



Note by the Secretary-General

Letter from President of the General Assembly on the co-facilitators letter on the Zero Draft of the modalities for the overall review

Purpose

This document presents the letter from President of the General Assembly on the co-facilitators letter, which includes the Zero Draft of the modalities for the overall review.

Action required

This report is transmitted to the Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs **for information.**

References

[CWG-WSIS&SDG website](#); [Geneva Declaration of Principles](#); [Geneva Plan of Action](#); [WSIS website](#); [UNGA website](#)

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7 February 2025

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter dated 4 February 2025 from H.E. Mr. Erastus 'Lokaale, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya and Mr. Rytis Paulauskas, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania in their capacity as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

The co-facilitators hereby present a timeline of the intergovernmental consultations of the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

The co-facilitators also circulate the Zero Draft of the modalities to be presented on Friday, 14 February 2025, 10 a.m., in ECOSOC Chamber.

I encourage all Member States to actively engage in these upcoming meetings.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philemon Yang'.

Philemon Yang

All Permanent Missions and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Excellency,

We are grateful to the President of the General Assembly for appointing us as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

In paragraph 62 of resolution 79/194, the General Assembly “decide[d] to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, in accordance with paragraph 71 of General Assembly` resolution 70/125, as early as possible, but no later than the end of March 2025”.

We are guided by resolution 79/194 and present to you in this letter a timeline that would allow us to deliver these modalities to the President of the General Assembly in time for adoption by the end of March. Attached to this letter you will find the zero draft of the modalities, which we will present to you in keeping with the roadmap below.

The following roadmap will guide the modalities process in the coming months:

Date	Location	Event
14 February 2025, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m	ECO	Presentation of the zero draft
26 February 2025, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m	CR-4	First reading
6 March 2025, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m	CR-1	Second reading
13 March 2025, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m	CR-1	Third and final reading
Weeks of 17 and 24 March		Submission to PGA, issuance of the draft resolution and consideration in the plenary

Please accept Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

New York, 4th February, 2024

Erastus Lokaale
Permanent Representative of
Kenya to the United Nations

Rytis Paulauskas
Permanent Representative of
Lithuania to the United Nations

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

Modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society: zero draft

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,¹ and endorsed by the General Assembly,² and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,³ and endorsed by the Assembly,⁴

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society⁵, held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2015, in which the General Assembly was requested to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2025, and in this regard reaffirming the centrality of the General Assembly to this process

Recognizing that the overall review will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Tunis Agenda,

Recalling its resolution 79/194 of 20 December 2024 and, in particular, paragraph 62 thereof in which it decided to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in 2025 in accordance with paragraph 71 of General Assembly resolution 70/125,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate concerning science and technology for development, and the work carried out by the Commission to that effect,

Reaffirming that science, innovation and technology, including information and communications technologies, are essential enablers and drivers for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the promotion of the economic, social and environmental components of sustainable development and should be given due consideration in the elaboration of the post-2030 development agenda,

Noting that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should submit after its twenty-eighth session, by June 2025, its report on the 20-year review of progress

¹ See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

² See resolution 59/220.

³ See A/60/687.

⁴ See resolution 60/252.

⁵ See resolution 70/125.

Modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society: zero draft

made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly,

Noting the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, and looking forward to the “WSIS+20 Forum High-level Event”, to be held in Geneva in 2025,

1. *Decides* that the overall review will be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to be preceded by an intergovernmental preparatory process that also takes into account inputs from all relevant stakeholders of the World Summit on the Information Society;
2. *Also decides* to convene the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at the highest possible level, on 16-17 December 2025, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;
3. *Further decides* that the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, will invite, in addition to all Member and observer States and observers, representatives of all relevant stakeholders of the World Summit on the Information Society to speak during the high-level meeting, and in this regard also encourages the participation of those stakeholders in the meeting;
4. *Decides* that the overall review by the General Assembly shall take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and address potential information and communications technology gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as addressing challenges, including bridging the digital divide, and harnessing information and communications technologies for development;
5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in May 2025, to appoint two co-facilitators to lead, on the basis of, among other relevant inputs, submissions from Member and observer States and observers, and the final report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, an intergovernmental negotiation process, which will include preparatory meetings, resulting in an intergovernmentally agreed outcome document, for adoption at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;
6. *Decides* that during the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, the President of the General Assembly will organize informal interactive consultations with all relevant stakeholders of the World Summit on the Information Society, in order to collect their inputs for the intergovernmental negotiation process.