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**Submission by: Women and Information Society, Civil Society**

***Please note that this is a submission for the Third Physical meeting of the WSIS +10 MPP to be held on the 17th and 18th of February.***

**Document Number: V2/C/ALC6**

Note: This document is the **result of the first reading of the document number V1.1/C/ALC6** and reflects the changes and comments received at the second physical meeting of the WSIS+10 MPP. This document is available at: <http://www.itu.int/wsis/review/mpp/pages/consolidated-texts.html>

This document has been developed keeping in mind the [Principles](http://www.itu.int/wsis/review/mpp/pages/consolidated-texts.html).

Please note that the Geneva Declaration and the Geneva Plan of Action still remain valid until further decisions by the General Assembly.

Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015

C6. Enabling environment

**1. Vision**

In order to leverage the transformational power of ICTs and broadband in particular to maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create a trustworthy, transparent and non-discriminatory policy, legal and regulatory environment. Such an environment enables innovation, investment and growth while providing regulatory certainty and flexibility .

To overcome the current challenges in a highly dynamic and rapidly changing digital economy, governments need to develop a multi-pronged approach and urgently take action to accomplish the pillars below.

**2. Pillars**

1. Design and enforce open, effective and forward looking policy, legal and regulatory frameworks based on inclusive and wide-ranging public consultation with all stakeholders.
2. Reexamine and redefine frameworks mentioned in para a above to promote digital inclusion ensuring that all communities as well as targeted population groups such as youth, women, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples can access and use ICTs for their social and economic empowerment.
3. *Linking the Gender and ICT Policies. Women, as equal partners, active agents, innovators and decision-makers should be an integral part of, and key actors, in the Information Society. Ensure gender component inclusion into the ICT programs in planning, budgeting and implementation processes.*
4. Adopt a holistic approach to governing the ICT sector and move towards cross-sector regulation in view of fueling synergies among government agencies, private sector and the society as a whole.
5. Enact a consistent and overarching ICT and/or broadband policy to foster broadband development across all sectors that drives digital inclusion, and implements and monitors related activities, .
6. Ensure effective and fair competition promote transparency and create a regulatory framework that nurtures innovation while stimulating investment, including foreign direct investment, for the roll-out of infrastructure (including broadband) and the development and take up of e-applications and services.
7. [Strive to facilitate entry in broadband markets, enable open access to essential facilities and increase competition in all network layers, moving towards lighter and simplified regulation while promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, as appropriate and where applicable. ]
8. Recognizing the economic potential of ICTs for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), contribute to increasing their competitiveness by streamlining administrative procedures, facilitating their access to capital, reducing the cost of doing business and enhancing their capacity to participate in ICT-related projects.
9. Promote the development and adoption of appropriate national, regional and international standards that are required to foster interoperability and to facilitate the flow of information and services across borders and address the concerns of various ICT providers and users.
10. Raise awareness of the benefits and risks of technological progress and consider regulatory measures to address issues such as personal and data protection, consumer rights, and protection of minors and vulnerable segments of the society, and collaborate at the regional and international levels.
11. Enforce legal frameworks for ensuring confidence and security in the development and the use of ICT for better governance and enhance national capacities with this regard, including growing professional workforce adhering to the highest ethical standards.
12. [Encourage the emergence of a robust and flexible intellectual property rights framework that balances the interests of creators, implementers and users to support long-term access to a rich public domain of intellectual materials allowing for sharing and preservation of cultural heritage to the extent possible in digital form.]

**3. Targets**

1. ***[Target 1: Empower governments to mitigate the challenges of the Information Society.*** By 2020, all countries should empower the government agency(ies) in charge of ICT regulation to adopt and effectively enforce relevant regulations.
2. ***Target 2: Make broadband policy universal.*** By 2020, all countries should have a national broadband plan or strategy or include broadband in their Universal Access/Service Definitions.
3. ***Target 3:* Boost the competitiveness of broadband markets.** By 2020, all countries should have effective competition in the main broadband market segments (mobile, DSL, cable modem, fixed wireless, leased lines, Internet services, international gateways and Voice over IP (VoIP).)