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**Document Number: WSIS+10/4/25/Pre-agreed/16042014**

**Note: This document is the WSIS+10 MPP proposal for Chapter A, Vision reviewed on the 16th of April by the 4th MPP meeting with some items pending further consideration, text highlighted in Yellow.**

**Document Number: WSIS+10/4/25**

This document has been proposed by the Chair of WSIS+10 MPP, Prof Minkin, prepared in close collaboration with Dr. Anja Kovacs, The Internet Democracy Project, Civil Society as was announced during the 3rd meeting to facilitate the discussions in the next physical meeting.

This document takes into account the Ad-hoc group paras on Youth, Human Rights, Gender, Knowledge Society and Vulnerable Groups that have already been included in the Preamble.

The chairman has opened a reflector in the form of [wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int) and invites all WSIS Stakeholders to comment in advance to facilitate the 1st reading of this document during the 4th meeting on 14-17 April 2014

Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015

A. Preamble

The ITU coordinated WSIS+10 High Level Event took place in close collaboration with all UN Agencies under their respective mandates, pursuant to ITU Council Resolution 1334. [agreed]

This Vision and the related WSIS+10 Statement have been developed keeping in mind the following principles:

a. Focus on the WSIS Action Lines and measurement of their implementation.

b. Develop a vision upon existing framework of Action Lines, identifying emerging trends, challenges and priorities for new decade, without making existing framework of Action Lines obsolete.

c. Geneva Declaration and Geneva Plan of Action still remain valid until further decisions by General Assembly.

d. Restrict the proposals on Action Lines, under the responsibility of the respective UN Agencies, to the Geneva Plan of Action.

e. Avoid proposals referring to the outcomes of the Tunis phase of WSIS on the following, implementation mechanism, follow up, internet governance (other than internet issues relevant to action lines), IGF, enhanced cooperation, CSTD.

f. Avoid prejudging the outcomes of the 68th Session of the General Assembly on modalities of the Overall Review.

g. Respect mandates given by Tunis Agenda and respect for the multi-stakeholder principles.

[agreed]

In 2003 and 2005, at the two phases of the World Summit of the Information Society (WSIS), the international community agreed on a set of commitments that recognize information and communication technologies (ICTs) as enablers for development. World leaders representing Governments, private sector, civil society and the international organizations translated the common vision and guiding principles into concrete Action Lines in the Geneva Plan of Action, to advance the achievement of internationally agreed development goals.[agreed]

The Action Lines identify and seek to capture the potential of ICTs in enhancing access, especially of vulnerable populations, to information and knowledge, education, health care and other public services; provision of ICT Infrastructure; creating enabling environments; ; building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, information and knowledge creation, sharing, acquisition and preservation purposes. The role of ICTs for protecting the environment, for mitigating natural disaster risks, ensuring sustainable use of natural resources and sustainable food production and for women’s empowerment are also key to the implementation of WSIS outcomes. [agreed]

While considerable achievements have been made since the first phase of WSIS in 2003, during which the Geneva Plan of Action was adopted, however numerous challenges remain. . Moreover, the ICT landscape and their uses have continued to evolve and new challenges and opportunities have emerged. [agreed]

Several new trends have emerged in the inclusive Information Society such as broadband, social networks, mobility, digital inclusion, massive open online courses (MOOCs) and e-participation, amongst others[[1]](#footnote-1). Many of these trends bring rapid innovation, diffusion and uptake of mobile technologies, as well as, improved access to ICTs , which has led to the great expansion of the gamut of opportunities that ICTs offer to promote inclusive and sustainable development. As demonstrated by the progress made in the implementation of Geneva Plan of Action , international cooperation and multi-stakeholder collaboration on the strategic use of ICTs to address a wide range of issues during the past decade has produced a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise – resources which constitute a valuable foundation for future cooperation.[agreed]

Within the last 10 years, several efforts have been made towards international and regional cooperation in the implementation of Geneva Plan of Action. The WSIS Forum, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line Facilitators/Co-Facilitators (ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCTAD UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, ILO, WMO, UN, ITC, UPU and Regional Commission), has proven to be an efficient mechanism for coordination of multistakeholder implementation activities, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices and continues to provide assistance in developing multistakeholder and public/private partnerships to advance development goals. Regional commissions play a vital role in facilitating regional inputs, feeding outcomes of regional meetings, strategies and evaluation towards the WSIS Forum. [agreed]

The evolution of the information society over the past 10 years is contributing towards, inter alia, the development of  knowledge societies around the world that are based on principles of freedom of expression, quality education for all, universal and non-discriminatory access to information and knowledge, and respect for cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. When mentioning the information society, we also refer to the above mentioned evolution and to the vision of inclusive knowledge societies. [agreed]

