
Document WSIS/PC-3/CONTR/66-E
31 May 2003
Original: Russian

Russian Federation

Proposals formulated by the Russian Federation with respect to the text of the draft Declaration of Principles (Document S03-WSISPCIP-030721-TD-GEN-0001!!MSW)

1 We propose the following wording for § 6:

“**Faced** with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us - governments, the private sector and civil society - must assume new roles and responsibilities that will require new forms of solidarity and cooperation, including the Action Plan, in order to realize the principles formulated”.

2 Delete § 9 from the text, since its contents are already reflected in §§ 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13.

3 Include in § 10 an indent with the wording: "- ensuring the conditions for the all-round education of the population and for scientific development”.

4 Amend the wording of § 16 to read as follows: "Young people constitute a significant proportion of the world's population, and are leading creators and adopters of ICTs. Yet too many of them, especially those in developing countries, remain disadvantaged and without access to infocommunications. More and special attention must be given to empower young people as learners, the future workforce, and citizens with special needs". In view of the fact that large parts of the world are increasingly characterized by an "aging" population, it is not altogether accurate to state that young people constitute the majority of the world's population.

5 Amend the wording of § 20 to include the notion of "countries whose economy is in transition”.

6 Add the following provisions to the text:

"Ensuring international information security in an increasingly ICT-oriented world

As is noted in a number of United Nations General Assembly resolutions (resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001 ad 57/53 of 22 November 2002), information technologies and facilities can

potentially be used for purposes that are incompatible with the efforts being made to ensure international stability and security and that could have a negative impact on the integrity of State infrastructures by infringing their security in both the civil and military spheres.

It is therefore necessary to become aware of and to examine on a multilateral basis, taking into account the measures already undertaken by the United Nations in that regard, existing and potential threats in the area of information security and possible measures to be taken in order to limit such threats. It is also necessary to prevent the use of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist ends.

Ensuring national sovereignty in regard to the use of ICTs

Issues pertaining to the use of ICTs which have a bearing on national sovereignty and which are not governed by existing international law should be resolved by means of negotiation between the representatives of all interested States".

7 Amend the title of section 3 to read as follows: "The role of governments, United Nations international organizations, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development".

8 We would propose that the following provision be added within this section: "- United Nations international organizations, with ITU in the forefront, are called upon to step up their work on open standards for ICTs and on the coordination of research and development activities in that regard".

9 Amend the wording of the final sentence of § 42 to read as follows: "In this regard the increased use of open-source software can contribute greatly to raising the educational level of concerned population groups, increasing access levels and expanding the diversity of software for consumers". The great significance of open-source software lies in the fact that specialists can be trained using the codes from actual programmes rather than theoretical examples.