REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Part I Draft Declaration of Principles

SECTION I Governments' contributions received by 31 May 2003

SECTION II Observers' contributions received by 31 May 2003

Part II Draft Action Plan

SECTION I Governments' contributions received by 31 May 2003

SECTION II Observers' contributions received by 31 May 2003

WSIS

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

PART I: DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

SECTION I Governments' contributions received by 31 May 2003.

Typographical conventions:

Added text: Underlined

Deleted text: ~~Strikethrough~~

Comments: *italics*

Paragraph number: In order to maintain the original numbering of the Declaration of principles and the Plan of action, suggestions for new paragraphs are numbered by letters following the relevant paragraph number, e.g.: 1, 1A, 1B, 1C.

Note on the contribution from Mexico: For technical reasons, it has not been possible to keep all the words deleted by the Mexican delegation in the strike-through mode. The final text proposed by the delegation therefore appears without some of the deleted words.

General comments
(See original contributions for further details: http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/listing-all.asp?lang=en&c_event=pci|1&c_type=all|)
Burkina Faso: *The declaration must be accessible to all peoples and to the largest possible number of people. Thus, the key ideas must be efficiently grouped together, highlighted and presented in a logical order both in the preamble and in the sections concerned with the common vision and key principles.*   *Concerning the preamble. Four key ideas may be highlighted in the following order: the fundamental role of information and knowledge; what the information society should be; what should be done to achieve the information society; what should be avoided: the risk of exclusion.*   *Concerning the common vision. Six key ideas could be highlighted in the following order: the information society and the more generalized availability of opportunities for access to information and knowledge; the information society and capacity building; the information society and fundamental freedoms; the information society and cultural dialogue; the information society and the development objectives of the Millennium Declaration; the information society and security; the information society and public/private partnership and civil society.*   *Concerning the key principles. This section already highlights key ideas. However, it would in our view be useful to include in the introduction a new idea relating to preconditions, which would deal with the issues of literacy and energy sources.*   **European Union:** *The EU contribution to the March 21st documents should be seen as an effort to be constructive and not pre-emptive whilst aiming at a consensus Declaration and Action Plan. The intersessional mechanism allows us to take the views of all players on board and provides a process rich in contributions.*

The EU position has stayed within the narrow confines agreed by PrepCom2. With our attempts to refine the text of the Draft Declaration of Principles, we have had in mind its long term wider potential use. We have also striven for emphatic expressions largely in line with language used in the Millennium Declaration, while at the same time strictly adhering to the structure, format and substance of the original 21st of March draft.

A number of paragraphs of the Draft Declaration of Principles contain elements which, in substance, belong to the Action Plan rather that to the Draft Declaration. The EU therefore proposes to consider these paragraphs within the framework of the Action Plan, Our contribution reflects our basic views that we want a short and politically significant document that will capture the imagination of the peoples of the world and that can be read and understood by everyone.

Israel: *Although it is most unusual in the format of a declaration to have some kind of definitions part, Israel believe that it is advisable to have some of the terms used in the declaration defined in a proper way. These terms include, among others, the differences between data, information and knowledge (which are used widely both in the draft declaration and the draft action plan).*

New Zealand: *The challenge now is for the intersessional process to refine these drafts into a shorter, sharper, focused working text. This refining process should aim to group issues into a logical order, to remove duplicated points and references to issues outside the scope of the Summit. The usual United Nations drafting conventions should be observed. The resulting document should provide the basis of formal negotiations at PrepCom3. We would then expect that PrepCom3 could deliver an agreed text of appropriate quality for submission to Government Leaders in advance of the December Summit.*

- The current draft declaration of principles duplicates much of the content of the draft plan of action. What is required is a set of defined actions linked to and deliverable against the Principles. This might be achieved by merging the two current drafts into one concise document. New Zealand understands that such a proposal has emerged from discussions in the PrepCom Bureau and would support such a move.

- The intersessional process should aim to produce a single Summit document. It should have a brief (two page maximum) introductory declaration setting out broadly agreed principles, which would establish a framework for the action-oriented section which follows. The Principles section would constitute a high-level political declaration that is accessible to the public, and which could be used to consolidate political commitment among delivery agencies in every country. The Declarations which emerged from the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Monterrey Summit provide good models.

- An action plan section of the document should aim to spell out a limited number of concrete, achievable and measurable actions which should reflect outcomes clearly relevant to the Principles. General truisms and statements of ideals should be avoided. An attempt should be made to prioritize the proposed action steps to reflect an underlying hierarchy of issues. This would provide a basis for progress to be measured and reported at Tunis. As countries' capacity to implement the action plan will be different, the language should be non-binding.

- The WSIS process should reinforce but not duplicate related work under way in other parts of the United Nations and international system, such as UNESCO (particularly through its Information for All Programme), the United Nations Secretary-General's ICT Taskforce, WIPO, the WTO (e.g. the Agreement on Basic Telecommunications), APEC (particularly through its Telecommunications and Information Working Group – TEL, and its Electronic Commerce Steering Group - ECSG) and the OECD. The document could reference existing work by expert bodies to underline the extent to which these issues are being addressed multilaterally.

- New Zealand notes APEC's work in areas relevant to the WSIS agenda, including in the areas of facilitating e-commerce, promoting cyber-security and developing strategies for overcoming the digital divide. TEL has undertaken specific initiatives addressing human resource development; technology transfer and regional cooperation; telecommunications standardization and the use of telecommunications to promote free trade and investment liberalization. Private/public sector partnerships are a feature of TEL's operations. The paper submitted by APEC to the intersessional process summarizes these activities and could be drawn on to inform the redrafting process.

- New Zealand would like to see a Declaration of Principles section which gives emphasis to the importance of freedom of expression, cultural diversity, equal access to education, and universal access to information in the public domain.

Rep. of Korea: *The main purpose of the Declaration is to convey a message about the international community's vision and its commitment towards the development of information society in a succinct and persuasive manner.*

The current draft lacks a forceful message since it retains an overall characteristic of outline of each item contained in the Plan of Action, making it lengthy and providing rather explanatory contents. The overarching lack of a forceful message in the content could weaken the overall purpose in drafting the Declaration.

Mere listing of each item contained in the Plan of Action must be avoided when drafting the Declaration. Instead, the focus should be centered on the commitment of the international society to achieve the objectives contained in both the vision and philosophy of information society.

Samoa: Define "Information Society" *– There needs to be an explicit definition of what the information society is. Throughout all the WSIS documentation, there are various definitions of the Information Society. Different caucuses of PrepCom 2 define the Information Society in different forms. Consensus is required to provide an agreed definition of the "Information Society" to ensure a common understanding worldwide. As it is now, the term or concept "Information Society" is loosely defined and may run the risk of being defined in many different ways to suit the user's agenda.*

The current draft Declaration of Principles is too long and in some sections too detailed and long winding for this purpose. Samoa strongly recommends that the Plenary Session should focus on developing the current draft into a more clear, precise and concise document. Remember, it is the heads of states that will review and sign off these documents.

Sri Lanka: *Scientific research is one of the key factors underpinning the development of the Information Society. The fundamental technological components of the Information Society: electricity, radio waves, the World Wide Web (www) and the web browser were all first developed in academic laboratories. Ensuring equitable access to scientific knowledge is essential in order to achieve the Millennium goals and the use of Information and Communication technologies (ICTs) now offers incredible opportunities in this regard. Scientific research leads to the development of new technologies themselves and to the production of data and information that, when combined with these technologies, can be of huge benefit to society as a whole. The essential role of science and scientists in building the Information Society should be clearly acknowledged in the declaration of principles and reflected in the plan of action from WSIS.*

Switzerland: *The Declaration of Principles needs to be short, concise and clear in order to attract political attention at the highest level. Switzerland therefore supports all efforts aimed at synthesizing and streamlining that document and eliminating redundancies.*

United States: *Information and communication technologies (ICTs) play a critical role in sustainable economic and social development. Access to information requires an environment that promotes the creation of knowledge and ideas. The realization of the digital opportunities afforded by the information society can contribute to a better life for all citizens through the promotion of democracy, transparency, accountability and good governance. The United States urges participants to use this unique opportunity to reaffirm and implement Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that recognizes the right of each individual to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. All of these points should be clearly captured in the common vision put forth by the WSIS.*

While it is important to exchange views on the variety of applications supported by the information society, it is essential to first ensure that the fundamental building blocks are in place. First, the WSIS should encourage governments to focus on creating, within their own nations, the appropriate legal, regulatory, and policy environment that encourages privatization, competition, liberalization and intellectual property protection and enforcement. The development of and access to basic telecommunication services and content is the next step. A truly global information society will be based on the development of local

content and the freedom of individuals to access the culture of their choosing in the language of their choosing. Finally, ensuring confidence and security in the use of these networks is essential to building a global information society.

Harnessing the power of the information society requires the active participation of all stakeholders – governments, the private sector and civil society. In particular, the role of the private sector as the driver of innovation and the essential nature of private investment in the development of the world's communications and information networks and facilities is critical. As such, the United States suggests that the documents emphasize the role of the private sector and the value of competition.

The United States views the current draft documents as an earnest attempt to collate all of the input received via the preparatory process. As the current documents are a reflection of many of the ideas presented but not yet debated, the United States believes that it is important for participants to carefully consider all views presented and to seek to ensure that the final documents reflect only the points where a truly global consensus was achieved.

The current drafts need to be pared back to enumerate the key concepts and actions necessary to achieve sustainable development of the information society. Specifically, the principles articulated should be concise, clear and specific only to the degree appropriate for high-level political endorsement. In addition, the final Declaration of Principles and Action Plan adopted in Geneva in December 2003 should be complementary in nature. The specific activities called for in the Plan of Action should directly correlate with the issues articulated in the Declaration of Principles. In this regard, detailed rationales for the actions are unnecessary.

Taken in concert with the contributions from the various stakeholders, the United States believes that the WSIS provides a unique opportunity for the global community to reaffirm ongoing activities and efforts in other fora that are contributing to WSIS objectives. We look forward to working with colleagues throughout the WSIS process and we are confident that a global consensus will emerge that appropriately addresses the concerns of all stakeholders.

	Draft Declaration of Principles WSIS/PCIP/DT/1 (Text as posted on the Web as of 21 of March 2003)	Government contributions received by 31/05	Ref.
	A. Building the Information Society: a new global challenge in the new Millennium		
1.	1. **We the representatives of the peoples of the world**, assembled at Geneva from 10-12 December 2003 for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, declare our common desire and commitment to build a new kind of society, the Information Society, premised on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in which new technologies, in particular information and communications technologies (ICTs) become an essential tool, accessible to all, for the attainment of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world based upon our common humanity in all its diversity.	**Canada:** "…premised on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights <u>and</u> in which new technologies…" **Czech Rep.:** *Worth underlining is that the primary objective of building the Information Society is not the aspect of resources but that of the final effect* **European Union:** "... Declaration of Human Rights. **In this society**, in which new technologies..." **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** "We the representatives of the peoples of the world, assembled at Geneva from 10-12 December 2003 for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, declare our common desire and commitment to build a new kind of society, the Information Society, <u>in the process of transition toward the knowledge societies</u>, premised on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, <u>UNESCO's Constitution</u> and the Declaration of Human Rights, <u>as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</u> in which new technologies, in particular information and communications technologies (ICTs) become an essential tool, accessible to all, for the attainment of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world based upon our common humanity in all its diversity and <u>to promote dialogue among cultures and civilizations</u>."	

		Mexico: "We the representatives of the peoples of the world, assembled at Geneva from 10-12 December 2003 for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, declare our common desire and commitment to build a new kind of society, the Information Society, premised on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and characterized by universal access to and use of high-quality information for the creation, accumulation and dissemination of knowledge, in which new technologies, in particular information and communications technologies (ICTs), become an essential tool, accessible to all, for the enhancement of the services provided by governments, enterprises and the organizations of civil society, and which contribute to shaping a more peaceful, prosperous and just world based upon our common humanity in all its diversity."	
1A		**Brazil:** *Add:* We recognize the right to communicate and the right to access information and knowledge as fundamental human rights. Everyone, everywhere should have the opportunity to participate in the information society and no one should be excluded from the benefits it offers. In a world based on knowledge and information, the right to communicate and the right to access information and knowledge are essential requirements to the attainment of others internationally recognized human rights, including the right to freedom of expression. Universal access to the information and communications infrastructure and to the Internet is essential to the information society.	
1B		**Iran (Islamic Republic of) on behalf of Asian countries:** *Add:* 2. "We recognize that, in addition to our separate responsibilities to our individual societies, we have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world's people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs.	

		3. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which have proved timeless and universal. Indeed, their relevance and capacity to inspire have increased, as nations and peoples have become increasingly interconnected and interdependent. 4. We are determined to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. We rededicate ourselves to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence, resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion and international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character."	
1C		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph:* **We reaffirm** the indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights - civil, political, economic, social and cultural - and their ties to the principles of a democratic society, the rule of law and sustainable development. In the hopes and perils of the transformation to the information society, we are determined to maintain and strengthen all these values. Information and communication technologies (ICT) provide unprecedented opportunities for realizing all human rights.	
2.	2. **We recognize** that knowledge, information and communication are at the core of human progress, endeavour, and well-being and that, although the dramatic increase in the volume, speed and ubiquity of information flows, which has been made possible through new information and communication technologies, have already brought about profound changes in peoples lives, and are creating enormous new opportunities, they have yet to benefit the vast majority of the peoples of the world.	**European Union:** Add at the end of the paragraph: "We also recognize that writing and printing has already left similar impact on growth of knowledge in the history of mankind. **Mexico:** "**We recognize** that knowledge, information and communication are at the core of human progress, endeavour, and well-being and that, although the dramatic increase in the volume, speed and ubiquity of information, which has been made possible through new information and communication technologies, have already brought about profound changes in peoples' lives, and are creating enormous new opportunities, they have yet to benefit the vast majority of the peoples of the world."	

