

**Document Number: V1/B/6**

**Submission by: GESCI, Civil Society**



Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015

### B. Priority areas to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015.

There a number of priority areas that needs to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS beyond 2015, due to its effect in the development process and strengthening the move towards building Information Society and Knowledge Economy. Those areas come in light of the improvements that emerge from the ICT sector itself, in addition to the demands of the other sectors of the economy and the society which urges its enhancement.

We, the WSIS Stakeholders have identified the topics below as priority areas to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015:

* *Bridging* the **digital divide** still remains a crucial task.
* Achieving the global concept of **Information society** is still to be attained.
* *Increasing* **access to and use of ICTs**, including broadband and mobile services through continued and increasing practical implementation measures, should be the primary focus for WSIS for the next 10 years.
* *Renewing* attention to **deepen and strengthen the actions** taken in implementing the Action Lines (with lessons learned over the past ten years).
* **Redefining the WSIS Action lines**, in order to address the challenges we face today.
* Emphasizing on the creation of **WSIS/ICT National Strategies and Policies.**
* *Cooperating* at the **National, Regional and Global level** is essential.
* *Creating* **global guidelines or principles for online code of ethics** is a key requirement
* *Setting* adapted **laws and frameworks that converge** with the basic principles of inclusive information society.
* **International Structures and organization** should play a central role in the follow up and evaluation of achievements.
* *Encouraging* and maintaining of **open standards and open innovation** in the ICT sector and the internet.
* *Focusing* on the **quality of e-services** is crucial.
* *Promoting a* **Digital Economy.**
* *Ensuring* the **free flow of data** to promote e-commerce and international free trade
* *Using* **providers of public access**, such as libraries as the main platform to access the information resources .
* *Exploring* all **affordable options** for information access rather than reliance on market-based information.
* *Supporting* the **development and implementation of cloud computing** and its policies.
* *Ensuring***accessibility for people with disabilities.**
* *Clear commitment* from governments and intergovernmental organizations to **support and facilitate enabling regulatory and investment environments**.
* ***Use of ICTs for Social and Economic Development***
* *Strengthening* the use and development of **transformative technology** to enable more sustainable social and economic development.
* *Using* the information society **as a tool to realise the post 2015 development goals**.
* *Ensuring* a connection between the key aim of the WSIS, that of harnessing the potential of information and communication technology to promote and realize development goals, and the **post 2015 development agenda**.
* *ICTs for skills development essential for economic development in Africa due to high youth uemployment and poor literacy and numeracy skills. Without better skilled youth (leveraged through ICTs) economic growth will not be inclusive and will not reduce poverty levels, because job creation will remain illusive.*
* ***Gender:***
* *Prioritizing* **gender as a standalone goal** and action line, there needs to be both reference to gender within action lines, as well as discrete and fuller treatment of gender issues in their own right. This dual stream approach to gender is similarly being advocated for in the post 2015 context.
* *Ending* **technology-based violence against women and girls**.
* *Ensuring* that women's rights are taken into account in **internet rights and principles** and dialogue.
* *Promotion of technology for women’s professional development and further education, which encourages training, further study and information learning for women who are shouldering home and family responsibilities and therefore cannot attend full-time education and training programmes.*
* ***Multistakeholderism*** 
  + *Ensuring* open and decentralized **multi-stakeholder models and mechanisms** in the WSIS Process.
  + Improvement in the **governance of ICTs**, including the extension of the principle of multi-stakeholder participation, which has been so successful on the **internet**, into other areas of national and international ICT governance.
* ***Internet:***
* *Emphasizing* the importance of **maintaining an open Internet** based on open standards development processes, and open governance as key enablers for an inclusive knowledge and information societies as a priority issue in the next ten years.
* *Enabling* **Internet access** for all and Internet as a leapfrog for development.
* Ensuring the protection of the **internet's** security and integrity and lowering the cost of Internet access for users in developing countries.
* Working towards **multilingualization of the Internet** including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
