**STATEMENT ON THE UN SG WORKING GROUP ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY INTERNET GOVERNANCE CAUCUS**
On the third session of the PrepCom1, held in Hammamet on June 26, 2004.

1. In his opening remarks to the Global Forum on Internet Governance, in New York on 25 March 2004, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan himself said:

"In managing, promoting and protecting [the Internet's] presence in our lives, we need to be no less creative than those who invented it. Clearly, there is a need for governance, but that does not necessarily mean that it has to be done in the traditional way, for something that is so very different."

2. In this spirit, we welcome the creation of a Working Group on Internet Governance which will not be bound by the existing rules of procedure of WSIS, and which can therefore pioneer innovative mechanisms for multi-stakeholder consensus building.

3. The Action Plan paragraphs regarding the creation of this Working Group provide an appropriate and clear basis on which to move forward. The Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus urges progress on this matter without further debate which may further delay this important work.

4. We place great importance upon the references in these paragraphs to "open and inclusive process" and "full and active participation".  We understand these to mean that all interested entities will be welcomed to contribute to and participate at three stages.

- First, in discussions regarding establishment, composition and working processes of the WG.
- Second, in the membership of the WG itself, by fair representation.
- And third, in the working group's consultation processes, through comprehensive communications channels.

5. Towards the first of these aims, we ask that on establishment of the WG secretariat in July 2004, a general call for contributions be made to canvass views on the establishment, composition and working processes of the WG. Further, an open meeting should be held to finalise these critical aspects of the WG before it is formed.

6. The Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus fully intends to actively contribute in this critical first phase of the working group's efforts, as well as to its future work, towards an outcome with which all stakeholders can identify.