Internet Governance Caucus YJ Park, co-coordinator July 18, 2003

Dear Madame chair, Dear delegates,

I would like to speak on behalf of the civil society Internet Governance caucus as a co-coordinator of this group.

The civil society Internet Governance caucus welcomes the governments' efforts to set up Internet Governance Working Group at WSIS intersessional meeting. We hope that both the governments' Internet Governance Working Group and the civil society's Internet Governance caucus can guide each other to provide a vision of global coordination mechanisms in the cyberspace in the WSIS process.

It has been noted the governments and the civil societies in the developing countries have not effectively participated in the global coordination meetings despite urgent need to coordinate global Internet resources and the global Internet policies. E believe that both the governments' Internet Governance Working Group and the civil society's Internet Governance caucus can raise awareness internationally to facilitate developing countries' participation.

Civil society also welcomes interventions from the private sector during the WSIS intersessional meeting, however, we must remember that the coordination of Internet resources must include all stakeholders. Therefore, we regret, the participation of individual Internet users, the at-large, has been diminished by the recent reform process of ICANN.

On the other hand, there is very pressing need to proceed with implementation and deployment of multilingual top level domains because multilingual top level domain names could be the start for enabling local communications and access to Internet content in the native languages and would reflect the linguistic diversity which has been given priority in the draft declaration. We encourage the WSIS to support activities in that area.

In line with this, we reiterate our expectation that the control of the root-server system could be handed over sooner or later to the global Internet community.

Finally, we look forward to working together with the governments in constructive way with a sustainable mechanism in the form of an open and transparent bottom-up policy decision making process.

Thank you for your attentions.