
Document WSIS/PC-2/CONTR/114-E
26 February 2003
English and Russian only

**Republic of Armenia, Republic of Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyz Republic, Russian Federation,
Republic of Tajikistan and Ukraine**

JOINT PROPOSAL FOR THE DRAFT DECLARATION

A Access to information and ICTs

1 All persons must have equal opportunities to have access to information, worldwide information resources and ICTs, without distinction of sex, age, nationality, religious belief, social status or residence. All persons, wherever they are, should have an opportunity to participate in the global information society, and no one should be deprived of its benefits and services.

2 The right conditions must be created to ensure universal and affordable access to ICTs and development of ICT applications and services, particularly in urban, rural and remote areas; this being one of the biggest challenges in bridging the digital divide. Particular importance must be attached to satisfying the basic needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

B Social applications of ICTs

1 At the heart of the concept of the information society is the human being, with the full range of his or her interests and needs. ICTs must become a significant factor in efforts to improve the quality of life of all citizens around the world and develop information services in socially relevant domains, in particular health, education and culture.

2 ICTs must be turned into catalysts for human development, professional training and the creation of new employment opportunities, primarily through improved access to education and training while fully respecting cultural and linguistic diversity.

C Security and ICTs

1 It is necessary to deal with the potential for abuse of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields. It is also necessary to prevent the use of information resources and technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes.