Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Tele Nahar, Lebanon; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of WorldSpace Corporation, United States of America; President of the International Association of Broadcasting.

51 Statements were made by the following civil society participants: President, Fundación Redes y Desarrollo (FUNREDES), Dominican Republic; Chairman of Creative Commons, United States of America; President, Association Tunisienne de Meres, Tunisia; Executive Director of ISIS International, Philippines; Secretary General of the International Federation of Journalists, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; representative of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

52 The Chairperson summarized the discussion and made concluding remarks.

53 The summary prepared by the Chairperson of Round table 2 (Diversity in cyberspace) is contained in Annex

Round table 3: ICT as a tool to achieve the millennium development goals

54 On 11 December 2003, the Moderator of Round table 3 (ICT as a tool to achieve the millennium development goals), Mr Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, opened the round table and made a statement.

55 Statements were made by the representatives of Oman, Niger, Romania, Bangladesh, the Federated States of Micronesia, Qatar, Sweden, Estonia, Panama, Kyrgyzstan, Portugal, Morocco, Cuba, Norway, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Kenya, Kazakhstan and Malaysia.

56 The Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union made a statement.

57 Statements were made by the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe.

58 Statements were made by the Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

59 Statements were made by the following business sector participants: Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Masreya Information Systems, Egypt; Vice-President of Corporate Philanthropy, Cisco, United States of America; President of KDDI Corporation, Japan; Chairman of Telekom Malaysia Berhad.

60 Statements were made by the following civil society participants: Legislative Council member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Services, China; President of the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development, Dominican Republic; the representative of Engineers Without Borders, Cameroon; Professor at Aarhus University, Denmark.

61 The Moderator summarized the discussion and made concluding remarks.

62 The summary prepared by the Moderator of Round table 3 (ICT as a tool to achieve the millennium development goals) is contained in Annex ...

CHAPTER ...

Report of the Credentials Committee

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Report from Multi-stakeholder Events

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Adoption of the Declaration of Principles

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Adoption of the Plan of Action

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Arrangements for the Tunis phase of the Summit

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Adoption of the Report of the Geneva phase of the Summit

[To be completed]

CHAPTER ...

Closing of the Geneva phase of the Summit

[To be completed]

ANNEX ...

**Chairperson's summary of Round table 1:
Creating Digital Opportunities**

10 December 2003

Chair: H.E. Mr Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal

Moderator: Mrs Maria Livanos Cattai, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Introduction

1 The first round table, held on 10 December 2003, was chaired by H.E. Mr Abdoulaye Wade, President, Republic of Senegal, on the theme "Creating Digital Opportunities".

2 The lively and stimulating discussion during the round table was enriched by national experiences and practical suggestions made by the participants.

3 Speakers welcomed the interactive exchange of views and the ideas put forward for creating digital opportunities. They recognized the need for new forms of solidarity, partnership and cooperation among all stakeholders, including governments, private sector, civil society and international organizations to build an inclusive information society. Bridging the digital divide required strong commitments by all stakeholders.

4 The main focus of the discussion centred on the questions of access to ICTs, partnerships and funding.

Access

5 Speakers agreed that access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) was a cornerstone of the Information Society. Several participants emphasized the central role of Governments as lead actors and catalysts in promoting the use of ICTs by individuals, communities and local authorities. It was crucial to develop national e-strategies that create an enabling policy and regulatory environment that stimulate local entrepreneurship and private investment. Strong political leadership was seen to be critical to further progress in this area.

6 Several interventions noted that focus should not be exclusively on access to hardware or software. Social, economic, cultural and educational aspects of access needed also be considered. Access to information was seen as a human right and should be treated as such. The role of open software was identified as one possible means to expand access.

7 The specific structural constraints of economies in transition, which are characterized by high levels of education, were also emphasized. The access of economies in transition to new and innovative technologies needed to be promoted.

8 Participants called for the development of effective, independent and "technology neutral" legal and regulatory systems and the use of a combination of technologies, such as power lines, wi-fi and satellite, to better address national country needs.

9 Participants noted the existing digital divide between urban and rural areas, especially in Africa, and called for political leadership to ensure access to ICTs for the rural poor, who remain in many countries the most excluded from the digital revolution.