Exchange and sharing of information on the implementation of WSIS Action Lines, reporting on good practices, success stories and examples of the ICT projects on regular basis through the WSIS Stocktaking Database, maintained by the ITU, became an important process for building capacities necessary to accelerate implementation of WSIS activities as well as crucial platform to assist facilitation work of the WSIS Action Lines. As an integral part of this process the annual contest of the WSIS Project Prize, as well as other best practice initiatives encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for sharing these best practices at the global level, and, recognizing *excellence in the implementation* *of the projects and initiatives* that contributes towards achieving the goals of the Geneva Plan of Action.[agreed]

Yet the WSIS aims of bridging the digital, technology and knowledge divides and of creating a people-centric, inclusive, open and development-oriented information society where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge still remains vastly relevant.[agreed]

A number of issues and challenges that existed and number of those that have emerged during the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society  are still valid. , Hence, UN Agencies together with all relevant stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities, are to collaborate to address those challenges. [agreed]

Since 2004, the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development has helped improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, enhanced the statistical capacity of Governments and coordinated the work of UN and other relevant International Agencies in the collection of ICT data.[agreed]

ICTs will play a critical role in achieving the sustainable development goals. Taking into account the ongoing dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (MDG review process) and the WSIS implementation process, all stakeholders have indicated the necessity of increased interaction between both processes in order to ensure that efforts across the UN System are coherent and coordinated to achieve maximum and sustainable impact. [agreed]

### *We envision a world of* inclusive Information Society *in which:*

1. *We reaffirm* the vital role of youth and youth organizations as recognized in paragraph 11 in the WSIS Declaration of Principles, stating that "youth should be empowered as learners, developers, contributors, entrepreneurs and decision makers. We must focus especially on young people who have not yet been able to benefit fully from the opportunities provided by ICTs. We are also committed to ensuring that the development of ICT applications and operation of services respects the rights of children as well as their protection and wellbeing". The role of youth was also underlined in the World Programme of Action for Youth, where ICT is identified as one of the 15 priority areas, in the sense that it can provide youth with the opportunity to overcome the barriers of distance and socio-economic disadvantage. In addition, the ITU Global Youth Summit in 2013 declared youth as a force for progress, and assured the importance of their full participation in decision making processes to improve democracy, marking that the spread of information among young people can directly foster empowerment and innovation on a global scale (BYND 2015 Global Youth Declaration). While progress has been made, it is important to exert greater efforts to ensure the implementation of mentioned program, declarations and others alike.[ agreed]
2. We reaffirm the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of the Geneva Declaration; and recall relevant universally accepted Resolutions including, but not limited to those listed in Annex 1.[agreed]
3. While there is recognition of the potential of ICT as a tool for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women accessing and using ICTs, a “gender divide” has also been identified. We reaffirm the importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women empowerment, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society and taking into account the mandate of the newly established agency UN-WOMEN, the recommendations of the High Level Panel in the post-2015, The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.. We therefore wish to recall and emphasise the importance of taking into account throughout the WSIS+10 Statement and Vision para 12 of the WSIS Declaration of Principles stating that the development of ICTs provides enormous opportunities for women, who should be an integral part of, and key actors, in the Information Society. We are committed to ensuring that the Information Society enables women’s empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes. To this end, we should mainstream a gender equality perspective and use ICTs as a tool to that end.[agreed]
4. Recalling the UN Convention on the rights of people with disabilities, the Geneva principles paragraph 11, 13, 14 and 15, Tunis Commitment paras 20, 22 and 24, and reaffirming the commitment to providing equitable access to information and knowledge for all, building ICT capacity for all and confidence in the use of ICTs by all, including youth, older persons, women, indigenous and nomadic peoples, people with disabilities, the unemployed, the poor, migrants, refugees and internally displaced people and remote and rural communities, it is crucial to increase the participation of vulnerable people in the building process of information Society and to make their voice heard by stakeholders and policy-makers at different levels. It can allow the most fragile groups of citizens worldwide to become an integrated part of their economies and also raise awareness of the target actors on the existing ICTs solution (such as tolls as e-participation, e-government, e-learning applications, etc.) designed to make their everyday life better.[agreed]
5. The ongoing development of multistakeholder approach considered as a crucial useful approach to engagement in addressing issues affecting the inclusive Information Society, is harnessed. Further deepening of the **multistakeholder model is important** with particular emphasis on the benefits of the inclusive decision-making structure. (led by apig, civil society).

