

Cuba

Comments and proposals of the Government of the Republic of Cuba on the Draft Declaration of Principles (Document WSIS/PCIP/DT//1-E) and Draft Action Plan (Document WSIS/PCIP/DT/2-E) of the World Summit on the Information Society.

Cuba considers the two drafts prepared by Ms. Lyndall Shope-Mafole as acceptable and excellent basis for further negotiations in the preparatory process of the World Summit. Cuba would like to congratulate Ms. Shope-Mafole for her commitment to the success of the Summit and the brilliant work that she has done.

Concrete proposals of Cuba to the drafts submitted on 21 March 2003.

DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Paragraph 10. First hyphen (-) To add the reference to Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Therefore, it should read as follows "(...) in accordance with article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (...)"

Paragraph 10. Second hyphen (-). To insert, after "democracy and good governance" the following words: "both at national and international levels". It should read as follows: "The commitment to democracy and good governance, both at national and international levels, (...)"

Paragraph 10. To add a new hyphen (-) as follows:

"The responsibility for managing global threats and challenges, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, taking fully into account the special difficulties faced by developing countries and countries with economies in transition" (proposal inspired on elements of paragraphs 5 and 6 of the UN Millennium Declaration)

Paragraph 17: To add at the end of the paragraph the following wording: "in conformity with domestic legislation of each country and relevant international instruments."

Paragraph 28: In the first line, after “governments”, it should be added the following: “private sector and civil society organisations”. Consequently, it would read as follows: “It is essential for governments, private sector and civil society organisations to encourage technology transfer (...)”

Paragraph 37 bis: To add the following paragraph:

“Recognizing that confidence, trust and security are essential to the full functioning of the Information Society, guarantees should be provided to users of media, communication and information networks against cybercrime, racial and any other form of discrimination, as well as child pornography, bearing in mind the need to protect privacy and confidentiality.”

Paragraph 44. To add “intergovernmental” to the description of Internet governance. It should read as follows: “Internet governance must be multilateral, intergovernmental, democratic and transparent (...)”

Paragraph 51. To add at the end of the paragraph the following wording: “National and Global Media must play its activities ensuring transparency and accountability, bearing in mind the political, social and cultural impact of its work. Media have an essential part to play in the education of children and young people in a spirit of peace, justice, freedom, solidarity and economic and social development. Democratic, responsible, accountable and participatory media play a central role in building democracy both at national and international levels. Undue concentration of private ownership and control of media undermine the required diversity in the sources of information. Furthermore, to correct the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries, it is essential that their media should have conditions and resources enabling them to gain strength and expand.

Paragraph 53. In the first hyphen (-) after “technical”, the word “financial” should be added. Therefore, it should read as follows: “ – The provision of technical and financial assistance (...)”

DRAFT ACTION PLAN

Paragraph 9. To add at the end of the paragraph the following phrase “, taking into account the need to promote universal access to those facilities, including to peoples, communities and groups in social and economic disadvantage.”

Paragraph 22. To add a new hyphen (-) that would read as follows:

“ – Computer literacy and education for all are vital requirements of the Information Society. Access to information can only be meaningful if illiteracy is

eradicated. Quality education through lifelong learning is vital for critical assessment and evaluation of information by everyone.”

Paragraph 28. In the first hyphen (-) the word “international” should be added. It would read as follows “Commitment and responsibility should be defined at the national, regional and international levels.”

Paragraph 29. To add a new hyphen (-) that would read as follows:

“ – Nevertheless, competition is only one out of many ways to drive down prices and to ensure the ongoing modernisation of networks and services. In several cases, an active involvement of governments through public investments and programmes of development, it is of strategic importance. Furthermore, international co-operation will be necessary to assist developing countries facing special difficulties in the fulfilment of this objective.”

Paragraph 44. To add new hyphens (-) as follows:

“ – Legal and administrative measures should be taken to prohibit undue concentration of private ownership and control of media.”

“ – Accountability and transparency in the work of the national and global media should be enhanced through targeted measures of screening by governments, private sector and civil society organisations”.

Paragraph 50. To add at the end the following wording:

“Through legislation and administrative measures, it must be limited undue concentration of private ownership and control of national and global media.”