10 While there was no universal recipe to bridge the digital divide or to ensure universal access, participants called for the sharing of lessons learned and best practices and presented national experiences on effective ways to address issues of access. Colombia's Communications Fund for rural telephony, the Grameen Phone initiative in Bangladesh, the provision of low-cost personal computers by the government of Thailand, and the sharing of scientific applications in areas such as climatology, SARS and natural disasters were mentioned as examples.

11 Special efforts needed also to be undertaken to ensure access to ICTs by youth, for example through building ICT capacity on the secondary and university levels.

Partnerships

12 It was widely recognized that building an open and inclusive Information Society could only succeed with effective and innovative partnerships and cooperation among all stakeholders - governments, private sector, civil society, media and international community. In this context, the important role of volunteers was emphasized.

13 Public/private partnerships provided useful contributions to a wide range of ICT applications, such as e-government, e-commerce, e-health and e-education. The role of regional partnerships to help promote access to ICT and support efforts to build Information Society was also highlighted.

14 Cybercafés and community media centres, established by combined public and private efforts, were acknowledged as successful examples of partnerships promoting access at the local level.

Funding

15 On the critical issue of funding, implementation of the vision reflected in the Plan of Action required that the necessary resources were available to promote universal access and bridging the digital divide. Investments were especially needed for the development of infrastructure and capacity building. Speakers also noted that the role of private sector investment was becoming more important than that of foreign aid in many developing countries.

16 A dynamic and enabling international environment, supportive of foreign direct investment, transfer of technology, and international cooperation, especially in the areas of finance, debt and trade were seen to be vital complements to national development efforts related to ICTs.

17 Aid was necessary in helping to finance ICTs especially for the rural poor. It was mentioned that the private sector tended to invest in the more profitable urban areas. Therefore, it was especially important to provide public funds to remote and rural areas.

18 One participant stressed the importance of committing the will to support a Digital Solidarity Fund to promote implementation of the Summit's agenda.

19 Speakers also called for additional efforts to attract increased private national and foreign investments in ICTs through the creation of a transparent, stable and predictable investment environment. The crucial role of ICTs in national development strategies was stressed as a means of attracting foreign direct investment.

ANNEX ...

Chairperson's summary of Round table 2: Opportunities and Challenges - Diversity in Cyberspace

11 December 2003, 11 am - 1 pm

Chair: H.E. Ms Vaira Vike Freiberga, President, Republic of Latvia

Moderator: Mr Nick Gowing, Presenter, BBC World News

1 The second round table, held on 11 December 2003, was convened under the chairmanship of H.E. Vaira Vike Freiberga, President of the Republic of Latvia, on the theme "Opportunities and Challenges - Diversity in Cyberspace".

2 Participants addressed, in an interactive exchange, the challenge of reconciling the flow of information and the need to preserve cultural and linguistic diversity in a digital world. The session focused, in particular, on the following issues: cultural and linguistic diversity; freedom of expression and media ownership; and law and ethics on the Internet.

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

3 Speakers stressed that maintaining cultural heritage and local languages was essential to the development of an Information Society. Universalizing access, open access to public domain information, freedom of expression and specific policies to foster distribution of information and knowledge were seen as critical to promoting cultural diversity. The significant role of the family in implementing a digital culture was also noted.

4 The importance of local content and local language development was emphasized. Content that is relevant to the cultures and languages of individuals in the Information Society needed to be provided through access to both traditional and digital media services. Some speakers emphasized the need to harmonize and standardize the procedures used to preserve oral languages in written form.

5 Speakers called for support by governments, the private sector and civil society in assisting their efforts to develop and use ICTs for the preservation - both digitization and dissemination - of cultural and natural heritage. They emphasized that the cost of preserving local content was significant when added to the cost of connectivity. The important role of UNESCO in preserving cultural heritage was acknowledged.

6 Some participants noted that the information superhighway was endangering rather than helping the preservation of linguistic and cultural diversity. Concern was expressed about the risks of homogenization of content. The concept of "intangible cultural heritage", which could not easily be recorded, was noted. The risk of losing local languages was described as the "risk of losing our soul". Other participants, however, emphasized the potential of ICTs to disseminate cultural content and referred to the Internet as a significant knowledge repository.

7 The World Summit Awards of 10 December 2003 were acknowledged as an excellent example of cultural diversity. The awards resulted from a selection of 800 projects from 136 countries. The quality of the products was high and no country dominated. This demonstrated diversity and better mutual understanding - the core pillars of an open and inclusive Information Society.