3.	**We recall** our common resolve as reflected in the Millennium Declaration to promote democracy and respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and re-iterate our commitment to sustainable development.	**Canada**: "**We recall** our common resolve as reflected in the Millennium Declaration to promote democracy, good governance, the rule of law and respect for all ~~internationally recognized~~ human rights and fundamental freedoms…" **European Union**: "**We recall** our common resolve, as reflected in the Millennium Declaration, to promote democracy and respect for all ~~internationally recognized~~ human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development ~~and reiterate our commitment to sustainable development~~ as an integral part of human rights. We are fully aware that certain basic human right needs and internationally agreed principles such as education and basic health care for all remain to be addressed within the information society. We re-iterate our commitment to Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development and recognize the development challenges posed by the digital divide. **Mexico:** "**We recall** our common resolve as reflected in the Millennium Declaration to promote democracy and respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and re-iterate our commitment to sustainable development."	
3A		**European Union:** *Add new paragraph:* "**We are committed** to a more open and equitable global economy and truly shared global Information Society, to the benefit of all, especially people in less favoured parts of the world. To this end we will promote relentlessly the dialogue among civilizations and contribute to strengthening global governance and expanding the reach of international law."	
4.	4. **We are convinced** that the information and communication revolution is still in its infancy, and the untapped potential of ICTs to improve productivity and quality of life is a serious issue for all of us, particularly for the majority of the peoples of the world who live in developing countries and countries with economies in transition who risk being left behind and further marginalized.	**Canada**: "**We are convinced** that the information and communication revolution is still in its infancy, and the untapped potential of ICTs to develop and promote dialogue within and between nations, and to improve productivity…" **European Union:** "**We are convinced** that the information and communication revolution is still in its infancy, and the untapped potential of ICTs to improve standards of living, ~~productivity and~~ quality of life and productivity ~~is~~ are serious ~~issue~~ challenges for all of us, particularly for the majority of the peoples of the world who live in developing countries and countries with economies in transition who risk being left behind and further marginalized.	

		Mexico: "[**We are convinced** that the information and communication revolution is in its infancy, and the untapped potential of ICTs to improve productivity and quality of life is a serious issue for all of us, particularly for the majority of the peoples of the world who live in developing countries and countries with economies in transition who risk being left behind and further marginalized.]"	
4A		**Brazil:** *Add:* 4.(a). ICTS can be a powerful instrument of change in the emerging knowledge-based international economy. they promote new forms of organization and production and the technological infrastructure for globalization. Access to ICTS and the regulation of the digital revolution will tend to redefine the way in which countries position themselves within the world economic and political system as well as the interaction among individuals, cultures, citizenship and the exercise of power by States and corporations. Knowledge will be an increasingly important determinant of competitiveness in the global economy. Access to it should be open in the general interest of the public, particularly in developing countries, as a means towards bridging the digital divide.	
4B		**Brazil:** *Add:* 4.(b). We acknowledge the need to tackle the ever-increasing digital divide between developed and developing countries, which feeds on a pre-existing historical divide of a social and economic nature. if left to their own course strictly under the influence of market forces, ICTS may actually deepen social inequalities within countries, and widen the gap between developed and developing nations.	

| 4C | | **Brazil:** *Add:*

4.(c). We express our concern with the situation of developing countries. During the past decade many developing countries have made significant progress in curbing fiscal imbalances, reducing inflation, increasing the pace of export growth, pursuing regional integration processes, attracting foreign direct investment and resuming economic growth. These efforts, however, have been insufficient to overcome poverty and exclusion. Most developing economies continue to face pressing problems related to low savings and investment rates, sluggish job creation, external vulnerability and fragility in their financial systems. They are still faced with decreasing participation in international trade as a whole, especially in the more dynamic technology intensive segments, as the international economy moves from its reliance on the traditional factors of production to a knowledge based and ICT intensive paradigm. This situation requires close analysis, new thinking, and new forms of international action with a view to redressing these basic asymmetries that prevent developing countries from reaping the benefits of globalization under the multilateral rules-based trading system. | |
| 5. | 5.   **We are fully aware** that our individual and collective ability to create and share knowledge has become a driving force in shaping our future, and that concrete action and global commitment are now required; to ensure that these new technologies accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals that we set for ourselves at the Millennium Summit. | **European Union:** "**We are fully aware** that our individual and collective ability to create and share knowledge ~~has become~~ is a driving force in shaping our future, and declare that concrete action and global commitment are now required; to ensure that these rapidly developing~~new~~ technologies accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals ~~that we set for ourselves at the Millennium Summit~~. | |

		Mexico: "**We are fully aware** that our individual and collective ability to create and share knowledge through intensive use of ICTs and mechanisms of digital participation has become a driving force in shaping our future, and that concrete action and global commitment are now required; to ensure that these new technologies accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals that we set for ourselves at the Millennium Summit."
6.	6. **Faced** with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us; governments, the private sector and civil society, have challenges that require new forms of solidarity and cooperation and new or increased roles and responsibilities.	**Canada:** "**Faced** with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us, governments, the private sector and civil society, ~~have challenges that require~~ <u>will need to develop</u> new forms of solidarity and cooperation and <u>face</u> new or increased roles and responsibilities." **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** "Faced with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us, governments, the private sector and civil society, have challenges that require new forms of solidarity and cooperation and new or increased roles and responsibilities. <u>In this context, special attention must be paid to particular problems facing negative aspects and impacts of globalization.</u>" **Mexico:** "[**Faced** with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us governments, the private sector and civil society, have challenges that require new forms of solidarity and cooperation and new or increased roles and responsibilities.]" **Romania-IPU:** "**Faced** with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all of us; governments,<u> parliaments</u>, the private sector" **Tunisia:** *Stronger emphasis needs to be placed on the elements of solidarity and cooperation in order to meet the complex ever-evolving challenges of the global information society (A.6) by incorporating a text highlighting significant benefits that accrue to humanity through sharing of knowledge and expanding the number of those involved in enriching this knowledge. This would require new forms of solidarity to free human potential throughout the world and to redress the inability to learn or use ICT networks and equipment.*

B.	***B. We declare our Common Vision of the Information Society:***	**European Union:** "~~We declare o~~Our Common vision…"	
		Colombia (Colombian National Institute for the Blind): Guarantee access to ICTs by means of touch and hearing for visually handicapped persons, since these technologies are basically designed solely for persons with sight.	
		Tunisia: *The text on the common vision of information society should contain:*	
		– *a statement to the effect that the right to difference enriches humanity because it multiplies its points of reference and contributes to cultural cross-fertilization and dialogue among civilizations, all thus consolidating the foundations of world security and the culture of tolerance, cooperation and solidarity;*	
		– *recognition of the role of women and youth along with other segments of civil society in raising awareness of the values that promote innovation and creativity among peoples for their common interest (section B).*	
7.	7. The Information Society that we seek to build is one which is inclusive, where all persons, without distinction of any kind, are empowered freely to create, receive, share and utilize information and knowledge, in any media and regardless of frontiers.	**China:** "The Information Society that we seek to build is one which is inclusive, where all persons, without distinction of any kind, are empowered freely to create, receive, share and utilize information and knowledge, in any media and regardless of frontiers, <u>subject to restrictions provided in point 3, Article 19 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, namely for respect of the rights or reputations of others, for the protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals</u>."	
		European Union: "The Information Society that we seek to build is one which is inclusive, where all persons, without distinction of any kind~~, are empowered freely~~ <u>have the right </u>to create<u>, seek</u>, receive, share and utilize information, <u>ideas </u>and knowledge, in any media and regardless of frontiers<u>, and where privacy is respected</u>."	
		Iran (Islamic Republic of): "The Information Society that we seek to build is one which is inclusive, where all persons, without distinction of any kind, are empowered freely to create, receive, share and utilize information and knowledge, in any media and regardless of frontiers<u>, subject to the restrictions provided by Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by, Article 19 (point 3) and Article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</u>."	

		Mexico: "The Information Society that we seek to build is one which is inclusive, where all persons, without distinction of any kind, exercise their right to freedom of expression and access to and use of high-quality information, in order to create, receive, accumulate, disseminate, share and utilize information and knowledge, in any media and regardless of frontiers, through intensive use of ICTs and in accordance with the legal system of each country at the service of humankind, in order to contribute to its economic, social, cultural and political development." *(Paragraphs 7 and 8 are merged.)*	
7A		**Brazil:** *Add [7A]* Information society is more than just technology, and must be understood as a development oriented concept based on the idea of using ICTS as tools for the social and economic progress of countries, under new and enhanced forms of international cooperation and through innovative partnerships involving governments, the private sector, international organizations and civil society.	
7B		**Iran (Islamic Republic of):** *Add [7B]:* "The information society should be based on ethics and moral values and should be an environment where dignity of humankind is comprehensively respected and fostered. The information society creates an environment where all national sovereignties and interests without any discrimination are respected and protected."	
8.	8. The Information Society should be people-centred, with citizens and communities at its core, and be at the service of humankind. It should be an environment where information and knowledge are disseminated and utilized by all sectors of the population, for their economic, social, cultural and political development.	**European Union:** "The Information Society should be people-centred, with citizens and communities at its core, and be at the service of all humanshumankind. It should be an environmenta society where information and knowledge are disseminated and utilized by all sectors of the population, for their economic, social, cultural and political developmentpeople to achieve their full potential. It should work to promote sustainable economic and social development, improve quality of life, alleviate poverty and hunger and protect the environment." **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** "The Information Society should be people-centred, with citizens and communities at its core, and be at the service of humankind. It should be an environment where information and knowledge are disseminated and utilized, without any discrimination, by all sectors of the population, for their economic, social, cultural and political development."	

		Mexico: *(Paragraphs 7 and 8 are merged.)*	
9.	9. The Information Society is a new and higher form of social organization, where highly-developed ICT networks, equitable and ubiquitous access to information, appropriate content in accessible formats and effective communication must enable all the people to achieve their full potential, promote sustainable economic and social development, improve quality of life and alleviate poverty and hunger.	**Canada**: "The Information Society proposes a new ~~is a new and higher~~ form of social organization, where highly-developed ICT networks, equitable and ubiquitous access to information, appropriate content in accessible formats and effective communication ~~must~~ will enable ~~all the people~~ individuals and communities to achieve their full potential, promote sustainable economic and social development, improve quality of life and reduce~~alleviate~~ poverty, hunger and social exclusion." **European Union:** *The whole paragraph 9 should be suppressed.* **Israel:** "…where highly-developed ICT networks, Open and Free to those who cannot afford it access to information, appropriate content in accessible formats and effective communication should enable ..." **Japan**: "… appropriate content in accessible formats and effective communication with accessible information and communication equipment and services must enable…" **Mexico:** "The Information Society is a new and higher form of social organization, where highly-developed ICT networks, equitable and ubiquitous access to information, appropriate content in accessible formats and effective communication must enable and facilitate the exchange of best practices through digital participation by all people in order to promote sustainable economic and social development, improve quality of life and alleviate poverty and hunger."	
10.	10. The essential requirements for the development of an equitable Information Society include:	**Australia:** *In respect of para 10 on* "The essential requirements for the development of and equitable Information Society include:" *Australia notes that the declaration mentions the importance of privacy but that it is not expanded on further. Considering the importance of the privacy issue, the declaration may need to elaborate on this issue.* **European Union:** ~~The essential requirements for the development of a~~An equitable Information Society ~~include~~should: **Mexico:** "The requirements for the development of an equitable Information Society include:"	

		Mexico-Observers: *Mexico considers that this paragraph should replace paragraph 10 of Section I. As regards the requirements, those set out below are already included in paragraph 10 of Section II and should therefore be deleted:* There is a need to build the global Information Society under a human rights perspective, meaning a global Information Society that would develop while respecting, preserving and enforcing fundamental human rights. This would only be possible when all the stakeholders (governments, business entities, international organizations and entities of civil society), as well as individuals, are committed to promoting the development and use of ICTs and services. The basic requirements are	
	- The respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. Notably the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to hold opinions without interference and seek to, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers in accordance with article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to unhindered access by individuals to communication media and information sources,	**Brazil**: "The respect for the rights to communicate and to access information and knowledge and for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. Notably,…" **Canada:** "The respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms: **China:** "… through any media and regardless of frontiers in accordance with article 19 and article 29 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights …" **Cuba:** "…in accordance with article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights …" **Czech Republic:** *More stress should be put on human rights in relation to the ICTs, and on the respect for the protection of privacy and security of information and know-how.* **El Salvador**: As new ICT technologies represent new channels for the free flow of information and should contribute to pluralism, economic and social development, democracy and peace. The access to and the use of these new media should be afforded the same freedom of expression protections as traditional media. **European Union:** The rRespect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. Notably including the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the rightand the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek to, receive and impart information and ideas …"	

		Iran (Islamic Republic of): "The respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. Notably the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to hold opinions without interference and seek to receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers in accordance with articles 19 and 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and articles 19 and 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to unhindered access by individuals to communication media and information sources."
		Mexico: "The respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. Notably the right to freedom of opinion and expression, in accordance with the legal system of each country and with article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights."
	- The commitment to democracy and good governance as well as the existence, in accordance with the legal system of each country, of independent, pluralistic and free mass and other communication media in their various forms, as an important means of fostering public information, societal development and social cohesion.	**Brazil:** "The commitment to the rule of law, democracy and good governance…" *After this bullet add new bullet:* – the existence of independent and free communication media, in accordance with the legal system of each country, is an essential requirement for freedom of expression and a guarantee of the plurality of information. unhindered access by individuals and communication media to information sources shall be ensured and strengthened in order to promote the existence of vigorous public opinion as a pillar of civil responsibility in accordance with Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and other international and regional instruments dealing with human rights. **Canada**: "The commitment to democracy and good governance as well as the existence, ~~in accordance with the legal system of each country,~~ of independent, pluralistic and free mass and other communication media" **Cuba:** "…democracy and good governance, both at national and international levels,…"

		European Union: "Commit~~The commitment~~ to democracy and good governance as well as the existence~~, in accordance with the legal system of each country~~, of independent, pluralistic …"	
		Mexico: "The commitment to democracy and good governance as well as the existence, in accordance with the legal system of each country, of independent, pluralistic and free mass and other communication media in their various forms, in order to foster public information, societal development and social cohesion."	
	- The adherence to international undertakings with respect to peace and security, sustainable development, equality, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, economic progress, and the protection of the environment and building of new values, trust and norms with respect to the use of ICTs.	**Czech Republic**: *More stress should be put on the role of ICTs in relation to the quality of life and economic growth in society, to the field of education and health care, to providing for the needs of underprivileged groups of population, to the way of spending leisure time and to the life style in general, and on the relation to the environment, nature and other people.* **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted.* **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** "-The adherence to international undertakings with respect to peace and security, national sovereignty of all states, sustainable development, equality, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, economic progress and the protection of the environment and building of new values, trust and norms with respect to the use of ICTs." **Mexico:** "International undertakings with respect to peace and security, equality, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, and the protection of the environment and building of new values, trust and norms with respect to the use of ICTs."	
	- The building of an environment that inspires confidence and trust in using ICTs, and ensures security of networks and information, in particular the protection of privacy.	**Canada**: "The building of an environment that inspires confidence and trust in using ICTs, and ensures security of networks and information, ~~in particular~~while at the same time providing for the protection of privacy." **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted*. **Mexico:** " The building of an environment that inspires confidence and trust in using ICTs, and ensures security of networks and information, in particular the protection of privacy. This is a joint responsibility that must be shared with all the interested parties. This condition is especially crucial for all matters relating to electronic commerce."	

