

Contribution from Japan to the work of the Group of Friends of the Chair (GFC) of the WSIS PrepCom, Tunis Phase

1. General

The PrepCom1 concluded that in order to facilitate an efficient drafting of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Tunis phase Summit document, the outcomes of the WSIS thematic meetings, regional conferences and other related meetings will be provided as inputs to the PrepComs. Some thematic meetings, such as on countering Spam, ICT Indicators, Cybersecurity and Ubiquitous Network Society have already been planned; the outcomes of these meetings should be duly reflected in the Summit documents.

2. Operational Part

The Geneva phase of the WSIS was the first summit in the information and communications field to adopt a Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action. Steady implementation of these summit documents is desired to bring force an information society worldwide.

In order to ensure that WSIS does not end up as only a large conference involving head-of-state level participation, institutionalizing the WSIS follow-up mechanism for the steady implementation of the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action should be one of the outcomes of the Tunis phase of WSIS. For this purpose, a follow-up framework mainly comprising UN organizations, as indicated in paragraph 13 of the Operational Part of the draft summit document, should be formulated soon.

For each of the 11 action lines of the Plan of Action, we would therefore like to propose that an international organization be designated to moderate and facilitate the implementation, like below:

- Information and communication infrastructure: ITU
- Capacity building: UNDP
- ICT applications: each relevant UN specialized agency
- Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content: UNESCO

Each international organization moderating the process should be determined by the High Level Summit Organizing Committee (HLSOC), a coordinating body of the WSIS and filled in paragraph 12 of the Operational Part of the draft summit document.