The Objectives of the Summit include:

- To ESTABLISH a common vision for the Information Society
- To UTILIZE Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to overcome poverty and achieve other Millennium Development Goals
- To WORK towards bridging the digital divide
- To CREATE partnerships and funding mechanisms for universal and affordable access to ICTs
- To CONSIDER the need for new legal and policy frameworks for cyberspace
- To CREATE coordination mechanisms for improved security in cyberspace
- To PROMOTE cultural and linguistic diversity in the Information Society
- To UPHOLD freedom of expression and the right to communicate

Kofi Annan
United Nations Secretary-General

Information technology is not a magic formula or panacea. But it is a powerful force that can and must be harnessed to our global mission of peace and development. I look forward to working closely with you to make the World Summit, and our wider efforts, a resounding success.

For further information on WSIS, please contact:
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ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, Res. 78. ITU SG to place WSIS on the agenda of the UN Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC)

UN General Assembly, Resolution 56/183, Summit convened under the patronage of the SG of the UN, with ITU taking the lead role in its preparation

ITU Council, Positive reaction of ACC

High-Level Summit Organizing Committee (HLSOC) established

WSIS PrepCom-1 (Geneva)

WSIS PrepCom-2 (Geneva)

WSIS PrepCom-3 (Geneva)

Asian Regional Conference (Tokyo)

Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Conference (Baku)

Pan European Regional Conference (Bucharest)

African Regional Conference (Bamako)

Western Asia Preparatory Conference (Beirut)

World Summit on the Information Society

Geneva Phase

10-12 December 2003

OPENING CEREMONY

PLENARY SESSIONS

HIGH LEVEL ROUNDTABLES

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP SESSION

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

PLAN OF ACTION

CLOSING CEREMONY

SIDE EVENTS INCLUDING

• ITU – Helping the World Communicate
• ICT4D – A Development Showcase
• World Electronic Media Forum
• UNESCO High Level Symposium
• Gender and ICT Presentation
• The Role of Science in the Information Society
• SchoolNet
• Virtual WSIS
• ICT and the Practice of Democracy (ICT-PD)
• Youth Caucus
• Mobile Contents Award
• World Forum on Communication Rights
• InfoDev – a World Bank initiative
• ICTs for Environmental Democracy

KEY PLAYERS/STAKEHOLDERS

Governments
Business entities
Civil Society
UN Family
International Organizations
Media