**ICANN Contribution to the WSIS+10 High-Level Event Open Consultation Process**



**Document Number: S1/C/9**

**Submission by: ICANN, Civil Society**

Draft WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

### C. Challenges-during implementation of action lines and new challenges that have emerged

Several challenges have been identified in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines that still remain and would need to be addressed beyond 2015.

We recognize the following challenges:

1. *We note* that the WSIS Action lines have helped in **constituting a sound framework** for realizing the goal of a globally interconnected Information Society.
2. Still more than **half of the world’s population is not connected to the Internet**, and ICT Infrastructure development needs to be continued, especially in rural and remote areas.
3. To increase the **global, regional and national awareness** about the significance of WSIS and its direct relevance to national strategies and policies.
4. Integrate **WSIS with the Post-2015 development agenda.**
5. **Lack of appropriate policies** (including a lack of policy coherence across key knowledge society sectors such as ICT, Science and Innovation, and Education) and a growing skills gap between rich and poor within countries, between countries, and between regions of the world, is hindering economic and social development.
6. Ensuring the **necessary legal, policy and regulatory frameworks** and approaches at the national levels to continue to promote investment in ICTs and infrastructure, foster entrepreneurship and innovation
7. Ensuring continued extension of **access for all to ICTs,** particularly access to broadband, particularly in developing countries and among marginalised communities in all countries.
8. Widening access to communications media, information and knowledge through improved telecoms and broadband internet infrastructural provision. This, together with the availability of cheap smart phones and mobile devises will lead to their mass diffusion and provide access to online content and the localisation of ICT applications, support e-commerce, e-health and e-agriculture.
9. Promotion of **open education resource (OER)content and applications**
10. Maintenance of the **openness and multi-stakeholder character of ICT and of internet** standards, development and governance, which has underpinned the remarkable growth of the Internet to date.
11. Ensuring that the proliferation of data, and efforts at open government and open data actually **meet the needs of ordinary people, and effectively contribute to transparency and accountability** rather than just flooding the internet with data for which there is no demand, and which does not make a different in people's lives.
12. **Protection and reinforcement of human rights**, particularly privacy, freedom of expression and freedom of association, in a rapidly changing context, ensuring equal respect for and enforcement of human rights online and offline.
13. **Environmental sustainability**, and harmful outcomes of the massive increases we will see in ICT production and consumption. This ranges from energy consumption, to sourcing of conflict minerals for the production cycle, to disposing to massive ICT waste, unless there are is a substantial shift in the approach to hardware design to be more sustainable (e.g. with devices that last longer and are upgradable) this challenge is likely to escalate.
14. **Deployment of broadband networks** without increasing further gaps in access; and affordability of broadband devices and services ensuring the inclusion to broadband services especially for people with disabilities
15. Building capacity at the national level with the ability of societies to adapt to unforeseen developments in the landscape.
16. Urgent need to provide **modern training** in a wide range of digital and technology-based skills to meet existing employment opportunities but also to allow creative youth to participate in the development and growth of digitally-based industries including the cultural industries.
17. **Build the capacity of regulators** to not only understand engineering and to carry out complex economic and legal analysis, but also to have the foresight to quickly recognize and adapt to shifting technology paradigms and remain abreast with international best-practice.
18. Despite progress, **women still lack access, requisite skills, awareness** and are not well represented in decision-making positions and as producers in the ICT sector.
19. Improved **engagement of youth** in the discussions related to ICTs for Development.
20. Developing **equitable and inclusive frameworks** to allow all stakeholders to help build confidence and security in the use of ICTs.
21. Strengthened **confidence and security in the use of ICTs and** enhance citizen privacy with the creation of regional centers of coordination for incidents in computing security (CIRT).
22. Lack of **on-going investment in digital inclusion** measures.
23. Establishment of **Financing mechanism taking into account innovative approaches** to bring the benefits of ICT to all.
24. Creation of a **clear link between the WSIS Process at the international level and institutional set up** at the national level.
25. The development of **telemedicine at new levels,** with mobile devices, distance intervention and controls, which allows improving health care services in all the national territory.
26. Timely adjustment of the National educational programmes to build ICT skills to respond to the specific market needs of the countries.
27. Empowerment through innovative approaches for **distance education** from primary school education for the new generation
28. Broad recognition of **electronic transactions in order to benefit from e governance**
29. Recognising the economic potential of **ICTs for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises** (SMEs), they should be assisted in increasing their competitiveness by streamlining administrative procedures, facilitating their access to capital and enhancing their capacity to participate in ICT-related projects.
30. Utilization of ICTs in **justice administration, legal records and electoral mechanisms**.
31. **Use of unused wireless capacities**, including satellite, in developed countries and in particular in developing countries, to provide access in remote areas, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to improve low-cost connectivity in developing countries. Special concern should be given to the Least Developed Countries in their efforts in establishing telecommunication infrastructure.
32. Creation of policies that **support and respect, preservation, promotion and enhancement of cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage** within the Information Society, for example those that encourage the development of local language content.
33. Identification of **best practices in ICT Applications** and provision of policy guidance on how they may be mainstreamed.
34. Convergence of **mass media and social media** lead to situation in which the former regulatory standards for media are not effective anymore and new approach for regulation and self-regulation is needed.
35. **Protecting, respecting and promoting human rights** and recognition of their importance to realizing economic development.
36. Establishing **environments that will facilitate economic and social development** on a foundation of human rights and the rule of law.
37. Building models of **governance at national, regional, and international levels** that are open, transparent, and inclusive, and encourage multistakeholder participation in policy development and decision-making.
38. Ensuring that the **Internet remains open, unconstrained by technology mandates and burdensome** regulation, and free of limitations on what, when, and how users can communicate, access information, and build community.
39. Identification of **emerging technologies** which could be cost-effective.