



Synthesis and Recommendations
WG on Information Society

DRAFT

INPUT PREPCOM II

World Civil Society Forum

Geneva, 2002



Consensus elected working group

- Chair: Rosa Delgado (ISOC – Geneva Chapter)
 - Co chair: Thomas Ruddy (EMPA)
- Members:
 - Hendrik Bussiek - Global TV initiative
 - Eiji Hayashi – Pacific Telecommunications Union
 - Jose Aguilar – The North South Institute
 - Jonathan Robin – IPv6 Task Force, ISOC ECC
 - Michel Loots – World Information Transfer
 - Bianca Miglioretto – AMARC
 - Jeroen Van Hove – Mandat International



1. Civil Society Fundamentals

- Freedom of and access to information and communication is a fundamental human right (UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights)



2. CS Representation

- Governments, international organizations and CS should ensure equitable representation at the World Summit on the Information Society of women, youth, the elderly, the disabled, and indigenous peoples.
- Geographical representation must be ensured



3. CS Participation

- Full participation of Civil Society at all levels should be ensured within the WSIS process.
- Use communication technologies to allow distance participation, when necessary (e.g. web conferencing, tele conferencing, web casting, etc)

4. Co-operation



- Encourage synergies, co-operation, networking and cross sectorial connections among all actors on an equal basis (*e.g. education, health and environment*).
- Increase local and regional co-operation among key actors.

5. Broadcasting



- Make sure that broadcasting is on the WSIS agenda
- Support the development of the third broadcasting sector (community radio and TV)
- Support media initiatives which creates space and services for global dialogue and information dissemination to bridge gaps between continents and cultures
- Grow awareness among all stakeholders on the impact of MPeg 21 and other new standards on broadcasting environments



6. Access to knowledge

- Focus on capacity building. e.g. access to computers should be facilitated as a tool to achieve this goal
- Focus on education; the ability to think and be creative
- Focus on content creation in local languages and broad scale systematic translation efforts.
- Universal access to Public Domain information should be proactively encouraged

6. Access to Knowledge

(continued)



- Governments, Civil Society (CS), private sector and international organizations should work to make progress in the building of infrastructure in developing countries. ICT infrastructure is the basis of the information flow.
- They should facilitate access to ICT and information for citizens and ensure equal opportunities for women, the youth, elderly people, disabled people and indigenous peoples.



7. Networking

- UN system and international donors should reinforce co-operation with Civil Society
- Strengthen existing Civil Society-networks to reach the furthest corners of the world
- Promote the creation of new networks as such between communities
- CS should ensure evaluation of the social impact on society, on the citizen and on private businesses of IPv6 implementation.

8. Communication privacy & network security



- Governments, CS, private sector and international organizations must raise awareness on the necessity of privacy protection through education of citizens.
- Governments must ensure CS participation in privacy and policy making process
- The legal framework should reflect the interests of CS organizations and citizens

8. Communication privacy & network security (contd)



- Independence and accountability are important for an oversight body of the surveillance system.
- Governments and CS should establish a joint working group to evaluate the social impacts of IPv6 and privacy implementation.



9. New technologies

- Technologies should not be a means of discrimination (info-rich, info-poor)
- Governments and CS should ensure archive integrity so that cultural heritage will be maintained.



10. Concrete Actions

- Developing and linking databases of best practices of donor and Civil Society projects.
- Encourage to develop an interactive knowledge sharing platform on the WSIS
- UN system, governmental information should be made universally accessible
- Active provision of UN content in developing countries



10. Concrete Actions (contd)

- CS should use low-cost means (CD-ROMs, radio etc) to widely deliver information
- CS must involve technical experts to protect against fraudulent monitoring of their private information
- CS should promote a collaborative network of open source technology tools
- Promote large scale translation



<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/infosoc4all/>

*This group will be used to further develop
our WCSF input to the WSIS*

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