* *Exploring* ***t*echnical evolution of the Internet** to address known weaknesses and to increase speed and capability, while maintaining full interoperability and stability.
* *Promoting* **affordable internet** through infrastructure development and free competition.
* *Building* **enabling environments** and ensuring the continued openness and neutrality.
* *Enabling* an open, democratic, transparent and multistakeholder mechanism for **internet governance**;
* *Actualization* of **enhanced cooperation**, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
* ***Cybersecurity***
  + *Generating* trust in the use of ICTs should be deemed a priority, generating guarantees regarding topics such as **personal data protection and cyber security** is critical. Governance and Strengthened Cooperation in cybersecurity are other areas that should be prioritized.
  + *Protecting* the privacy of **ICT and internet users** against commercial exploitation and government intrusion.
  + *Promoting* **Cybersecurity** and attention to child on line protection.
* ***Human Rights:***
* Respecting and promoting humanrights are essential prerequisites to realizing the **development and policy goals of a post 2015 development agenda and the WSIS Process beyond 2015.** .
* *Strengthening* the **interconnection between human rights online and offline** – both the reinforcement of the rights of freedom of expression, the right to privacy, information and association on the internet as well as economic, social and cultural rights;
* *Encourage and facilitate* **people-centered and inclusive governance models** and mechanisms that are based on human rights and the rule of law.
* *Ensuring* that surveillance conforms to universally accepted **human rights** principles.
* **Broandband:** 
  + Provision of **affordable access to broadband and networks and services** for all citizens worldwide to ensure inclusiveness, social and geographical equity;
  + Developing and advancing broadbandnetwork that supports the **economic growth of the country and facilitate the utilization of ICT tools** by the citizens.
  + *Providing* **developing countries with assistance in rolling out broadband infrastructure and Internet Exchange Points** – which will enable more local content and local e-Services to be provided in those countries.
  + Providing assistance for those countries that would like to embrace **light regulatory regimes for their domestic telecoms/ ICT markets** in the future.
* Using **social networks in e-government**
* Focusing on **ICT professionalism** in the period 2015 and beyond. The extent to which ICT is embedded in our lives is inevitably growing. If we fail to take steps to mature the ICT profession, it is likely that the risks to society from ICT will grow.
* Addressing **e-environment** issues and challenges, developing of Green IT and using ICT to combat climate change.
* Integrating ICT with **educational initiatives** and activities.
* Exploring mechanisms for accreditation of **on-line learning.**
* *Implementation* of practical mechanisms to support **e-Science** related recommendations of the WSIS +10 Review process at the national, regional and global level. This includes funding modalities and financial support.
* *Inclusion* of **Indigenous Peoples,** who are a marginalized group, should be prioritized across all the action lines (for instance, e-learning, media, access are all of great importance to Indigenous Peoples). A separate action line focusing specifically on inclusivity of Indigenous Peoples would highlight this important issue.
* Addressing the issue of **affordable access**.
* *Encouraging* the full deployment of **IPv6 and IPv4**.
* *Deploying* of e**-services to marginalized and disadvantaged** members of society.
* Addressing **ethical issues related to emerging technologies** and the information society.
* *Developing* **agreed goals and time-based targets** along with enhanced monitoring and reporting.
* *Making* efforts towards **developing the content industry** to meet the diversity in cultural and religious aspects, and be in accordance with the WSIS target to assure on the multilingualism aspect.
* **Social Networking and Freedom of Expression** are vital for WSIS beyond 2015 to guarantee adopting the policies and strategies for access and openness for the different actors to be engaged in those tools.
* *Promoting* the use of **ICT for Democracy**
* *Promoting* **Access for All;** Access to information and knowledge
* *Prioritizing* on how all stakeholders can **build on existing expertise and best-practice** solutions.
* ***Connecting* the unconnected** especially people with disability
* ***Generating* trust** in the use of ICTs should be deemed a priority. Generating guarantees regarding topics such as personal data protection and cyber security is critical.
* *Assuring* the **quality of e-services.**
* *Highlighting* **network traffic management.**
* *Ensuring* **Network neutrality**.
* *Protection* of **data and network users**.
* Highlighting the importance and role of **National Centers for Warning and Management of IT Incidents Exchange and Personal Data protection** in Cloud computing.
* Creating **replicable and sustainable** ICT projects.