The WSIS multistakeholder approach, which is essential in building the information society, should be harnessed emphasing its benefits, and recognizing that it has worked well in some areas and needs to be [properly implemented][strengthened] [in other areas in which it has not worked well or has not been applied. ]

Alt. The WSIS multistakeholder approach, which is essential in building the information society, should be harnessed emphasing its benefits, and recognizing that [it has worked well] in some areas [and] needs to be [improved to be also] [fully]applied in other areas. [to be improved and strengthened and fully applied in other areas]

1. **Digital inclusion** remains a cross-cutting priority, going beyond affordability and access to ICT networks, services and applications, including in rural and remote areas. The digital, technology and knowledge divides will be bridged to reap the benefits of **ICT and broadband** in transforming the lives of communities.[agreed]
2. **Indigenous and traditional knowledge** are recognised as pathways to develop innovative processes and strategies for locally-appropriate sustainable development. This knowledge is integral to a cultural complex that also encompasses language, systems of classification, resource use practices, social interactions, ritual and spirituality. These unique ways of knowing are important facets of the world’s cultural diversity, and provide a foundation for comprehensive knowledge society.[agreed]
3. There is full respect for **cultural and linguistic diversity**, and for everyone’s right to express themselves and to create and disseminate their work and local content in the language of their choice. The preservation of **digital heritage** in the information society is ensured.[agreed]
4. There is effective cooperation backed by adequate **funding and assistance for inclusive ICT initiatives** for the benefit of the developing and least developing countries. [agreed]
5. **Scientific knowledge** is a key factor in the **innovation process** and in finding pathways to sustainable, inclusive and equitable development, respectful of the environment. Science is acknowledged as a common or public good that is to be shared universally. [agreed]
6. **11.**ALT: Confidence and security in use of ICTs is established including enhanced user confidence, build trust and protect both data and network integrity, including those provided by technologies and in association with professionals and ensured the secured feeling of children and vulnerable communities in the , use of the tools that empower them online.[]
7. The need to address the cybersecurity as a [key] issue contributing to confidence and security in use of ICTs

Alt Cybersecurity is continued to be addressed as a key issue contributing to confidence and security in use of ICTs [led by Saudi]

12. Legislative and regulatory reforms will spur fair competition to ensure affordable access to ICTs, in addition to public access, to all people, in particular, marginalised and vulnerable people. This does not only have the potential to transform the lives of people and societies, but also to help marginalized and vulnerable persons by empowering them and their communities, including in rural and remote areas, and expanding their rights and possibilities.[agreed]

ANNEX 1  
to document WSIS-10 4-4

**List of referenced resolutions**

A/RES/41/128. Declaration on the Right to Development

A/RES/68/140. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

A/RES/68/147. Rights of the child

A/RES/68/163. The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

A/RES/68/167. The right to privacy in the digital age.

A/RES/68/176. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity.

A/RES/68/227. Women in development

A/RES/68/243. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Vienna Declaration and program of action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna on 25 June 1993

A/HRC/20/8. The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet

A/HRC/RES/21/11. Extreme poverty and human rights.

A/HRC/RES/21/24. Human Rights and Indigenous People.

A/HRC/RES/21/30. Elaboration of international complementary standards on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination.

A/HRC/RES/22/6. Protecting Human Rights Defenders

**A/HRC/RES/**23/2. The role of freedom of opinion and expression in women’s empowerment

A/HRC/RES/23/3. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of Human Rights.

A/HRC/RES/23/4. The right to Education.

A/HRC/RES /23/10. Cultural rights and cultural diversity.

A/HRC/RES/23/20. Human Rights on Migrants.

A/HRC/RES/**24/5**. The rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

A/HRC/RES/24/8. Equal Political Participation

A/HRC/RES/24/10. Human Rights and Indigenous People.

A/HRC/RES/24/20. The human rights of older persons.

**A/HRC/RES/**24/21. **Civil society space: creating and maintaining, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment**

A/HRC/RES/24/31. Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity building in the field of human rights.

A/HRC/RES/25/3. Enhancement of international cooperation.

A/HRC/RES/25/11. Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights.

A/HRC/25/12. Freedom of religion or belief.

A/HRC/RES/25/19. Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity.

A/HRC/RES/25/32. Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerance.

A/HRC/RES/25/33. The international decade for people of African descent.

A/HRC/RES/25/34. Intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization; discrimination against persons based on religion or belief.

1. Emerging trends in 11 WSIS Action Lines both in terms of Policy and Technology are produced as an Outcome of WSIS Forum in a multistakeholder environment on an annual basis. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)