	- Ensuring the adequate development of human capacity in order to be able to fully exploit the benefits that ICTs and building public awareness on the capabilities of ICTs to improve the lives of people by circumventing traditional obstacles like distance and time.	**Canada**: "Ensuring the adequate development of the~~human~~ capacity in order to be able to fully exploit the benefits that ICTs and building public awareness of~~on~~ the capabilities of ICTs to improve the lives of people by circumventing traditional obstacles like distance and time." **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted.* **Mexico***:* "Ensuring the adequate development of human capacity in order to be able to fully exploit the benefits of ICTs and building public awareness on the capabilities of ICTs to improve the lives of people by circumventing traditional obstacles like distance and time."	
	- The nurturing of creativity and support for the flourishing of free flow of a multiplicity of ideas from a diversity of sources, recognizing cultural identity in all its variety, linguistic diversity, and multilingualism as well as the creating favorable conditions for the production, processing, dissemination and protection of local content.	**Canada**: "The nurturing of creativity and support for the flourishing of free flow of a multiplicity of ideas from a diversity of sources, recognizing cultural ~~identity in all its variety,~~ and linguistic diversity, ~~and multilingualism~~ as well as the creating favorable conditions for the production, processing, dissemination and protection of local content." **European Union:** "~~The nurturing of creativity and support for the flourishing of free flow of a multiplicity of ideas from a diversity of sources, recognizing~~ Promote cultural and~~identity in all its variety,~~ linguistic diversity, and ~~multilingualism as well as the creating~~ create favorable conditions for the production~~, processing~~, dissemination and protection of local content." **Cuba:** *Add new bullet point:* "– 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." **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** *Add a new bullet point under paragraph 10:* "– The building of an environment that inspires respect for fundamental values of all cultures."	

		Mali: *Add two new bullet points under paragraph 10:*	
		"– All the social partners - public authorities, civil society and the private sector - have a stake in the development of communications and should be fully involved in decisions relating to the building of the Information Society.	
		– The pooling of the resources available at the global and/or regional level is a vital necessity in order to extend the benefits of the NICTs to all the people of the world."	
		Mexico: "The nurturing of creativity and support for the flourishing of free flow of a multiplicity of ideas from a diversity of sources, recognizing cultural identity in all its variety, linguistic diversity, and multilingualism as well as the creation of favorable conditions for the production, processing, dissemination, protection and creation of digital cultural assets of local content."	
11.	11. The Information Society must respond to the additional development challenges posed by the digital divide and help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of combating poverty and hunger, eliminating illiteracy, reducing infant mortality, improving the status of women, improving maternal health, combating disease and promoting environmental sustainability.	Canada: "The Information Society ~~must~~should respond to the additional development challenges posed by the digital divide and help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; achieving universal primary education; promoting gender equality and empowering women; reducing child mortality; improving maternal health; combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development.~~combating poverty and hunger, , eliminating illiteracy, reducing infant mortality, improving the status of women, improving maternal health, combating disease and promoting environmental sustainability.~~" European Union: *This paragraph should be deleted.* Mexico: "The Information Society must respond to the additional development challenges posed by the digital divide and help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of combating poverty and hunger, eliminating illiteracy, reducing infant mortality, improving the status of women, improving maternal health, combating disease and promoting environmental sustainability."	

		Mexico-observers: *This paragraph is considered acceptable, and Mexico therefore proposes including it in Section I, point 7, as paragraph 47bis.* "*Health should not be seen as a narrowly-defined ICT application, but as a part of a health system. In the same way that education is understood as fundamental to development, health also plays a crucial role in development, since health-related investment can spur economic development, as highlighted in the 2001 report released by the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, which specifically mentions ICTs.*"	
11A		**Canada:** *Added point [11A]* A focus on the gender dimensions of ICTs is essential not only for preventing an adverse impact of the digital revolution on gender equality or the perpetuation of existing inequalities and discrimination, but also for enhancing women's equitable access to the benefits of ICTs and to ensure that they can become a central tool for the empowerment of women and the promotion of gender equality. Policies, programmes and projects need to ensure that gender differences and inequalities in the access to and use of ICT are identified and fully addressed so that such technologies actively promote gender equality and ensure that gender-based disadvantages are not created or perpetuated. [[*Transfer following proposed insert to Action Plan*. We encourage States and the private sector to work with existing organizations to develop guidelines that promote the disposal and recycling of ICT hardware and parts in an environmentally sound manner. We further encourage States and the private sector to implement these measures, once developed.]]	

C.	C. *An information Society for all: key principles*	**Tunisia:** *The section on the key principles for the information society for all should stress the importance of the availability of terminal equipment at affordable cost for States, communities and individuals, and should examine in depth the provision of such equipment at the lowest cost possible in order to avoid new forms of exclusion and marginalization. (Pages 2-3)* *Account should also be taken of the needs of countries in transition which are in a position to contribute to the development of softwares required for advanced equipment.*	
12.	12. The Information Society must serve the interests of all nations, in a manner that secures the fair, balanced and harmonious development of all the people of the world. Most particularly, the interests of the developing and least developed countries (LDCs), Smaller Islands Developing States (SIDS), economies in transitions and post-conflict countries, should be addressed, taking into account the unique geographic features and demographic diversity of nations and regions.	**Brazil:** *Add:* "ICTS should empower developing countries in their national efforts to reduce and overcome poverty, while modernizing the economy on an inclusive and competitive basis." **Canada:** "The Information Society should~~will~~ serve the interests of all nations, in a manner that secures the fair, balanced and harmonious development of all the ~~people~~*peoples* of the world." **European Union:** "The Information Society must serve the interests of all nations, in a manner that secures the fair, balanced and harmonious development of all the people of the world. ~~Most particularly, the interests of the developing and least developed countries (LDCs), Smaller Islands Developing States (SIDS), economies in transitions and post-conflict countries, should be addressed, taking into account the unique geographic features and demographic diversity of nations and regions.~~It must be oriented towards eliminating existing socio-economic differences in our societies, averting the emergence of new forms of exclusion, while taking fully into account, for example the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), as well as the countries, regions and groups with special needs, and mainstreaming a gender perspective at all levels of actions." **Israel:** "The Information Society should~~will~~ serve the interests…"	

		Mexico: The Information Society must serve the interests of all nations and all the people of the world, in a manner that secures their fair, balanced and harmonious development. Most particularly, the interests of the developing and least developed countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), economies in transition and post-conflict countries, should be addressed, taking into account the unique geographic features and demographic diversity of nations and regions. **Mexico-Observers:** *Mexico considers this paragraph to be acceptable and therefore suggests that it be inserted after point 18 in Section I.* "**ICT as a tool for development:** Being a horizontal platform for economic development and a tool for social integration, information and communication infrastructures and services must be, without delay, extensively deployed and used in all developing countries in order to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in particular to help in promoting a sustainable development and in eradicating poverty." **New Zealand: -** *recognize the special needs of small island developing States in making the transition to knowledge societies: Pacific island countries have pointed out in their contributions to the WSIS preparatory process that "one size does not fit all" when it comes to identifying measures to bridge the digital divide. Care must be taken to determine the appropriate level of priority to assign to ICT development in countries where basic literacy and other needs are still urgent problems, and where sustainable support systems and infrastructure have first to be put in place;*	
12A		***Mexico-Observers:*** *Mexico considers this paragraph, with the proposed amendments, to be acceptable for insertion after paragraph 12 in Section I.* "The traditional media of radio and television will long remain the major providers of information to the large majority of the world's population, particularly in the developing world. As such, they must be developed and exploited to the full as basic foundations of the information society and as providers of content to newer media made possible by ICTs."	

12B		**Samoa:** *Add paragraph:* Special circumstances of regional small island developing States: These countries, vulnerable to environmental hazards, and characterized by small, homogenous markets, high costs of access and equipment, human resource constraints exacerbated by the problem of the "brain drain", limited access to networks and remote locations, will require particular attention and tailored solutions to meet their needs.	
12C		**Nepal: 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 citizenry with basic services, peoples livelihoods depending on subsistence economy, high costs of equipment.	
12D		**Nepal: 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 position 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 fair 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.	
13.	13. The Information Society must be oriented towards eliminating existing socio-economic differences in our societies, averting the emergence of new forms of exclusion and becoming a positive force for all of the world's people by helping to reduce the disparities between and within countries.	**Canada:** "The Information Society shouldwill be oriented towards eliminating existing socio-economic …" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted.* **Israel:** "The Information Society shallwill be oriented towards eliminating existing socio-economic …" **Mexico:** "The Information Society must be oriented towards eliminating socio-economic differences, averting the emergence of new forms of exclusion, and becoming a positive force for all of the world's people and helping to reduce the disparities between and within countries."	

14.	14. Empowerment and inclusion are fundamental characteristics and objectives of the Information Society. Accordingly, special attention must be paid to:	**Canada:** "Empowerment and inclusion are fundamental characteristics and objectives of the Information Society. Accordingly, special attention ~~must~~should be paid to the marginalized and vulnerable, ~~including~~and also to:" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted.* **Mexico:** "Empowerment and inclusion are fundamental characteristics and objectives of the Information Society. Accordingly, special attention must be paid to:"	
	- The marginalized, including migrants and refugees, unemployed, underprivileged and disenfranchised peoples.	**European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Mexico:** "The marginalized, including migrants, refugees, and the unemployed, the vulnerable, including children and the elderly, the disabled, and indigenous peoples and communities."	
	- The vulnerable, including children and the elderly, the disabled, and those with special needs.	**European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Israel:** The vulnerable, including children, youth and the elderly, the disabled, and those with special needs.	
	- Indigenous peoples and communities.	**European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Israel**: Indigenous peoples, minorities, women and other communities."	
15.	15. Unequal power relations and other social and cultural aspects have contributed to differential access, participation and status for men and women. More attention must be given to overcoming these constraints and ensuring that women can equally benefit from the increased use of ICTs for empowering themselves by full participation in shaping political, economic and social development and improving their lives.	**Canada**: "Unequal power relations and other social and cultural aspects have contributed to differential access, participation and status for ~~men and women~~ women and men. More attention ~~must~~should be given to overcoming these constraints and ensuring that men and women can equally benefit from the increased use of ICTs for empowering themselves by full participation in shaping political, economic, ~~and~~ social and cultural development and improving their lives" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Mexico:** "More attention must be given to overcoming the constraints that have contributed to differential access and participation for men and women. The Information Society must ensure that women benefit equally from the increased use of ICTs so as to fully participate in the political, economic and social development of their countries".	

16.	16. Young people constitute the majority 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 disconnected. More and special attention must be given to empower young people as learners, the future workforce, and citizens with special needs. Asegurar el acceso universal, sin limitaciones ni restricciones a las TIC es compromiso de todos los actores involucrados en la construcción de la sociedad de la información.	**Canada**: "Young people constitute the majority of the world's population, and are leading creators and ~~adopters~~ users of ICTs. Yet too many of them, especially those in developing countries, remain disadvantaged and disconnected. ~~More and~~ Special attention ~~must~~ should be given to ~~empower~~ young people as ~~learners~~ citizens with special needs as learners and as members of the future workforce, especially in developing countries. ~~and as citizens with special needs, especially in developing countries.~~"	
		European Union: *This paragraph should be deleted*	
		Mexico: "Young people constitute the majority of the population, and are the future workforce and leading creators and adopters of ICTs. They must therefore be empowered as learners, especially those in developing countries."	
		Romania-IPU: "Yet too many of them, especially those in developing countries, remain disadvantaged and disconnected due to lack of financial and material means. More and special attention…"	
		Russia: *Modify:* "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"	
1)	**1) Information and communication infrastructure**	**Mexico:** Information technology and communication infrastructures	
17.	17. Universal, ubiquitous and affordable access to ICTs must be an objective of all stakeholders involved in building the Information Society.	**Canada**: "Universal, ubiquitous and affordable access to ICTs ~~must~~ should be an objective…"	
		Cuba: *Add* "In conformity with domestic legislation of each country and relevant international instruments"	
		European Union: *New paragraph merging former paragraphs 17 and 18:* "Connectivity is a central enabling agent in building the information society. Universal, ubiquitous and affordable access to ICTs infrastructure and services constitutes one of the primary challenges of the information society and must be an objective of all stakeholders involved in building the Information Society. A well-developed, adapted to local conditions, and easily-accessed and affordable information and communication network infrastructure is essential for the social and economic progress of countries, and the well-being of all citizens and	

communities. Building of universally accessible ICT infrastructure should be a central element in any national strategy to develop the information society.

Japan: *Add* "And in order to bridge the digital divide mainly caused by regional circumstances or lack of educational opportunity, utilization of internet access and broadband networks will be necessary"

Mexico: "Ensuring universal access to ICTs, without limitations or restrictions, is a commitment of all stakeholders involved in building the Information Society.

