

**Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI)**  
**World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)**  
**Tunis, 16 – 18 November 2005**

**Contribution towards consultations on the structure of the  
document to be signed at WSIS-Tunis (November 2005)  
22 October 2004 meeting, Geneva**

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We appreciate the opportunity to provide input to the discussions on the structure of the document which will be signed at WSIS-Tunis in the spirit of the multi-stakeholder framework of WSIS. CCBI recognizes that this document will be signed by heads of state and fully respects its intergovernmental nature.

In addition, given the short timeframe in which to provide input and recognizing that this is an initial discussion meeting, we submit these comments to assist in developing a structure for this document that reflects the importance of all stakeholders in fulfilling the objectives of the WSIS Geneva Declaration and Plan of Action.

Business recommends the following priorities and issues be considered in structuring the document for WSIS-Tunis. This document should:

- not re-open the commitments and language of the Declaration and Plan of Action signed at WSIS-Geneva, 2003 and not re-open resolved political issues;
- focus on showing progress on the commitments made at WSIS-Geneva to complement the Declaration and Plan of Action;
- highlight the critical need for progress in creating enabling environments for investment and fostering entrepreneurship;
- take the Plan of Action one step further: identify areas/countries where progress has been made on the commitments in the Declaration and Plan of Action regarding the essentials---creation of the necessary environment for ICT infrastructure, education, capacity building, policy, legal and regulatory frameworks the are pro-competitive and spur investment, and foster entrepreneurship; and
- ensure coordination with the UN Secretary General's Task Force on Financial Mechanisms and the Working Group on Internet Governance as their work proceeds to prevent overlap and duplications;
- create a way for governments and other stakeholders to learn from the challenges and experiences of others in implementing these commitments.

CCBI looks forward to providing further comments as the discussions regarding the structure of this document progress.

## **WHAT IS THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF BUSINESS INTERLOCUTORS (CCBI)?**

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was held during the week of 8 December 2003 in Geneva, culminating in the Summit segment on 10-12 December 2003. The second part of this Summit will take place in 2005 in Tunisia.

Principals of the Summit host countries and executive secretariat invited the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to create the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI) as a vehicle through which to mobilize and coordinate the involvement of the worldwide business community in the processes leading to and culminating in the Summit. ICC and the CCBI group led the private-sector effort to provide substantive input into the first phase of the Summit, and mobilized the private sector to participate in the preparatory phases and at the Summit itself. The CCBI, is constituted of the following organizations and their members: Among the organizations actively involved in the work of the CCBI, in addition to ICC, are: Asociacion Hispanoamericana de Centros de Investigacion y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones, Brazilian Chamber of Electronic Commerce, the Business Council of the United Nations, Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD; Global Business Dialogue on Electronic Commerce; Global Information Infrastructure Commission; Money Matters Institute; United States Council on International Business; World Economic Forum; World Information Technology and Services Alliance; French Publishers Association; International Publishers Association; and Gobierno Digital.

For further information regarding CCBI, please consult the WSIS website at:

<http://www.itu.int/wsis/index.html>

the CCBI website at [www.businessatwsis.net](http://www.businessatwsis.net)

or ICC's website at: [http://www.iccwbo.org/home/e\\_business/wsis.asp](http://www.iccwbo.org/home/e_business/wsis.asp)

or contact [wsis@iccwbo.org](mailto:wsis@iccwbo.org)

## **ABOUT ICC**

ICC is the world business organization, the only representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. ICC promotes an open international trade and investment system and the market economy. Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment, e-business, IT and telecoms policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. ICC was founded in 1919 and today it groups thousands of member companies and associations from over 130 countries.

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