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**Document WSIS/PC-3/CONTR/130-E**  
**6 June 2003**  
**English only**

**Nepal**



His Majesty's Government  
**Ministry of Information & Communications**

Ref. No.: 2119

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WSIS Executive Secretariat  
c/o International Telecommunication Union  
Varembe 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Place des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland.

Nepal fully supports and appreciates the efforts of the Drafting Committee for producing such a nice documents for discussion at the WSIS summit to be held in Geneva during 10 to 12 December, 2003 .

Nepal would like to add the following comments or the following documents :

A. DRAFT DECLARATION (Document WSIS/PC-2/D1/2-E)

**Under C. key principles :**

point 25 (page 3)

to be added-

- *Special circumstances of Landlocked Countries with extremely difficult topography* : This small group of countries characterized by extremely difficult land access, scattered settlements and unique problem of providing its citizenary with basic services, peoples livelihoods depending on subsistence economy, high costs of equipment, connectivity and communications charges will require special attention and tailored solution to meet their needs.
- *Vulnerable Groups*: Unequal and often inhuman treatment meted out to vulnerable groups in the society such as downtrodden, landless, Indigenous and tribal, by those in power or in positions of privilege on account of caste, creed and religion or simply because of their preferred way of living, have made these groups vulnerable to exploitation and denial of their fare share of benefits from the socio-economic advancements in the country. Special attention needs to be given to such groups to increase their access to ICTS to enable them to participate in development mainstream.

**Under 8) Cultural Identity...**

point 66 (page 8)

- to be added-

- The Information Society would be able to serve the public interest best and reach different sections of population in a country if the local content is also developed in as many local languages of that country as possible to avoid heavy reliance on information in other languages.



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**Under 10) International co-operation**

It is advised that this chapter should be strengthened in line with other documents passed by internal UN conference. Subjects like opportunities and challenges of globalization, ODA, FDI, debt burden etc should be included in Draft Declaration. for this the documents passed by UN Conference on UU special Session on Children, Special Session on Social Development etc. can be taken as basic reference.

**B. ACTION PLAN (Document WSIS/PC-2/D1/3-E)**

Under 10. cooperation and funding

Point 40. The last Sentence of the paragraph should be rephrased as:- "The countries represented at the Conference call upon those developed countries that have not already done so to take concrete action to fulfill the target of 0.7% of their GDP as overall official development assistance for developing countries and the target of earmarking 0.15% to 0.20% percent of GDP as official development assistance for least developed countries as agreed."

Further more, it is advised that subjects like FDI, market access for LDC'S, debt relief measures, which put considerable impact on the development of LDC'S should be included with "concrete language" in the Draft Action Plan.

With best regards,

Mukunda Prasad Acharya  
Joint Secretary.