New Zealand: - *focus on access to information rather than just technology*: *We consider that the document overemphasises the importance of access to cutting-edge IT technology (such as broadband). ICTs are current and future tools for achieving improved communication flows, improved delivery of government services and access to information, not an end in themselves. There are dangers in the present focus on access to technology as the only solution to overcoming disparities in the Information Society. Consequences could include a demand for technology transfer possibly at the expense of other development assistance aimed at addressing more urgent, basic needs; the risk of increased limitations on use of ICTs through increased government control of ICT-related activities or monopolization of resources by commercial interests. We would argue instead that what is required is equitable access to information flows and connectivity. We would therefore prefer to see the document focus on promoting open communication, information flow, and access to information;*

- recognize the importance of traditional media, as well as ICTs: *We would be concerned if non-users of ICTs became further marginalized through moves to make information available primarily on-line. The effect of such moves where the digital divide is most acute would be to reinforce inequitable access;*

USA: *Without an adequate infrastructure at the local and national levels, it is impossible for our citizens to fully interact in the global information society. The WSIS draft Declaration of Principles and draft Plan of Action currently assign insufficient weight and prioritization to the vital roles of private investment and competition to the development, deployment, maintenance, and modernization of the world's communications and information networks and facilities. A high priority must be placed on the need for national policies and international principles that promote investment, innovation and competition - all key elements to expanding information flows and promoting the build-out of communication*

		infrastructure throughout the world. New technologies, fostered by a pro-competitive marketplace, hold the promise of driving down consumer costs and stimulating technical and market innovation. We believe that implementing clear and effective policies, good governance, and private sector investment, are keys to the growth of information and communication infrastructure.	
18.	18. **Building the infrastructure**: A well-developed and easily-accessed and affordable information and communication network infrastructure is essential for the social and economic progress of countries, and the well-being of all citizens and communities. The improvement of connectivity is of special importance in this respect.	**Canada**: "The improvement of connectivity, with adaptation for disabled, is of special importance in this respect." **Ethiopia**: *Infrastructure is the basis to the expansion of all the other ICT services and products, and for implementing the actions enumerated below. Hence, the issue of financing and investment, affordability, development and sustainability of ICTs infrastructure is of critical concern and requires financial and technical support from the international community.* **European Union:** *Paragraph 18 merged with paragraph 17 above* **Israel:** *Add at the end:* "Some information and application requires high-capacity transmission channels in order to be effective and efficient. Therefore, we shall provide high-capacity transmission channels in order to enable accessibility to all types of information and applications." **Mexico:** "Development and easy access to information and communication network infrastructure are factors essential for the social and economic progress of countries, and the well-being of all citizens and communities. The provision of connectivity and digital participation are of special importance in this respect." **Tunisia:** *Change* "... of all citizens and communities" *to* "... all social segments and communities".	
19.	19. **Community access points**: Public access from community centres such as post offices, libraries, and schools, provides an effective means for promoting universal access in particular in rural and remote areas and poor urban areas.	**Canada**: "…in particular in rural, and remote areas and poor urban areas." **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Israel**: "Public access from community centers such as post offices, libraries, and schools, and information kiosks (that can provide wireless connection), provides an effective and efficient means for promoting universal access and in particular in rural and remote areas and poor urban areas."	

		Mexico:" .... digital community centres, post offices ...."	
19A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 19A* "**Sustainable telecom public service & Universal Access finance mechanisms:** Democratization of a community's access to content cannot take place without ensuring Universal Access. However, deployment of access is not always economically viable, particularly in markets which are too small to attract foreign direct investment (fdi). Consequently, there is a need for pro-active government policies to ensure Universal Access. The extent of a national telecom public service including a Universal Access roll-out should be defined by every country taking into account the specific needs of its population. These policies need to be defined and implemented in a transparent manner and in cooperation with private sector and civil society. They could take the form of a mechanism based on national funds to finance Universal Access, financed according to the principle of solidarity, i.e. on the basis of levied fees or taxes. The funds can be used for the development of isolated or disadvantaged regions whenever the universal access obligation appears to be unprofitable. Any such policy should not infringe on the principle of awarding licences to private operators, of free competition and of non-discrimination."	
20.	20. **Measuring and mapping the Information Society:** Indicators are essential to measure the evolution of the Information Society, more particularly the needs and performance of developing countries and their particular conditions. Targets should also be set to benchmark the penetration of ICTs services within communities at urban and rural levels.	**Australia:** *The identified targets and benchmarks may not be achievable, especially considering the different stages of progress in developing countries. Australia suggests that communities should be allowed to set targets and benchmarks appropriate to their current stage of development and capacity rather than imposing a global set of benchmarks.* **Canada**: "Indicators, including sex-disaggregated data, are essential to measure the evolution of the Information Society, ~~more particularly~~notably the needs…" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Mexico: "Measuring and mapping the Information Society:** Indicators, especially those concerning community connectivity, are essential to measure the evolution of the Information Society, more particularly the needs and performance	

		of developing countries and their particular conditions. Accordingly, targets should be set to benchmark the penetration of ICT services within communities at urban and rural level."	
20A		**Brazil:** *Add [20A]* Appropriate indicators and benchmarking should clarify the magnitude of the digital divide, and keep it under regular assessment, with the purpose of measuring the effectiveness of international cooperation and transfer of technology mechanisms. New indicators/methodologies should be studied and researched with a view to improving assessment of ITC impact, with particular attention to their applicability in regards to the different levels of social and economic development and national contexts. Methods for quantifying the digital divide, therefore, cannot not be based solely on ICT density, infrastructure or consumption, but must track global progress in the use of ICTs to achieve the millennium social and development goals.	
2)	**2) Access to information and knowledge**	**Mexico: "Access to information technologies ..."**	
21.	21. The right to communicate and the right for citizens to access information are fundamental to the Information Society.	**Brazil**: The right to communicate and the right for citizens to access information and knowledge are fundamental to the Information Society and are fundamental to the human development. **Canada**: "~~The right to communicate and the right for citizens to access information are~~The right of everyone to freedom of expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information is fundamental to the Information Society" **European Union:** *Paragraphs 21 and 22 should be merged as follows: "*Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas. The sharing and strengthening of global knowledge for development can be enhanced by removing barriers to equitable access to information for educational, scientific, economic, social, political and cultural activities and by easing access to public domain information and promoting the use of open standards and open source software.	

		Mexico: "Freedom of expression and the right for citizens to access clear and truthful information are fundamental to the Information Society."	
		USA: *The United States agrees that a knowledge-based society depends upon access to and availability of information, based on the principle of free flow of information and news. Information will come from a wide variety of sources – public and private, commercial and non-commercial, proprietary and public domain. Scientific progress depends upon the availability of data so that scientists may replicate and verify results and build upon existing knowledge. The Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action must recognize intellectual property as a vital component of the Information Society. Existing international intellectual property agreements provide a valuable mechanism through which to protect intellectual investment and encourage the creation and dissemination of works. These agreements encompass and reflect a balance between the interests of owners and users of intellectual property. Indeed, this balance is struck so that owners and creators are encouraged to develop and disseminate their works to the public for broader use.* *The United States believes that the WSIS should affirm the right of all individuals to freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers, as set forth in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). We believe that the WSIS draft Declaration of Principles and draft Plan of Action should refer to these rights as stated in the Universal Declaration. Rather than seeking to create additional rights at the WSIS, States should implement the obligations that they have assumed under human rights treaties. In this vein, we believe that individuals should have the freedom to communicate, access information and pursue development. Furthermore, the U.S. supports equitable access to ICT for women, youth, remote populations, and persons with disabilities.*	
21A		**El Salvador:** In the Information Society, free access to information sources by individuals and consequently by communication media must be guaranteed and strengthened, as the underpinning for the vigorous exercise of public opinion sustained by civic duty.	

22.	22. **Access to knowledge**: Individuals and organizations should benefit from access to information, knowledge and ideas. The sharing and strengthening of global knowledge for development can be enhanced by ensuring equitable access to information for educational, scientific, economic, social, political and cultural activities.	**Canada**: "Individuals, communities and organizations should benefit from access to information, knowledge and ideas."	
		European Union: *Paragraph 22 merged with paragraph 21 above*	
		Israel: Individuals and organizations should benefit from access to information, knowledge and ideas. The sharing and strengthening of global knowledge for development can be enhanced by ensuring access to information for educational, scientific, economic, social, political and cultural activities, that is open and free for those who cannot afford it."	
		Mexico: "Individuals and organizations should benefit from access to clear and truthful information, knowledge and ideas. The sharing of knowledge and strengthening of equitable access to information are necessary for that purpose."	
		Samoa: "Individuals and organizations should benefit from affordable access to information, knowledge and ideas…for educational, scientific, economic, social, political, environmental and cultural activities"	
		Sri Lanka: *Scientific knowledge and data are of enormous Importance in a global Information Society:*	
		• To foster innovation and promote economic development	
		• For efficient and transparent decision-making, particularly at the governmental level	
		• For education and training	
		Scientific data and information should be as widely available and affordable as possible: the more people that are able to share them, the greater the positive effects and returns to society. Scientific knowledge is a "public good".	
		The development of new IC Ts opens up unprecedented opportunities to ensure universal and equitable access to scientific data and information and to enhance the global knowledge pool. However, excessive privatization and commercialization of scientific data and information is a serious threat to the realization of these opportunities for the benefit of society as a whole.	

		Samoa: *Add new paragraph:* "Affordable Access to knowledge by all people: Where market forces cannot deliver universal access to basic information and communication services at affordable rates, government, and/or regulatory intervention is necessary. Through the establishment of competitively neutral subsidy schemes, service can be delivered to high cost areas at below-cost prices, without distorting competition. Low-income consumers can be offered service at discount rates. As well, donors and/or governments should directly fund the establishment of public access sites in communities, for use by those who cannot afford access in their homes. Such intervention is likely to be needed even in the most competitive markets, given the inherent limitations of market forces."	
23.	23. **Access to public domain information**: A vibrant and rich public domain is an essential element for the growth of the Information Society. Information in the public domain must be easily accessible.	**Canada**: A vibrant and rich public domain is an essential element for the growth of the Information Society. Information in the public domain should be easily accessible. [*Canada seeks further clarification on the concept of public domain information*] **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Switzerland:** "A vibrant and diverse public domain is an essential element for the growth of the Information Society. Information in the public domain must be easily accessible and affordable for everybody. Public institutions such as libraries and archives function as trustworthy information brokers to guarantee free access." **Mexico:** "Information in the public domain must be easily accessible and transparent to promote the Information Society."	
23A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 23A:* "**Libraries:** Libraries, information centres and librarians offer relevant and safe access to information and knowledge for economic and cultural advance. They encourage social inclusion by striving to serve all those in their user communities regardless of age, gender, economic or employment status, literacy or technical skills, cultural or ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs, sexual orientation, and physical or mental ability. Libraries in developing countries have an important role to play in the development and maintenance of a democratic society."	

23B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 23B:* "**Archives:** Archives and records play an essential role in the management and development of a global information society and the preservation of its history. Records and archives are the direct and authentic product of human activities and constitute evidence documenting the development of humankind and the environment. They are fundamental to the historical and cultural identities of individuals and peoples as well as to understanding diverse cultures, both between and within countries, and they are essential for effective governance and are a prerequisite for accountability. Archives are the most extensive existing sources of publicly available information and provide free and unlimited use of public domain information by citizens."	
24.	24. **Open standards and open source**: Open standards and open source software are basic elements in the development of a more affordable access to ICTs.	**Canada**: "…access to ICTs and full participation in the information society" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Switzerland:** "**Open international standards ~~and open source~~**: International standards open on a non-discriminatory basis to the relevant bodies of all countries, at policy level and at any stage of standards development are ~~and open source software are~~ basic elements in the development of a more affordable access to ICTs. **Mexico:** "Open standards and open source software are basic elements in the development of more advantageous access to ICTs." **USA:** *It is important to draw a distinction between open source software and open standards. The WSIS documents currently discuss the two issues in a manner that creates confusion. Open standards generally refer to technical standards or specifications that are developed through a well-defined process. Open standards can improve interoperability and may facilitate interactions ranging from information exchange to international trade, thus fostering market competition. Because of these benefits, the use of open standards is encouraged whenever practicable. Open source software is a term used to describe software that is intended to be openly distributable, under a variety of different licensing arrangements. The United States recognizes that open source software can contribute to increased access and diversity of choice but it is only one of many possible models for the development of software. The WSIS documents should not promote one over the other (i.e. open source vs. proprietary), but should instead*	

		foster the availability of diverse alternatives and the freedom to choose among those alternatives. In short, the WSIS should remain neutral with respect to different technologies and modes of technology development.	
24A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 24A:* **"Open source software:** The open source model for implementation of technical standards and dissemination of software is a valuable model to enable and support more affordable access to ICTs. Increased use of open source software can contribute greatly to increasing access and to enhancing the diversity of choice of software for consumers"	
25.	25. **Barriers**: Barriers to equitable access result from differences in education and literacy levels, gender, age, income and connectivity, as well as from a lack of user training and cultural and linguistic constraints and particular conditions of access to the relevant technology. ICTs can also be used in order to overcome these and other barriers in society.	**Canada**: "Barriers to equitable access result from differences, inter alia, in education and literacy levels, gender, age, income and connectivity, as well as from a lack of user training and cultural and linguistic constraints and particular conditions of access to the relevant technology, including inaccessible technologies for disabled persons. ICTs can also be used in order to overcome these and other barriers in society" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Mexico:** "Barriers to equitable access result from differences in education, literacy levels, gender, age, lack of user training, linguistic constraints and economic income, as well as from conditions of access to technology. ICTs can be used in order to overcome these and other barriers in society. **Romania-IPU:** "…particular conditions of access to the relevant technology, including those resulting from the external debt burden of developing countries. ICTs can also…" **Samoa:** *Paragraph incomplete, as there is no verb. This sentence needs to be rewritten in a clearer fashion. Barriers to equitable access are explained to do what?*	
26.	26. **Information flows**: A better balance of the information flows should be sought in building the Information Society.	**Australia:** *This paragraph requires clarification.* **Canada**: [*Canada seeks clarification on the meaning of this paragraph and its further elaboration.*] **European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted*	

		Mexico: "A better balance of the information flows should be sought in building the Information Society, without impairing or impeding freedom of expression."	
		Samoa: *Add paragraph [26A]* **"Threats:** Increase the awareness of decision makers, users, and the general population, especially those in developing countries, of the threats of ICT, especially pornography, scams and money laundering. The impact of these threats may create an increase in cyber crime and a dysfunctional information society."	
		Australia: *Add paragraph [26A]* Interoperability *Australia supports the Joint Ministerial Declaration on 'Electronic Commerce for Development' at the Joint UNCTAD-UNESCAP Asia-Pacific Conference held in November 2002, in particular the need for international interoperability standards to ensure effective global e-commerce systems. The following words on Interoperability are suggested:* "Working towards open and flexible interoperability standards is an important issue for all countries. This is an essential element in promoting widespread online trade by reducing technology lock-in and by better integrating emerging and established technologies. The net effect is to reduce the cost and complexity of e-commerce to SMEs."	
		Australia: Role of volunteers: Observers comments note the importance of volunteers and highlights their importance to different parts of society. Australia supports the inclusion of contribution 26A from Section II of the Civil Society observers' contribution to the Declaration of Principles: "Volunteers can be seen as the human and dynamic "last-miles" of connectivity and access, often as part of civil society organizations. They extend the products and benefits of access to many more people who do not have the means for direct access - most of whom are "information poor". In this regard, these "last-mile" volunteers can be effective in the advancement towards the ultimate goal of "information and communication services for all".	
3)	**3) The role of governments, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development**	**Mexico:** "The role of governments…" **Russia**: "The role of governments, United Nations international organizations, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development".	

