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Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015

С7. ICT Applications: E-Health

**1. Vision**

In every country and at every level, information and communication tools are central to health. Access to ICTs, supported by a sound enabling environment, is critical for health services development, progress and availability. This applies whether eHealth is used by individuals searching for health information or support, professionals and facilities providing health care services, public health services ensuring monitoring, alert and response, or for strengthening citizen-centered health systems.

**2. Pillars**

1. **Encourage the adoption of national eHealth strategies** focusing on integrating ICTs to support the priorities of the health sector and to provide reliable and affordable connectivity to benefit all citizens.
2. **Promote the use of ICTs to strengthen health care and public health services**, with special efforts to reach citizens in remote and under-served areas in developing countries.
3. **Facilitate innovation and access to eHealth applications** to support health professionals, improve local access to information, and enable the flow of information in health services and systems.
4. **Ensure public trust and confidence in eHealth**, through collaboration and broad adoption of legislations, policies, regulations and other measures that address the concerns of the health sector, including those of a cross- border nature.
5. **Integrate the use of ICTs in preparing for, sharing information on, and responding to disease outbreaks, disasters and other emergencies** requiring inter-sectoral collaboration and exchange of information in real-time.
6. **Create effective funding mechanisms, business models and partnerships** to accelerate and sustain eHealth efforts beyond pilot stages and ensure scalability.
7. **Enable access to the world’s medical knowledge** through the use of ICTs.
8. **Share good practice, evidence and progress on eHealth**, to enable informed development of eHealth activities worldwide.

**3. Targets**

1. *Will be available soon.*

**Annex: Zero Draft Stakeholder Contributions**

1. Adopt **national e-health strategies** focusing on integrating ICTs to support the priorities of the health sector and to provide reliable and affordable Internet connectivity to health/medical centers to the benefit of all citizens including marginalized and disadvantaged groups, women, and children especially in rural and slum areas.
2. Use ICT to **strengthen health services and access to medical information** especially for citizens in **remote and under-served areas in developing countries.**
3. Provide **access to e-health applications** to support health professionals working in remote areas.
4. Establish **networks for the exchange of medical information** among various entities including medical agencies, providers of services on telemedicine, home health care, nursing care and livelihood (e.g. online patients’ records, remote medical care system, disease prevention, online visits, registration systems, complaints, etc.).
5. Create systems like electronic records of drug prescription, and self-management of lifestyle diseases to access and manage medical and health information by patients and individuals themselves.
6. New technologies and services such as those that make up the “Internet of Things” and M2M Applications need to be adapted to ensure that developing countries can also benefit from them in the near future.
7. Ease access to the world’s medical knowledge and locally-relevant content resources for strengthening public health research and prevention programs required for health experts in developing countries.
8. Integrate the existing e**-Health with e governance** process.
9. Increase and encourage the **use of mobile technologies** in health projects for greater reach and inclusiveness, especially in developing countries.
10. Promoting the use of diverse applications especially those using voice services to reach out to the illiterate populations.
11. Ensure **privacy protection** in promoting e-health service through well defined legislative frameworks and policies.
12. Continue the need to ensure **affordable and reliable connectivity from remote areas to health centers**.
13. Adopt national scale programs focusing on developing **human capacity in e-Health.**
14. Grasp and analyze health conditions of **insurance subscribers, residents and employees by insurance companies, local governments and companies through data on medical examinations and health insurance claims**.
15. **Measure the impact of e-Health**, through credible and replicable evaluation mechanisms and metrics.
16. Harmonize standards in e- health by following the international standards and enhance **interoperability and networking** in e-Health systems.
17. Target **financial resources** specifically for e-Health services.
18. Seek innovative systems which connect people to information on health services, including mental health services, to improve issues of **accessibility, affordability and acceptability**.
19. Seek user friendly and culturally adaptable tools to better **inform about healthy lifestyles and health concerns** which help us act on that information, especially in areas of sexual and reproductive health, and in dealing with issues of disability, including knowledge to reduce problems of stigma and fear associated with many diseases.
20. Promote preventive e- Health applications especially concerning endemic diseases.
21. Provide widespread availability to **report and receive information, through ICTs**, of outbreaks, disasters, epidemics and/or other events which endanger human health.
22. Empower **young people to develop ICT tools** that improve the experience of health care while taking into account best practices and bioethics that are currently part of offline healthcare processes.