8 Some speakers indicated that there was no market for diversity. Others argued that some aspects of culture were marketable and acknowledged the role of the private sector in expanding access to connectivity, but noted that market forces were insufficient to ensure diversity of content. The role of universities and NGOs was seen as important in helping develop local content and preventing focus essentially driven by commercial considerations. It was recommended to make bicultural and multicultural heritage and resources available to schools via the Internet.

9 Participants emphasized that the exchange of knowledge, experiences and best practices on policies and tools was important to promote cultural and linguistic diversity at regional and subregional levels. They also shared their national experiences on effective ways to preserve cultural and linguistic heritage, such as national cultural heritage in Egypt, traditional music in Latvia, Maori traditions in New Zealand, or local and minority languages in Algeria, Chile and Morocco, among others.

Freedom of Expression and Media Ownership

10 Freedom of expression was recognized as the pre-requisite for diversity. It was widely agreed that governments had a critical role in removing the obstacles to freedom of expression. Strong commitment by democratic and politically legitimate governments was needed to defend that principle.

11 Global media concentration was criticized by a number of speakers. To ensure democracy and content diversification, major media conglomerates should be prevented from controlling access to information.

12 The development of domestic legislation that guaranteed media independence, pluralism and freedom of expression should be encouraged. Several speakers noted the need to constitutionalize freedom of expression. The constitutionalization of freedom of expression had to be accompanied by political will. Speakers also stressed that legal frameworks needed to be enforced in courts.

13 One speaker indicated that the concept of responsibility as reflected in the Draft Declaration should be replaced by the concept of professionalism for journalists. Professionalism and the creation of a professional culture would protect ethical media conduct. Others indicated that the concept of responsibility should be retained. Several speakers saw a significant role for governments and the courts to ensure ethical media conduct. It was also emphasized that professionalism required training of journalists.

14 Media self-regulation was promoted by a number of speakers. However, it was emphasized that self-regulation had itself to be subject to regulation. Legal frameworks were also needed for community media and private broadcasters to allow them to operate independently. It was stressed that public and private broadcasters needed to work together.

15 The role of traditional media and community-based media to ensure freedom of expression was underlined by several speakers. Families and educational institutions were recognized as the building block for a culture of freedom of expression.

16 Speakers indicated that poor people, for various reasons, faced the greatest problems in freedom of expression. The media had a special role to make greater efforts to help the poor and vulnerable exercise their freedom of expression.

17 A call was made to journalists not to allow terrorism to undermine the principles of democracy and freedom of expression.

Law and Ethics on the Internet

18 Participants called upon all stakeholders to increase their awareness of the ethical dimension of the use of ICTs. The use of ICTs and content creation should respect human rights and fundamental freedoms of others.

19 Speakers acknowledged the importance of ethics for the Information Society, which should foster justice, and the dignity of the human person. Social controls were needed to prevent abusive uses of ICTs, such as hatred, extremism, fundamentalism, violence, racial discrimination and xenophobia.

Specific proposals and recommendations

20 The following specific proposals and recommendations were made by participants:

- Sensitize search engines such as Google to the necessity of providing local languages and of enhancing their search capabilities in such languages.
- Launch an initiative to promote the development and use of translation engines.
- Elaborate an international convention for protection against SPAM.
- Consider developing international conventions to enable users to build on existing content without breaching existing copyright laws.

ANNEX ...

Chairperson's summary of Round table 3: ICT as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

11 December 2003, 3 pm - 5 pm

Chair/Moderator: Mr Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

1 The third round table, held on 11 December 2003, was chaired by Mr Mark Malloch Brown, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, and it focused on the topic of ICT as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

2 The main focus of the discussion centred on the questions of capacity-building, the role of ICT in helping to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development and ways in which ICTs can enable innovative delivery of social services including in the areas of health and education. During the debate, which reflected strong commitments to the Millennium Development Goals, ICTs were firmly placed at the centre of development.

3 It was broadly recognized that ICTs could contribute to accelerating the achievement of the international development targets by enhancing education, labour productivity and job opportunities, such as through call centres, and by creating local content. ICTs could also be effective tools to combat disease, promote universal respect of human rights, democracy and fundamental freedoms.