		Tunisia: *A new paragraph should be added to indicate the common need to increase the number of ICT organizations in order to draw on their contribution to build the information society and to implement the plan of action to be adopted by the Summit.*	
27.	27. All partners - public, private sector and civil society organizations - have a stake in the development of information and communications and should be fully involved in decision making at the local, national, regional and international levels. Governments should work in close coordination with private enterprise and civil society.	**Argentina: Public and private cooperation:** It is necessary to promote and financially support, at national and regional level, the establishment of research networks, strategic production and marketing alliances, and the registration of patents resulting from convention processes. Research networks may take the form of research consortia, research contracts or exchange of licences. Business alliances (joint venture, transitional economic units for joint innovation projects or programmes, or for the use of high-cost equipment). Interaction with universities and scientific establishments (corporate financing of research in universities and public research centres in industrialized countries is on the increase), mergers and acquisitions or start-ups. Technological alliances and cooperation agreements enable firms to share costs, increase the range of products and access to new knowledge and new markets. Cooperation in the domestic sphere, as well as at the regional and international level, is sometimes essential to satisfy compatibility and interoperability requirements. **Brazil:** "All partners - public, private sector and civil society organizations - have a stake in the development of information and communications and should be fully involved participate in decision making…" **Ethiopia:** *Information society development needs the full **participation of all stakeholders** at national, regional and international level. This can only be achieved through encouraging cooperation and partnership and the full and effective involvement of all stakeholders, and by clearly defining their roles, responsibilities and goals. Considering the limited financial and technical resources for information society development, resource mobilization should be the collective responsibilities of all stakeholders at national, regional, and international levels.*	

European Union: "All stakeholders~~partners~~ - public, private sector and civil society organizations - have <u>an important role</u> ~~stake~~ in the development of <u>the Information Society</u> ~~information and communications~~ and should be fully involved in decision making at the local, national, regional and international levels <u>on its development</u>. <u>Building a people centred Information Society is a joint effort of all stakeholders and requires cooperation and partnership between all parties.</u> Governments should work in close coordination with private enterprise and civil society <u>to create a favourable environment for investment and for the development of new network services</u>."

Israel: "All partners - public, private sector and civil society organizations - have a stake in the development of information and communications and should be fully involved in decision making at the local, national, regional and international levels. <u>The Public Sector, including</u> Governments<u>,</u> should work in close coordination with private enterprise<u>, academia,</u> and civil society."

Japan: "…regional and international levels. <u>In so doing, a gender perspective should be taken into account.</u> Governments should work in close…"

Mexico: "All partners - public, private sector and civil society organizations - have a role to play in the development of information and communications and should be fully involved in decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels. Governments should work in close coordination with private enterprise and civil society."

Switzerland: "All partners – public, private sector and civil society organizations <u>as well as international organizations</u> – have a stake in the development of information and communications and should be fully involved in decision making at the local, national, regional and international levels. Governments should work in close coordination with private enterprise and civil society. <u>Multistakeholder approaches and the creation of public-private partnerships should be fostered.</u>

<u>Tunisia:</u> *Change* <u>"have a stake in"</u> *to* "are concerned with"

USA*: The U.S. supports a prominent role for the private sector and civil society at the WSIS, as envisioned in UNGA Resolution 56/182. The private sector is the primary investor in, and innovator of, infrastructure, products, content, and services. The views of civil society represent the disparate views of a variety of information society participants and need to be carefully integrated into national, regional and international development strategies. All governments should*

		strengthen public institutions by facilitating the development of necessary infrastructure and by promoting transparency, accountability and fair administrative and judicial institutions. The WSIS should recognize that an environment that encourages public-private partnerships is essential to ensuring a sustainable information society. **Romania-IPU:** "… Governments <u>and parliaments </u>should work…" *Russian Fed.: Add* <u>"- 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"</u> **Tanzania**: *All partners have a stake in the development of information and communications. Governments should involve those partners in the development at local regional and international level.*	
27A		**Brazil:** *Add [27A]* <u>Governments must have a central role in promoting social inclusion through ICTs for development. the private sector and NGOs could act as partners in this endeavour, through clearly defined social responsibilities and cost sharing in the development of infrastructure, relevant content and ICT mainstreaming.</u>	
27B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 27B:* <u>"Strengthening relations with citizens is a sound investment in better policy-making and a core element of good governance. It allows government to tap new sources of policy relevant-ideas, information and resources when making decisions. Equally important, it contributes to building public trust in government, raising the quality of democracy and strengthening civic capacity".</u>	
28.	28. **ICTs manufacturing capabilities**: It is essential for governments to encourage technology transfer and investment, including venture capital, in the creation of national and regional ICT production facilities, research and development (R&D), incubation schemes and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Most developing countries are lagging behind in this respect.	**Argentina: The importance of research and development** The digital divide begins with the divide in digital infrastructure and the divide in digital infrastructure begins with a divide in digital research infrastructure. Research and development in the area of ICTs in the developed countries is attracting an ever increasing amount of public and private resources. Innovation is closely linked to scientific progress but it is guided by the market.	

		The ability of countries to respond to the rapid pace of current technological development depends both on the existence of a set of adequate capacities and on a capital market and product markets that operate efficiently.	
		There also needs to be a context favourable to organizational change, labour mobility, technological training, readiness to experiment and take risks, and openness to ideas from whatever source.	
		Australia: *The emphasis on governments creating national and regional ICT production facilities may not be possible or even desirable for many nations. Australia suggests that this paragraph be excluded from the declaration.*	
		Cuba: "It is essential for government private sector and civil society organizations to encourage technology transfer"	
		European Union: *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan*	
		Mexico: "It is essential for governments to encourage technology transfer and investment, including venture capital, in the creation of national and regional ICT production facilities, research and development (R&D), incubation schemes and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)."	
28A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 28A:*	
		"ICTs for poverty alleviation through wealth creation: ICTs make it possible for businesses in all countries to compete on a more equal basis using e-business principles and mechanisms. The success of indigenous businesses in developing countries is an essential ingredient in combating poverty through local wealth creation. Governments and corporations should facilitate the success of local e-business in both domestic and international markets through good policy choices as well as direct involvement in e-business processes. In addition, e-business capabilities should be used to stimulate international trade, a creator of wealth."	

29.	29. **Demand-driven applications**: Growth in the demand for applications (such as e-government, e-learning, e-health and e-business) will create a favourable environment for the private sector to invest in the development of new services.	**Canada:** "…will create a favourable environment for the private sector to invest in the development of new goods and services" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Mexico:** "Growth in the demand for applications (such as e-government, e-learning, e-health and e-business) creates a favourable environment for the private sector to invest in the development of new services." **Tanzania:** *Insert* "e-agriculture"	
29A		**Samoa:** *"The Impact of ICT on the Environmental: To promote the enhancement of eco-efficiency and transparency through public access to environmental information and encouragement of cleaner production and sustainable consumption patterns. Major positive and negative impact of ICT on the environment must be observed and expected. While ICT reduces energy consumptions, they are likely to be harmful to the environment if global policies are not developed to address the issue of ICT disposal."*	
4)	**4) Capacity building**	**European Union:** *Former Section 6, **Enabling environment**, should be moved here, before section 4, **Capacity building**.*	
30.	30. All people must be enabled to acquire the necessary skills in order to participate actively in, and understand, the Information Society and knowledge economy thus benefiting fully from the possibilities it offers. Special attention must be paid to training of trainers as well as building the institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge.	**Canada**: All people mustEveryone should be enabled to acquire the necessary skills in order to participate actively in, and understand, the Information Society and knowledge economy thus benefiting fully from the possibilities it offers. Special attention must be paid to appropriate training of trainers, including instructors of ICTs, as well as building the institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge **Ethiopia**: ***Capacity building** is the cornerstone for the development of an information society*	

European Union: "All people must be enabled to acquire the necessary skills in order to participate actively in, and understand, the Information Society and knowledge economy thus benefiting fully from the possibilities they ~~it~~ offers. ~~Special attention must be paid to training of trainers as well as building the institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge~~. In doing that such education principles as information literacy and life-long learning should be considered. The Governments should develop comprehensive and forward looking strategies to respond to the new human capacity needs and to utilize the immense opportunities that ICTs offer in human resource development. Special attention must be paid to building institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge.

Israel: "All people should be enabled to acquire..."

Mexico: "All people must be enabled to acquire the necessary skills in order to understand and participate actively in the Information Society and experience the economic benefits it offers. Given the growing demand for a wide range of ICT specialists at all levels, special attention must be paid to training of trainers as well as building the institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge."

USA: *The development of the information society depends on achieving basic education for all, including ICT literacy and workforce skills. Without the necessary literacy, education, and training, individuals will not be able to use available infrastructure and ICT to realize their human potential – and will not be able to access the larger world that composes the information society. Optimizing the use of technology can contribute to educational development. We should encourage schools to serve as community technology centers in order that persons can take advantage of their ICT resources. Therefore, the WSIS should acknowledge existing capacity building exercises underway at the national, regional, and international levels. Particular emphasis should be placed on the need to not only educate users but also policy makers and regulators. Furthermore, we believe it is beneficial for WSIS to harness volunteers to help educate businesses and entrepreneurs with the ICT skills and knowledge to operate more efficiently and to compete in the global economy.*

30A		**Brazil:** *Add [30A]* Full members of the information society: the shared aspirations of developing countries to become full-fledged members of the information society on an efficient, effective and sustainable basis, within the framework of the global knowledge-based economy, must be taken into account.	
30B		**Canada**: **[30A]** The needs and interests of women and girls should be taken into account and support provided through training programs and mentoring systems.	
31.	31. **ICTs for education**: The use of ICTs for education and human resource development, including ICT literacy, should be promoted, with special reference to the requirements of people with disabilities.	**Canada**: …to the requirements of people with disabilities and to the specific needs of girls and women. **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Mexico:** **Tanzania: "…**with special reference to the requirements of ~~people with disabilities.~~ disadvantaged groups."	
32.	32. **Capacity building to enable people to benefit from the opportunities provided by ICTs:** Individuals should be engaged in defining their own needs and in the development of programmes to meet those needs. Technological change requires life-long learning and continuous training by all. Public policy should take into account inequalities in access to quality education and training, particularly in the case of vulnerable groups and underserved or remote areas.	**Canada**: …particularly in the case of vulnerable groups, persons with disabilities, women and underserved or remote areas. **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Israel: "** Human Resources Development: Developing countries cannot enter the Global Information Society without strengthening their human, institutional and organizational capacities and without increasing awareness for production of local ICT contents and use of local languages for ICT through: Capacity-building and training programmes; Knowledge and expertise transfer." **Mexico:** "The use of ICTs for education and human resource development, including ICT literacy, should be promoted."	

