

**Consultation on facilitation of WSIS Action Line C2  
on  
Information and Communication Infrastructure**

**Summary Report**

1. A consultation meeting on facilitation of WSIS Action Line C2 took place in Doha (Qatar) on 9 March 2006 from 14h00 to 17h00. The meeting was open to all stakeholders and was attended by more than 60 participants. It took place on the occasion of the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference.
2. The meeting was convened by the ITU and chaired by Mr. Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary General of the Union. He opened the meeting by noting that ITU had been designated by the Summit as the moderator/facilitator of Action Line C2 on Infrastructure. He then recalled the objectives of this first consultation meeting: to bring about a first exchange of views on the facilitation modalities of action line C2 of the WSIS Plan of Action.
3. Mr. Levin of the ITU made a brief presentation on the background of WSIS and on the international multi-stakeholder process as set forth in the WSIS outcome documents, in particular by the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society. He reported additionally on the Action Line Facilitators Meeting that took place on 24 February in Geneva. The summary report of that meeting is available on line at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/consultation24feb.html>

**Terms of Reference**

4. Participants raised the following points in relation to the draft terms of reference for action line facilitator/moderator that had been discussed during the 24<sup>th</sup> February meeting:
  - a. The need for further clarity as to the objectives of the facilitation process.
  - b. Given resources limitations, there is a need to find the appropriate modalities for the involvement of different types of stakeholders in the Action Line to ensure that the process is of a truly multi-stakeholder nature.
  - c. Sharing of information and best practices should be a priority for action line facilitators.
  - d. There is a need to establish some linkage to related Action Lines, such as C6 on the enabling environment.

It was noted that APC (Association for Progressive Communications) has expressed interest to be a co-facilitator of Action Line C2 and that the list of possible facilitators/moderators will remain open. The addresses of all Action Line focal points should be posted on-line.

**Work Modalities**

5. Concerning work modalities for Action line C2, the Chairman raised the following issues:
  - a. How to adapt the general WSIS Stocktaking database?
  - b. What kinds of facilitation activities are needed?

- c. Is there a need for sub-groups of activities?
6. In the ensuing discussion, participants stressed the following points :
- a. A wide range of stakeholders need to be involved in C2 implementation, since it is not only technical work. The participation of financing institutions and the user community in the development field is essential. Efforts should be made to involve a financing institution as a co-facilitator.
  - b. The action line facilitation process at the international level should be linked to regional and national actions.
  - c. Meetings of the different action lines should take place at the same time in order so allow better participation by different stakeholder groups.
  - d. In order to include as many stakeholders as possible in the process, a written consultation about the work of Action Line C2 could be launched. The report of those consultations could be presented during the week of 17<sup>th</sup> of May in Geneva.
  - e. Extensive use of online work and tools will be important to involve more stakeholders. The different online tools should be interoperable and accessible to all.
  - f. Sub-groupings may be useful at some point, but are premature at this time.

### **Stocktaking and On-line Tools**

7. The general WSIS stocktaking should be fine-tuned and adapted to provide the following capabilities:

- a. Monitoring or evaluation component of projects so as to be able to measure results and not just intentions and to identify effective partners and projects.
- b. Record both projects that work and those that fail.
- c. Searchable in many categories, to be more useable as a tool and to avoid duplication.
- d. A tool to consolidate and promote partnerships.

8. The representatives of CISCO, Afrinic and France presented their respective projects. The ITU presented the WSIS Golden Book and the general WSIS stocktaking.

9. The Chairman concluded by stating that a report of the meeting will be made available on the WSIS web site for comment. ITU will soon make further and more specific proposals for the activities of the Action Line.