Contribution from International Council on Archives (ICA)

ICA comments on chapter one of the Operational Part

1. Add after 6. b. a new item:

Encouraging good information management policies in public and private sectors to ensure on-going reliability and accessibility of public information; encouraging creation of technical solutions for technological obsolescence to ensure the survival and transmission of informational contents.

2. Support in 6 c. Switzerland and New Zealand suggestions.

3. Retain 6. e. as it stands and add (not replace with) the New Zealand comment. Modify the New Zealand comment as follows: **ensuring** that library, **archival and other** information services are available to **provide contents** and support informal…

4. Request in 10 to be part of the team of stakeholders responsible for the implementation; we are particularly well-placed to work for Action lines C2 and C7./E-government. (given that UNESCO has allocated itself to the other items relevant to ICA).

5. Support page 19 the considerations expressed by the Civil Society Plenary and the Coordination Committee of Business Interlocutors.

ICA comments on Political Chapeau

1…..We reaffirm our desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and effective multilateralism, and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, so that people everywhere , **now and in the future**, can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge…

Add at the end of 1:

For we believe that freedom of information and access to knowledge are a necessary condition for the effective practice of democracy and for the pursuit of truth, justice and human rights.

2.The implementation of the commitments undertaken in the Geneva Summit is taking place amidst accelerating development of ICTs, which, **through the new forms of exchange, storage, access and transmission of information they introduce,** impact policies, human, economic, social and cultural development, bringing about profound changes in society.

5. …develop and widen ICT applications; **preserve, promote and protect** cultural diversity **and identity**; recognize the role of the media; **support the services responsible for ensuring the trustworthiness of information and its sustainability**; address the ethical dimensions of the Information Society**, stressing the need to protect personal data held by private or government institutions against misuse, since this data is particularly vulnerable in today's electronic age;** and encourage…

Add to USA suggestion: **5. that this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and** *to have access to,* **receive and impart information and ideas through any media a***n***d regardless of frontiers.**

7. Add to New Zealand suggestion:

New 7 A bis: **…** is being created**. These strategies should be placed within an overall policy to preserve information regardless of format and to ensure its reliability and traceability.**

11. Add to El Salvado**r** suggestion

New 11 D: We acknowledge that capacity building at all levels is needed to ensure *the sustainability of information including its preservation and also to enable the users to develop a critical approach to information.* **While technical cooperation can help, capacities at all levels need to be developed and strengthened to play their proper roles in the longer term. That is, we need to focus on the people and the skills and wider aptitude they need to operate in an information society.**

For a Society of Sustainable Information

ICA recalls the importance of including in the Political Chapeau and in the Operational Part the necessity of long-term preservation of information in all its forms; the urgency of creating technical solutions to guarantee sustainable information management; the vital role of systems and services which guarantee the trustworthiness of information; the need to ensure the broadest possible access to information sources; and the importance of developing information literacy.