		Tunisia: *The development of ICT infrastructure and the provision of computers are not sufficient elements for participation in the information society and virtual economy, as digital literacy is also an essential element for the elimination of the digital divide. ICT applications require that individuals and institutions should be fully qualified to master and utilize these technologies. Moreover, rapid and profound technological changes require new policies for investment in education and continuous learning to enable employees and citizens to gain relative advantages.*	
33.	33. **Training ICT specialists**: The increasing demand for a wide range of ICTs specialists at all levels must be addressed.	**Canada**: The increasing demand for a wide range of ICTs specialists at all levels ~~must~~ should be addressed, <u>with targeted support for the participation of women as engineers, technicians and ICT specialists.</u> **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Mexico:** *Paragraphs 30 and 33 are merged.*	
33A		**Brazil:** *Add [33A]* Globalization and developing countries: the positive integration of developing countries into the knowledge-economy depends largely on capacity building in the areas of education, technology, know-how and information. These are quickly becoming major factors in determining development, competitiveness, and the flow of trade, services and investments. Developing countries must be given greater access to these resources, including financial support from multilateral agencies.	
5)	**5) Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs**	**Australia:** *[35] & [36] & [52C] Australia endorses the attempts to reinsert privacy as an explicit undertaking.* **Mexico:** "Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs"	
34.	34. An adequately developed infrastructure is a precondition for secure and reliable access to information by all stakeholders, and for the upgrading of relevant services.	**Australia:** *Add* <u>"Information security and protection of privacy are essential in building trust in ICTs and thereby promoting their use."</u> **Bangladesh**: "An adequately developed infrastructure <u>and a set of ethical guidelines</u> is a precondition for secure and reliable access to information by all stakeholders and for the upgrading of relevant services". **Canada**: "~~An adequately developed~~ <u>A robust and secure</u> infrastructure…"	

		Ethiopia: *Building a secure ICT environment on which users can have confidence to exchange all kind of information is of paramount importance. In particular, supporting developing countries in creating awareness and fighting cyber crimes is an important component for ensuring security in the cyber world. Otherwise, cyber crime paradises may be created in these countries endangering the information society development. Governments of the third world should be supported in promoting the legal ICT market so that ICT professionals are not attracted by cyber crime activities. In addition, appropriate mechanisms should be put in place that enable developing countries adopt powerful ICT security technologies produced in developed countries.*
		European Union: *Replace paragraph 34 by:* "The benefits of the Information Society can only be fully harnessed if there is confidence that the new information and communication technology is reliable and secure. An adequately developed infrastructure is a precondition for secure and reliable access to and communication of information by all stakeholders, and for the upgrading of relevant services. Ultimately, a global culture of cybersecurity needs to be developed in cooperation with all the stakeholders and these efforts should be supported by increased international cooperation. Therefore governments should work in close coordination with private enterprise, civil society and with international expert bodies in the field of network and information security. Within this global culture of cybersecurity it is important to strike a balance between, on the one hand, measures to enhance security and, on the other hand, the need to ensure the protection of data and privacy, as well as to avoid the creation of new barriers to trade."
		Mexico: "An adequately developed infrastructure is a precondition for secure and reliable access to information by all stakeholders, and for the upgrading of relevant services."
		USA *Security of, and confidence in, ICT infrastructures are essential if the economic and social benefits of these technologies are to be achieved. Security requires action by all countries to prevent malicious activity and defend cyberspace through national action and cross border cooperation. The WSIS should endorse a global approach to cybersecurity rather than urging the creation of a global instrument on this topic. The WSIS should promote the adoption of effective substantive and procedural laws to counteract electronic crime;*

		prevention of and defence against threats to cyber infrastructures; encouragement of information-sharing regarding computer emergency response; and support for existing international and regional mechanisms. In addition, WSIS should encourage all participants in ICT networks (governments, businesses, other organizations and individual users who develop, own, provide, manage, service and use ICT systems and networks) to join together to raise awareness of network security and to create a global culture of cybersecurity.	
34A		**Samoa:** *Add paragraph* "Government should develop strategies and incentives to keep their own IC human resources from moving to developed countries in search of better pay and better working environment. At the same time, government should emphasize that ICT experts taking part in ICT4D projects, especially in developing countries, should make sure that disseminating skills and knowledge is a key requirement of all terms of references."	
35.	35. **Secure and reliable infrastructure**: To realize the full benefits of ICTs, networks and information systems must be sufficiently robust to prevent, detect and to respond appropriately to security incidents. However, effective security of information systems is not merely a matter of government and law enforcement practices, nor of technology. A global culture of cyber-security needs to be developed (UNGA Resolution 57/295, of 20 December 2002).	**Brazil: "…**A global culture of cyber-security needs to be developed on a multilateral, democratic and transparent basis, with due respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially the right to privacy and freedom of expression (UNGA Resolution 57/295, of 20 December 2002)." **Canada**: *To add:* Efforts to achieve secure networks and information systems must ensure that human rights and civil liberties, such as privacy and legal protection are appropriately and adequately guaranteed. **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **India:** *To add:* "a global culture of cyber-security needs to be developed while enacting suitable statutes at national and international level, wherever necessary, on priority" **Israel**: ~~To realize the full benefits of ICTs, networks and information systems must be sufficiently robust to prevent, detect and to respond appropriately to security incidents.~~ Confidence, trust and robust technical reliability are essential to the full functioning of the Information Society, and should underpin measures taken to protect users of media, communication and information networks against any misuse (ethical, terrorist and criminal) and the violation of privacy and confidentiality. However, …"	

		Japan: *Simplify the paragraph.*	
		UNGA Resolution 57/295 is not related to the global culture of cyber-security, and should be corrected to read 57/239.	
		Mexico: "**Secure and reliable infrastructure**: Confidence in the full benefits of ICTs, networks and information systems must be sufficiently robust to provide for, detect and respond appropriately to security incidents. Effective security of information systems is not merely a matter for governments. It requires law enforcement and technology. Hence, a global culture of cyber-security needs to be developed (UNGA Resolution 57/295, of 20 December 2002). Building this culture requires the accountability of all participants."	
35A		**Brazil:** *Add [35A]* The responsibility for securing the cyberspace shall be shared by all countries, according to their level of social and economic development, and taking into account that developing countries have limited financial resources to invest in ICT social applications, such as telemedicine, e-education and job training.	
35B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 35B:*	
		"**Trust:** Strengthening the trust framework (security, authentication, privacy, consumer protection) is a prerequisite for the maturation of the Information Society and for inspiring confidence among all users of the internet. It requires the involvement of all participants."	
36.	36. **Role of stakeholders**: Governments must promote awareness in their societies of cyber security risks and seek to strengthen cooperation with the private sector and civil society to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes, so as to build confidence and trust in the use of ICTs and the Information Society. The community and the family also have a special role to play in this regard.	**Australia:** *Modify paragraph* "In order to build confidence and trust in the use of ICTs and the Information Society, governments in cooperation with the private sector and civil society must promote awareness in their societies of trust enhancing measures and cyber security risks. Governments must seek to strengthen co-operation with the private sector and civil society to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes."	
		Canada: Governments ~~must~~should promote awareness in their societies…	
		European Union: *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan*	
		India: "Governments must promote awareness in their societies of cyber security risks and seek to strengthen co-operation with the private sector and civil society to	

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prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes, so as to build confidence and trust <u>by protecting their privacy and confidentiality</u> in the use of ICTs <u>and the Information Society</u>. The community and the family also have a special role to play in this regard."

Israel: "Governments <u>should</u> promote awareness in their societies of cyber security risks and seek to strengthen co-operation with the private sector and civil society to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for <u>unethical,</u> criminal or terrorist purposes, so as to build confidence and trust in the use of ICTs and the Information Society. The community<u>, and</u> the family<u>, and the individual levels</u> also have a special role to play in this regard."

Mexico: "Governments must promote awareness in their societies of cyber security risks and seek to strengthen cooperation with the private sector and civil society to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes, and to build confidence and trust in the use of ICTs and thus in the Information Society. The community and the family also have a special role to play in this regard."

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37.   **International cooperation**: International, regional and national efforts to improve ICT security, in both civil and military fields, must be coordinated, taking into consideration the importance of secure infrastructure and data flow, in concordance with international standards and guidelines.

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Australia: "International, regional and national efforts to improve ICT <u>confidence and</u> security, in both civil and military fields, must be coordinated, taking into consideration the importance of secure infrastructure…"

Canada: International, regional and national efforts to improve ICT security, in both civil and military fields, ~~must~~<u>should</u> be coordinated<u>.</u>

European Union: *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan*

Israel: "International, regional and national efforts to improve ICT security, in both civil and military fields, <u>may</u> be coordinated…"

Japan: "International, regional and national efforts to improve ICT security, in both ~~civil and military fields~~<u>private and public sector activities</u>, must be coordinated…"

Mexico: International, regional and national efforts to provide ICT security, in the civil and military fields, must be coordinated, taking into consideration the importance of secure infrastructure and data flow, in concordance with international standards and guidelines."

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37A		**Brazil:** *Add [37A]* Information security is a relevant and sensitive issue to be considered under the appropriate context, taking into account existing as well as evolving national policies, laws and regulations. concerns with broader international security issues should not override the development-oriented focus of the information society.	
37B		**Cuba:** "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"	
6)	**6) Enabling environment**	**European Union:** *this section should be moved before section 4, Capacity Building* **Tunisia:** *In view of the importance of the legal framework in the creation of a competitive environment based on confidence and trust among various stakeholders in the information society and the definition of their respective roles, emphasis should be placed on the continuous development of the legal and regulatory framework to cope with the rapid pace of change of the factors that condition country-specific domestic and the external environment (section 6, page 5).*	
38.	38. The existence of a supportive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework is an important prerequisite for enhancing trust in the development of the Information Society.	**Argentina**: Technological alliances must be encouraged and supported. At a later stage, when a dominant configuration is defined and economies of scale and standardization are achieved, centre stage should be taken by those practices which protect free competition and facilitate the entry of new players. **Australia:** "The existence of a supportive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework, developed through participation and input from all organizational and individual levels of society, is an important prerequisite for enhancing trust in the development of the Information Society." **Canada**: The existence of a supportive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework that transcends geographic and political borders is an important…	

		Ethiopia: *International organizations as well as the developed countries should support developing countries in putting in place enabling policy, legal and regulatory framework particularly in the development of market environment, protection of the consumer, the fair usage of IP addresses and internet governance.*	
		European Union: *Replace paragraph 38 by paragraph 40 as modified:* "To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create a trustworthy, predictable, transparent, inclusive and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition, thus favouring investment in the deployment of infrastructures, transfer of technology, research and development and development of new services.	
		"The existence of a supportive, transparent, pro-competitive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework is an important prerequisite for enhancing trust in the development of the Information Society. The independence of a regulator is also an important requirement"	
		Mexico: "The existence of a supportive and predictable policy, legal and regulatory framework is an important requirement for enhancing trust in the development of the Information Society."	
		USA *To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, it is critical for all stakeholders to work together to create a clear, market-based, legal framework and supportive policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition, thus favouring investment in infrastructure and development of new services. This policy framework should promote competition, increased trade liberalization and private sector investment, including adherence to the WTO Basic Telecommunications Services Agreement, and support the private, commercial negotiation of Internet interconnection agreements. Countries should adhere to and fully implement existing multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements regarding intellectual property protection such as the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the 1996 WIPO Copyright Treaty and Performances and Phonograms Treaty treaties concerning copyright and related rights. In addition, the management of the Internet domain name and address system should take place via a public-private partnership that*	

		operates in an open and transparent manner to preserve and enhance the necessary global interoperability and coordination of the Internet's unique identifier system while recognizing its technical limitations and requirements.	
38A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 38A:* "**Rule of law:** The rule of law is essential for the Information Society to become a sphere of confidence, trust and security, where the rights of individuals - and especially children - are protected, users are empowered to avoid harmful content, and governance, administration and justice become more open and efficient. The rule of law will be a reality when state regulation, co-regulation and self-regulation work together to build a clear regulatory framework in the full respect of human rights.	
39.	39. **Good governance:** The Information Society must support participative democracy, transparency, and accountability, at all times upholding the principle of legality. Information is the basis of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process for both global society and local communities. ICTs can be an important and very effective tool not only for good governance but also for more accessible government.	**Canada:** "The Information Society ~~must~~should support participative democracy…" **European Union:** "~~The Information Society must support participative democracy, transparency, and accountability, at all times upholding the principle of legality.~~ Information is the basis of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process for both global society and local communities and support participatory democracy, transparency and accountability. ICTs ~~can be~~should be used as an important and very effective tool not only for good governance but also for more accessible government." **Japan:** *Transfer the whole paragraph to a more appropriate position to follow paragraph 9 and read as paragraph 10. Alter the following paragraph numbers accordingly* **Mexico:** "The Information Society must support participative democracy, transparency, and accountability, at all times upholding the principle of legality. Information is the basis of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process at all levels of government. ICTs are an important and very effective tool for making government services more accessible. **Romania-IPU:** "The Information Society must support and enhance participative democracy, transparency, and accountability, at all times upholding the principle of legality. Information is the basis of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process for both global society and local communities. ICTs can be an	

		important and very effective tool ~~not only~~ for good governance<u>, including for making governments and parliaments</u> ~~but also for~~ more accessible and <u>accountable ~~government~~</u>." **Switzerland:** *Replace paragraph 39 by:* "**<u>Good governance:</u>** <u>The Information Society must support participative democracy, long-term transparency, efficiency and accountability, at all times upholding the principle of legality. Properly organized and accessible information and records are the basis of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process for private and public actors at all levels. ICTs can be an important and very effective tool for good governance and more accessible government. Inclusion of the citizen is the aim. That means: In spite of the distance to the offices of the authorities the citizen can interact with its authorities.</u>"	
39A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 39A:* **<u>Information and records management:</u>** <u>Information and records management is a necessary condition for good governance. To guarantee long-term transparency and access to public information and records, governments must ensure proper organization, appropriate classification and financially assured archiving of their own documents.</u>	
39B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 39B:* "**<u>Public statistics and monitoring the Information Society</u>**: <u>Statistical indicators and analysis on social and economic developments constitute the basic conditions for a fair, democratic debate and the evidence-based shaping of collective affairs. Public statistics also constitute an indispensable basis for continual monitoring of the Information Society. They provide core information for measuring progress towards the implementation of national ICT strategies as well as for assessing the economic competitiveness of a country and the problems of digital divide.</u>"	
40.	40. **Market environment**: To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create a trustworthy, transparent, and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition, thus favouring investment	**Australia:** To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create a trustworthy, transparent, and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition <u>and supporting consumer confidence and protection of privacy</u>, thus favouring investment in the deployment of infrastructures and development of new services."	

	in the deployment of infrastructures and development of new services.	**Canada**: To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create and foster a trustworthy, transparent, and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition and at the same time protecting intellectual property, thus favouring investment in the deployment of infrastructures and development of new services.	
		European Union: *Paragraph moved upwards as paragraph 38 and amended*	
		Mexico: "**Market environment**: To maximize the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to maintain, create and/or modify a trustworthy, transparent, and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition that favours investment in the development of infrastructures and new services, making the supply chains more efficient, especially in relation to backward areas."	
		Tunisia: *Change first phrase to:* "to ensure maximum utilization of the full economic and social potential of the Information Society ...".	
40A		**Brazil:** *Add [40A]* E-commerce and SMEs: Electronic commerce offers large opportunities to micro-enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Governments, in close coordination with the private sector and civil society, must create an adequate environment and provide financial support to the development of SMEs through electronic commerce. SMEs have a huge, and still unexplored, potential of job creation, especially in developing countries.	
40B		**Mexico:** *Mexico considers that the following text could be inserted as paragraph 40B:* "Commercial activities", including the following: "To promote economic and social benefits, special attention should be paid to all commercial activities conducted through the electronic media. Consumers and suppliers will share joint responsibilities in building a trustworthy commercial environment."	