Capacity-building

4 It was recognized that targeted action was required to meet the Millennium Development Goals and support infrastructure for the Information Society. Several interventions illustrated how the mainstreaming of ICTs into national development strategies had helped countries make progress towards the Goals. Speakers shared their national experiences on effective ways of overcoming existing obstacles to harnessing the potential of ICTs, such as the Government of Bangladesh e-strategy, Cuba's use of ICTs in health and education, Romania's e-procurement, the Asian Broadband Initiative, and Estonia's Tiger Leap programme, among others.

5 Participants also identified a number of persisting barriers to broad access to ICTs, including population explosion in developing countries, limited basic education, brain drain, lack of reliable energy sources, and lack of basic ICT infrastructure. It was recognized that Small Island Developing States (SIDS) required financial assistance to overcome the special challenges they face in spreading connectivity, owing to the high costs caused by their isolation. The special situation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) was also highlighted.

6 Speakers emphasized the need for human resources development and the necessity to address the needs of vulnerable groups. In both developed and developing countries, women and older people were identified as groups which were often marginalized. Special measures were needed to integrate them into e-strategies, based on a combination of actions by government, business and civil society. It was stressed that all population groups, including youth, needed to be involved in the building of the Information Society.

7 The crucial role of partnerships between and among developed and developing countries especially in the areas of research and development, technology transfer, manufacturing and the use of ICT products and services was emphasized. It was generally agreed that the cost of developing ambitious ICT infrastructure, especially broadband networks and high-speed Internet connections, required a bold response from the international financial institutions.

8 Intellectual property rights (IPRs) were considered an important aspect of building an open Information Society. It was important to ensure a balance between the rights and responsibilities of IPR holders through, for example, more open source software and special pricing arrangements for ICT products and services. It was proposed that Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) and the exceptions in medicine should be extended to areas such as education, promoting greater flexibility on intellectual property rights, as the latter hinder more affordable access and a wider sharing of knowledge. In this regard, political will was crucial.

Sustainable development and sustained economic growth

9 Several speakers recognized that there existed, in addition to a digital divide between countries, also a digital divide within countries. A major challenge that the Millennium Development Goals pose was how to create space for pro-poor ICT perspectives in national e-strategies, in order to bridge national digital divides, which are often even greater than the international divide. The principle means to overcome the digital divides was through economic growth. It was noted that national policies that foster productive investment and enable especially small and medium sized enterprises to make the changes needed to seize the benefits of ICT are likely to be the most productive. National and local authorities needed to develop policies which would bring local contents and ICT networks into everyday life and stimulate both small-scale enterprises and many diverse social services.

10 There was a need to mainstream development cooperation policies to help developing countries rethink their national e-strategies. The achievement of MDGs required strategies targeted to local conditions and the involvement of both the public and private sectors and civil society. For example in Cuba, the use of solar power as energy source for computers has helped to increase the number of students being educated in rural areas.

11 The need for liberalization of the telecommunications sector was referred to by some speakers as an essential step towards lower cost access to ICT for development. Many speakers also advocated the opening up of public procurement, especially using the Internet and the development of online services, which could significantly improve access for all citizens and reduce the cost for the public sector.

12 The United Nations was considered by many speakers as one of the most important frameworks for mobilizing ICT for development. However, it was widely recognized that technology has frequently outstripped the capacity of local, national and international institutions to manage the challenges of the 21st century. Institutional weaknesses exacerbated by resource constraints have made it very difficult for many governments throughout the world to create and maintain an adequate framework for bridging the digital divide.

Recommendations

- International donors should help finance ICT for development.
- Establishing an open source foundation, which would allow developing countries to make progress in access to ICT at a lower cost and could also open up many new opportunities for distance learning and the delivery of a wide range of services to rural and remote areas.

- The United Nations should provide a more robust platform for stimulating the sharing of experience and best practice in promoting the Information Society, in both regional and multilateral institutions, possibly through the establishment of "technoparks".
- The follow-up to the 2003 WSIS in Geneva should focus on the implementation of national e-strategies, including methodologies for monitoring their impact.
- In the run-up to the 2005 WSIS in Tunis, training and capacity building should be given highest priority.
- In preparation for 2005 WSIS in Tunis, a White Paper could be produced which would seek to define the criteria for governing of the Information Society.
- The United Nations should review the impact of IPR on human rights and poverty.
- Donors should channel funding to developing countries, through UNDP, to establish public access sites.

[Remaining Annexes to be included]