41.	41. **Policy-making and national strategies**: Strengthening the policy-making capacity in the area of ICTs to enhance national and regional ICT policy-making processes and institutions is of utmost importance. ICTs will advance development if related efforts and programmes are integrated in national development strategies.	**Canada:** "…ICTs will advance development if related efforts and programmes are integrated in national development strategies in consultation with stakeholder groups" **European Union:** "~~Strengthening the policy-making capacity in the area of ICTs to enhance national and regional ICT policy-making processes and institutions is of utmost importance. ICTs will~~ The Information Society can best advance economic and social development when ICT related efforts and programmes are fully integrated in national and regional development strategies." **Mexico:** "Strengthening the policy-making capacity in the area of ICTs to establish national and regional policy-making processes and institutions is of utmost importance. ICTs will advance development if related efforts and programmes are integrated in national development strategies." **Romania-IPU:** "…institutions, including parliaments, is of utmost importance…" **Tunisia:** *Change heading to* "National strategic for decision-making".	
41A		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 41A:* "**Poverty reduction:** In order to give poor people the possibility of benefiting from the advantages of the Information Society, governments need to ensure that they create general and ICT-specific environments that respond to the needs of people in poverty and empower them in overcoming it."	
41B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 41B:* "**Social cohesion:** Governments need to look for ways of overcoming the obstacles that prevent people from effectively claiming their rights and for improving the quality of life of vulnerable people such as the elderly, the chronically ill, people with disabilities and all who are at risk of social marginalization. Governments need to recognize that new technologies can also create new obstacles and new forms of exclusion, especially for the deaf, the hearing impaired and the blind. Within a broad effort to make public services more accessible, transparent and effective, governments need to seek ways of interlinking social and other public services and of improving user participation in their reshaping."	

41C		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 41C:* **Economic growth:** ICTs are an important enabler of growth through efficiency gains and increased productivity. The development of the Information Society is therefore important for broadly-based economic growth in both developed and developing countries. Global policy frameworks should foster ICT-driven productivity gains and applied innovations across economic sectors. Distribution of the benefits is the foundation for poverty reduction and social development. Policies that foster productive investment and enable firms to make the changes needed to seize the benefits from ICTs are likely to be the most beneficial.	
41D		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 41B:* "**International trade:** Liberalization of trade in ICT and related services, together with domestic regulatory reform, promotes investment and innovation and makes technology more readily available for use in the economy by governments, organizations, and individual users. All countries should join the international trade policy mechanisms developed to implement and facilitate liberalization and regulatory reform as ICT is both an important component of trade and a means by which trade in other goods and services can be expanded or facilitated. Improving the preconditions for successful entry into international trade fosters e-business and economic growth both internationally and domestically. Consequently, governments should promote an open trade regime in the ICT sector and strive towards improving market access. ICTs play a key role in trade facilitation, with automation, e-customs and e-government tools reducing the costs and time associated with moving goods across borders, and enhancing the efficiency and integrity of customs operations."	

42.	42. **Standardization**: Standardization is one of the essential building blocks of the Information Society. International policy dialogue at global, regional and sub-regional levels should promote the identification and application of interoperable standards, the transfer of know-how and the provision of technical assistance. The development and use of open standards are particularly important for developing countries. In this regard the increased use of open-source software can contribute greatly to increasing access and to adding to the diversity of choice of software for consumers.	**European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Mexico:** "Standardization is an essential building block of the Information Society. International policy dialogue at global, regional and sub-regional levels should promote the identification and application of interoperable standards, in accordance with the technological reality of each country, the transfer of know-how and the provision of technical assistance. [The development and use of open standards are particularly important for developing countries. In this regard the increased use of open-source software can contribute greatly to increasing access and to adding to the diversity of choice of software for consumers]." **Russian Federation:** "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" **Switzerland:** "…The development and use of open standards are particularly important for developing countries. ~~In this regard the increased use of open-source software can contribute greatly to increasing access and to adding to the diversity of choice of software for consumers.~~"	
		Argentina [42A] *The State should promote this approach together with technological neutrality: it should refrain from imposing any particular technological platform, but monitor the conditions of connectivity, compatibility and interoperability.* *Given the magnitude of the costs and risks of innovation, companies should cooperate to share the costs of creating and marketing innovative products and services and to reduce uncertainty.*	
43.	43. **Spectrum management**: The radio-frequency spectrum must be managed in the public and general interest and in accordance with the basic principle of legality, with full observance of national laws and regulation and international agreements governing the management of frequencies.	**Canada**: "The radio-frequency spectrum ~~must~~should be managed…" **European Union:** *This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan* **Japan:** *The word "regulation" should be in the plural form, i.e. "regulations".*	

		Mexico: "The radio-frequency spectrum must be managed in the public and general interest and in accordance with the basic principle of legality, with full observance of national laws and regulations and of international agreements governing the management of frequencies.	
44.	44. **Management of Internet names and addresses:** Internet governance must be multilateral, democratic and transparent, taking into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society, and respecting multilingualism. The coordination responsibility for root servers, domain names, and Internet Protocol (IP) address assignment should rest with a suitable international, inter-governmental organization. The policy authority for country code top-level-domain names (ccTLDs) should be the sovereign right of countries.	**Australia:** "Internet governance must be multilateral, democratic and transparent, taking into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society, and respecting multilingualism. The coordination responsibility _at the global level_ for root servers, domain names and Internet Protocol (IP) address assignment should rest with _a suitable international organization which represents and is accountable to all stakeholders, and which has clear mechanisms for governmental input on issues of public policy. While_ the policy authority for country code top level domain names (ccTLDs) should be the sovereign right of countries, there should be appropriate co-ordination in an international forum on common ccTLD issues so as to ensure the stability of the domain name system."

Australia supports the concept that "The policy authority for country code top-level-domain names (ccTLDs) should be the sovereign right of countries", however also recognizes the need for a broad, international, cooperative approach to ensure ccTLDs remain a stable and secure element of the DNS.

Canada: Internet governance ~~must~~ should be multilateral, ~~democratic~~ and transparent, taking into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society, and respecting multilingualism. ~~The coordination responsibility for root servers, domain names, and Internet Protocol (IP) address assignment should rest with a suitable international, inter-governmental organization. The policy authority for country code top-level-domain names (ccTLDs) should be the sovereign right of countries.~~

Cuba: "Internet governance must be multilateral, _intergovernmental,_ democratic and transparent…"

European Union: _This paragraph should be moved to the Action Plan and replaced by:_ "The international management of the Internet should be democratic, multilateral and transparent. It should secure a fair distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet. It | |

should respect geographical diversity and ensure representativeness through the participation of all interested States[1], of civil society and the private sector, with due respect to their legitimate interests.

Iran (Islamic Republic of)*: Add new sentence:* "Internet naming and addressing is public issues".

Japan: Internet governance must be multilateral, democratic and transparent, supporting private sector-led industry self-regulation, taking into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society, and respecting multilingualism. The coordination responsibility for root servers, domain names, and Internet Protocol (IP) address assignment should rest with a suitable international, intergovernmental organization. The policy authority for country code top-level-domain names (ccTLDs) should be the sovereign right of countries.

Mexico: "Internet governance must be multilateral, democratic and transparent, taking into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society, and respecting multilingualism."

Tunisia: "Management of Internet domain names and addresses:"

Australia: *Add paragraph [44A]* **Consumer protection.** A vital aspect of securing consumer confidence in electronic commerce is to ensure that consumer transactions occur within a sound legal framework. To this end, consumers using electronic commerce should be provided with protection that is at least equivalent to that provided to consumers using other forms of commerce.

Australia: *Add paragraph [44B]*: **Spam (Unsolicited e-mail)**

"Spam is a significant and growing problem – not just for individuals but for networks and the Internet as a whole. Spam refers to an electronic mail message that is transmitted to a large number of recipients and most or all of the recipients have not requested those messages.

Spam raises key issues that need to be addressed and these include privacy, illicit content, misleading and deceptive trade practices and network issues.

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1   Including public authorities with competence in this field

		• Privacy: issues surrounding the manner with which personal information such as email addresses is collected and handled - address collectors harvest email addresses off the Internet or even buy and sell them in bulk without the consent of the owner. • Illicit content: most promotes scams, pornography, illegal online gambling services, medical cures, get rich quick schemes or misleading and deceptive trade practices. • Network issues: The cost of spam is born by the recipient in the form of higher cost Internet subscriptions due to larger downloads. The increased volume of e-mail can significantly slow Internet speeds and could threaten the viability of the entire network. In addition, there is some evidence that spam is being used deliberately in Denial of Service (DoS) attacks.	
		Brazil: *Add [44C]* The international telecommunication union, as a specialized agency of the United Nations System, shall play a leading role in the emergent information society and in the regulation of the global information and communications infrastructure.	
		Brazil: *Add [44D]* Internet has evolved into a global public good and its governance should constitute a core issue of the information society agenda. Developing countries should have full access to and take part in all decision-making bodies and processes concerning the structure and functioning of the cyberspace, within which public, private and non-governmental agents will increasingly conduct their social and economic activities.	

45.	45. Access to information and communication technologies shall be secured in accordance with international law, bearing in mind that some countries are affected by unilateral measures which are not compatible with it and which create obstacles for international trade[1].	**Canada:** *Delete whole paragraph* **Mexico:** "Access to information and communication technologies shall be secured in accordance with international law, bearing in mind that some countries are affected by unilateral measures which are not compatible with it and which create obstacles for international trade[1]."	
7)	**7) ICT-Applications**		
46.	46. The usage and deployment of ICTs create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education and business.	**Canada:** "The usage and deployment of ICTs create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including work, government, health…" **Ethiopia:** "*Promote development-oriented applications in education, health, governance, trade and commerce, and public administration and service delivery*" **European Union:** "The usage and deployment of ICTs should seek to create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education and business, employment, management of natural resources, business and culture. ICTs should also contribute to sustainable consumption and production patterns, through improved efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes." *Add:* "The usage and deployment of ICTs create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education and business. Governments should enact suitable laws to facilitate E-Commerce within the respective country and across the borders".	

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[1] Reservations that have been made to this paragraph:
Statement of the United States: "The United States of America reserves on this paragraph and submits its objection to the language, which is inappropriate and is inconsistent with the purpose of the Conference".
Statement of Canada: "Canada appreciates the efforts of the Host Government and other Governments to achieve a consensus text for this paragraph. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, Canada cannot associate itself with the final text of that paragraph".

		Mexico: "The usage and deployment of ICTs create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education and business. **Switzerland:** "The usage and deployment of ICTs creates benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education, environment and business. ICTs must serve sustainable development, improve resource efficiency and reduce negative environmental impacts." **Tanzania:** The usage and deployment of ICTs create benefits in all aspects of our daily life including government, health care, education, crop and animal production, and business **USA***: The information society is dependent upon the ubiquitous deployment of ICT networks and access to the variety of applications that can enhance all aspects of our daily lives. The WSIS should highlight the promise that applications such as e-government, e-health, e-commerce, and e-learning hold, while also recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to the myriad of development challenges facing each country. ICTs offer tremendous potential to advance education through distance learning programs, teacher training, and access for teachers and students alike to the vast pools of information and knowledge. ICTs provide businesses and entrepreneurs access to new national, regional and global markets and also create opportunities for training in modern business skills. E-government offers new possibilities for re-defining the relationship between government and the citizenry it serves.*	
46A		**European Union:** *Add new paragraph 46 A:* "Applications and content should be user friendly, accessible to all, affordable, suited to local needs and culture and support socio-economic development of the local community."	
47.	47. **Appropriate applications**: Cooperation and collaboration are enhanced through the development of applications and content suited to local needs that encourage social and economic development, with particular emphasis on serving rural and remote areas, through supporting projects ensuring the sharing of information.	**European Union:** *This paragraph should be deleted* **Mexico:** "Cooperation and collaboration are enhanced through the development of applications and content suited to local needs that encourage social and economic development, with particular emphasis on serving rural and remote areas, through supporting projects ensuring the sharing of information, within the framework of the domestic legal provisions of each country."	

47A		**Brazil:** *Add [47A]* <u>ICT mainstreaming into public policies and digital inclusion programmes may be a window of opportunity in the promotion of development leapfrogging for countries of the South. Such are the magnitude of international expectations. Progress, however, must be benchmarked and measured against concrete economic and social goals in such areas as education, health, employment, job training, poverty reduction, citizenship, government transparency and efficiency and the creation of stronger and fairer democratic societies. ICT density indicators are not as efficient or as meaningful in measuring a country's progress towards the information society.</u>	
47B		**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 47B:* **E-Government:** <u>Government use of ICT can act as a catalyst for improving government services. ICTs can serve to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government processes, the delivery of services, and the connection to citizens. Therefore government should have a clearly defined strategy for developing and implementing e-government.</u>	
	8) Cultural identity and linguistic diversity, local content and media development		
48.	48. The Information Society is founded on respect for, and enjoyment of, cultural expression. ICTs should stimulate cultural diversity and multilingualism and governments should develop active policies to that end.	**Canada:** "The Information Society is founded on respect for, and enjoyment of, cultural expression. ICT should <u>be used to</u> **stimulate**…" **Ethiopia:** *Multilingualism and the development of the local script present challenges with respect to country full participation in the information society, especially in terms of development and promotion of local content.* **Mexico:** "The Information Society is founded on respect for, and enjoyment of, cultural expression. ICTs should stimulate cultural diversity and multilingualism as an activity supplementary to their main aims, and where appropriate governments should develop or strengthen policies to that end."	

		Nepal: 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.	
		Switzerland: "The Information Society is founded on respect for, and enjoyment of, cultural expression. The possibility of having one's voice heard and hearing the voices of others guarantees peaceful co-existence and at the same time constitutes an inexhaustible resource for social development. ICTs should stimulate cultural diversity and multilingualism and governments should develop active policies to that end."	
		Tunisia: *Change* "... and enjoyment of ..." *to* "... and possibilities to enjoy ...".	
		USA: *Cultural diversity requires the free flow of information and content in cultures and languages of individuals' choosing. It is important for governments to sustain an environment that does not deny individuals free choice of contemporary cultural products or language. Attempts to restrict or legislate against specific cultures or languages would create an artificial barrier against cultural growth and cultural pluralism. The broad dissemination of content from all cultures and languages must be preserved. Governments that choose to support the development of local content in local languages for dissemination through ICTs should recognize the importance that intellectual property rights play in such development, and should ensure that their citizens can benefit from an effective intellectual property regime.*	
49.	49. **Cultural and linguistic diversity**: Cultural identity, linguistic diversity, multilingualism and local languages are driving forces for the process of developing content for local and international use (UNESCO, Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2001).	Canada: Cultural ~~identity,~~and linguistic diversity, ~~multilingualism and local languages are driving forces~~ should be reflected in the ~~for the process of developing~~ content developed for both local and international use.	
		European Union: "Cultural ~~identity~~and linguistic diversity, multilingualism and local languages are driving forces for the process of developing content for local and international use (UNESCO, Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2001)."	
		Israel: *Add:* "Therefore, and taking into consideration the following Article 50, we believe that the creation of local content must be accorded high priority, as a basic condition to prevent future conflict."	

	Switzerland: "Cultural identity, linguistic diversity, multilingualism and local languages are driving forces for the process of developing content for local and international use (UNESCO, Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2001). In terms of this cultural diversity, there is not just one but several information societies; at the local, national, regional and global level. These different information societies exist in parallel, overlap and communicate with each other."	
	Tunisia: *In dealing with cultural and linguistic diversity emphasis should be placed on the close relationship between culture and development, on the one hand, and between the media of communication and culture and the cultural-developmental roles of communication media, on the other. Communication media play a fundamental role in passing the cultural heritage to successive generations and contribute to cultural interaction within a country. They also play an effective role in the preservation of national identity, promotion of intellectual activity and the maintenance and further development of the national language as well as the creation of opportunities for intercultural cross-fertilization and constructive dialogue.*	
49A	**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 49A:* "**Content:** Creativity and the creation, processing, dissemination and conservation of local content within the information society must be accorded high priority. A diverse and widely disseminated range of cultural, educational and other products and information services can stimulate creativity and deepen access to the benefits of the information society."	
49B	**Switzerland:** *Add new paragraph 49B* "**Cultural heritage:** Cultural heritage is the bridge between our past and our future. The preservation of cultural heritage is a crucial component of identity and self-understanding that links a community to its past. The information society should harness and integrate cultural heritage for the future by digitalization of the cultural inventories in archives and libraries. The shared heritage includes the public domain of cultural information, especially of writings, speech, images and music."	

| 50. | 50. **Content:** The creation of local content must be accorded high priority. Creativity and the creation, processing, dissemination and conservation of local content can best be stimulated through an adequate balance between intellectual property rights and the needs of the users of information. | **European Union**: "~~The creation of local content must be accorded high priority.~~ Creativity and the creation, processing, dissemination and conservation of local content can best be stimulated through an adequate balance between intellectual property rights and ~~the needs of the users of information~~ public interest."

Mexico: "The creation of local content must be accorded high priority. Creativity and the creation, processing, dissemination and conservation of local content must be extensively promoted in accordance with the legal provisions applicable in each country.

Tunisia: *In discussion content (page 6, paragraph 50) emphasis should be placed on scientific research in general and research in ICT in particular, covering both technical and human aspects, in order to build local knowledge leading to the development of content.* | |
| 51. | 51. **Media**: ICTs strengthen the role of traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in disseminating content in the Information Society. | **Cuba:** *Add* "<u>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.</u>"

European Union: "~~ICTs strengthen the role of~~ Traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in <u>providing content and</u> disseminating ~~content~~<u>information to</u> ~~in~~ the Information Society."

India: "**Media:** ICTs strengthen the role of traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in disseminating content in the Information Society.<u> Governments should safeguard against the concentration of control over media by only a few entities in this process</u>." | |

Israel: *Add at the end of the paragraph:* "Digital broadcasting, with its interactive enhancements, will be an essential tool for making the services of the information society widely available, thus contributing to bridging the digital divide. Transition to digital therefore needs to be actively promoted."

Mexico:

Media: ICTs strengthen the role of traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in disseminating content in the Information Society.

Mexico-Observers: *Mexico considers that the first part of this proposal is already contained in Section I, Point 51. It is suggested that the text placed between square brackets should be included in Section I, Point 51.*

"ICTs can strengthen traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in disseminating content in the Information Society. [Digital broadcasting, with its interactive enhancements, will be an essential tool for making the services of the information society widely available, thus contributing to bridging the digital divide. Transition to digital therefore needs to be actively promoted.]"

Switzerland: *Replace existing paragraph by:*

"**Media:**

- ICTs strengthen the role of traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which have a fundamental role in the Information Society.

- The freedom of expression and information, as enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is a keystone of our commitments.

- New electronic media and traditional media, including community media, should be developed, protected and respected on an equal footing.

- Public service broadcasting, in view of its cultural, social and democratic functions which it discharges for the common good, has a vital significance for ensuring democracy, pluralism, social cohesion, cultural and linguistic diversity.

		- The plurality of opinion should not be hindered by media concentration. Specific legislation should limit the concentration of ownership in the media and guarantee the diversity among the media (private, public and community) and the types of media. - The self-regulation of the journalists plays an important role in order to insure their independence. - Workers in the information society enjoy conditions of work that are in line with international labour standards, including recognition of rights to freedom of association, equality of opportunity and decent standards of work. - Authors have a right to protection of the moral and material interests of their works, according to Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. - Media should commit themselves to act in solidarity to improve the professional training and skills of their profession, the independence of the journalists and the pluralism.	
	9) Ethical dimensions of the Information Society		
52.	52. Cyberspace must be subject to universally held ethical values such as truth, justice, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, shared responsibility and accountability. All actors in the Information Society must seek to promote the common good and to prevent abusive uses of ICTs.	**Canada:** "Cyberspace ~~must~~ should be subject to universally held ethical values such as truth, justice, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, shared responsibility and accountability. All actors in the Information Society ~~must~~should seek to promote the common good, ~~ensure a right to privacy~~protect privacy and prevent abusive uses of ICTs." *Reference could be made to the ethical dimension in paragraph 10* **European Union:** "The Information Society~~Cyberspace~~ must be subject to universally held ethical values such as truth, justice, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, shared responsibility, transparency and accountability. All actors in the Information Society must seek to promote the common good and to prevent abusive uses of ICTs. The freedom of the use of ICTs should not undermine the human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of others." **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** "Cyberspace must be subject to universally held cultural and ethical values such as, truth, justice, solidarity…" **Israel**: *Ethical dimensions of the Information Society should be given a higher priority in the general context of the WSIS. Hence the above-mentioned Article will be placed as new Article 9.*	

Add at the end of this paragraph "Information is not knowledge. In order to make valuable information into knowledge, we are obliged to promote a process by which value-adding information will become a part of the public domain. This will be done by anchoring international known standards, of content, of safety and of security (such as provided by PKI technologies) in the World Wide Web."

Mexico: "Cyberspace must be subject to universally held ethical values such as truth, justice, solidarity, tolerance, human dignity, shared responsibility and accountability. All actors in the Information Society must seek to promote the common good and to prevent abusive uses of ICTs. These values are particularly relevant when commercial activities are conducted through networks.

USA: *The United States supports the right of everyone to freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers, as set forth in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). We acknowledge that the exercise of this right carries certain duties and responsibilities and that it may be subject to certain restrictions, as provided by law in accordance with Article 19 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).   As we noted in the declaration that we made when the United States ratified the ICCPR, we believe that States Parties to the ICCPR should, wherever possible, refrain from imposing restrictions on the rights protected by the Covenant, including in particular the restrictions provided for in Art. 19(3) of the ICCPR.*

Tunisia: *In addition to the points raised under ethical dimensions of the information society (paragraph 52) an emphasis should be placed on the formulation of legislation and policies and the definition of ethical and moral orientations required for the development of human life in a sound society. In this context effort should be made to resolve some issues, particularly:*

– *ensuring equitable distribution and provision of information and content;*

– *balance between privacy and the security of the societ*y.

		Bangladesh *Added paragraph:* [52A] Protecting countries from bad affects of misuse of ICT**:** "Policies regarding use of ICT must respect the laws, interest and readiness of other members and no entity should be allowed to reach into any contract with an illegal entity or with a legal entity on a matter for which it is not allowed."	
		Iran (Islamic Republic of): *Added paragraph [52 B]***:** "Based on Article 34 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the child, and referring to the Declaration of the UNESCO expert's meeting on the sexual abuse of children held in Paris, 18-19 January 1999:	
		As Internet use grows, so do the risks of children being exposed to inappropriate material, in particular, criminal activity by paedophiles and child pornographers. While the benefits of the Internet far outweigh its potential drawbacks, these dangers cannot be ignored. If left unanswered they pose a threat to children and will become the object of resistance to future Internet use.	
		The fight against paedophilia and pornography on the Internet requires a coalition of forces, involving children, industry, policy-makers, educator and parents to ensure that users are aware of potential dangers and have available to them the necessary means to combat these threats.	
52A		**Mexico-observers:** *It is considered that this proposal is already partially covered by Section I, point 52. However, it could be added as point [52A].* "An inclusive and sustainable society can only develop when knowledge is clearly considered a common good and when the principle of access to and the free flow of information can come to reality."	
52B		**Mexico-observers:** *This is considered acceptable and could be included as [52B] in Section I* "Given the heterogeneity of the interests of the different parties involved in the development of the Information Society and given the cultural background and underlying values, it is almost unavoidable that conflicts, even clashes will permanently occur. Information societies will have to live with it. These conflicts should not be solved on the basis of political power or economic dominance but solutions to these conflicts need to rely and should be based on an ethical-based	

		discourse. Any ethical discourse must respect heterogeneous interests and cultures and must build reliable partnership between governments, private sector and civil society."	
52C		**Mexico-observers***: This is considered acceptable and would be included as point [52C] in Section I.* "Uses of health and medical information, which can preserve as well as take away life, require application of the highest ethical standards."	
52D		**Mexico-observers:** *This is considered acceptable and could be included as point [52D] in Section I.* "Ethical dimensions of ICTs include the need to guarantee the respect of personal privacy and of human dignity, particularly in the context of growing invasive information technologies, surveillance systems and "information awareness"."	
	10) International and regional cooperation		
53.	53. The Information Society is intrinsically global in nature. Thus, a policy dialogue based on global trends in the Information Society must take place at global, regional and sub-regional levels in order to facilitate:	**European Union:** "The Information Society is intrinsically global in nature. Thus, international cooperation and policy dialogue based on global trends in the Information Society must take place should be promoted at global, regional and sub-regional levels in order to facilitate:" **Mexico:** "The Information Society is intrinsically global in nature. Thus, a policy dialogue based on global trends in the Information Society must take place at global, regional and sub-regional levels, in accordance with domestic legal provisions, in order to facilitate: - technical assistance aimed at national and regional capacity-building; - technology transfer; - the sharing of experiences; the sharing of knowledge, and - the development of compatible regulations and standards that respect national characteristics and concerns.]"	

		Nepal: *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 document passed by the UN Conference on UU Special Session on Children, Special Session on Social Development etc. can be taken as basic reference.* **USA:** *Regional and international organizations have proven to be extremely effective in facilitating policy formulation, infrastructure development and capacity building - all toward the aim of building a knowledge-based economy. The WSIS should recognize, and not call for duplication, of the extensive body of work already underway in the global and regional bodies. A global consensus has emerged with respect to the need to create digital opportunities that allow all of the world's citizens to fully realize the benefits that ICTs afford.*	
	- The provision of technical assistance aimed at national and regional capacity-building for the maintenance and reinforcement of regional and international cooperation;	**Cuba:** "The provision of technical and financial assistance…" **Iran (Islamic Republic of):** - The provision of technical assistance, without any discrimination, aimed to national and regional capacity-building for the maintenance and reinforcement of regional and international cooperation;	
	- Technology transfer;		
	- The sharing of experiences;		
	- The sharing of knowledge; and		
	- The development of compatible regulations and standards that respect national characteristics and concerns.	**European Union:** "The development of compatible regulations and standards that respect national characteristics and concerns, including spectrum management."	
53A		**Brazil:** *Add [53A]* The private sector and many NGOs seem to be more familiar with the issue of ICTs and have a better grasp of the extent to which this new world of networking and technological convergence will impact on political and economic international relations. developing countries' governments are the ones most in need of enhancing their knowledge and understanding about advances in	

		the digital <u>revolution and their implications for public policies, risks and opportunities for development, and possible new solutions to such challenges as social inclusion and poverty reduction.</u>	
53B		**Brazil:** *Add [53B]* <u>Innovative cooperation mechanisms, better suited to the north-south and south-south transfer of applied ICTs are urgently needed. Traditional schemes of cooperation are not always adequate for financing digital opportunity projects and programmes. Traditional cooperation, in some instances, may actually lead to reverse forms of technology transfers, by way of a south-north brain drain and the commercial development and application in the north of basic science produced at high costs in developing countries.</u>	
53C		**European Union:** *Add new paragraph:* "<u>We commit ourselves to strengthen cooperation to seek common responses to the challenges of the Information Society and to the implementation of the Plan of Action which will realize the vision and the key principles incorporated in this Declaration.</u>"	
	[1] Reservations that have been made to this paragraph: Statement of the United States: "The United States of America reserves on this paragraph and submits its objection to the language, which is inappropriate and is inconsistent with the purpose of the Conference." Statement of Canada: "Canada appreciates the efforts of the Host Government and other Governments to achieve a consensus text for this paragraph. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, Canada cannot associate itself with the final text of that paragraph."		