

**Document Number: WSIS+10/4/105**

**Submission by: United States, Government**

**Please note that this is a submission for the Fourth Physical meeting of the WSIS +10 MPP to be held on 14-17 April 2014.**

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

1. The **full participation of all citizens in the digital world** is a priority for the inclusive Information Society.. The key to empowering people to fully participate in the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is a healthy multistakeholder governance model and lifelong access to education offering lifelong learning opportunities for all, including through ICTs capacity building and buildout of ICT infrastructure provision of appropriate infrastructure. Promoting and protecting **freedom of expression** enables all, and particularly women , indigenous peoples older and young people and people with disabilitiesvulnerable communities[[1]](#footnote-2) to fully contribute to democratic governance, the development of policies and practices concerning inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies), that are essential for addressing their concerns, needs and aspirations.

* **ISOC, Civil Society**: The **full participation of all citizens in the digital world** is a priority for the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) and a healthy multistakeholder governance model The key to empowering people to fully participate in the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is education offering lifelong learning opportunities for all, including through ICTs, capacity building and provision of appropriate infrastructure. Promoting and protecting **freedom of expression** enables all, and particularly women , indigenous peoples older and young people and people with disabilities to fully contribute to democratic governance, the development of policies and practices concerning inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies), that are essential for addressing their concerns, needs and aspirations.
* **Canada, Government**: The **full participation of all citizens in the digital world** is a priority for the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies). The key to empowering people to fully participate in the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is education offering lifelong learning opportunities for all, including through ICTs, capacity building and provision of appropriate infrastructure. Promoting and protecting **freedom of opinion and expression** enables all, and particularly women , indigenous peoples older and young people and people with disabilities to fully contribute to democratic governance, the development of policies and practices concerning inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies), that are essential for addressing their concerns, needs and aspirations.

1. *[New number 2, Old 24]* There is increased **involvement of all stakeholders** in leveraging the transformative potential of ICT and a better and more sustainable socio-economic development in order to reach an inclusive and people-centered inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies). **All stakeholders have the opportunity to participate** in the development of policies that are important to them, as different marginalized and disadvantaged groups have different needs**Human Rights and fundamental freedoms** enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are realized online and offline for all citizens of the world, and ICTs arehave been used to contribute to peace and sustainable development.

* **Russian Federation, Government: Human Rights and fundamental freedoms** enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant UN Resolutions are realized online and offline for all citizens of the world and ICTs are used to contribute to peace and sustainable development. The same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy.

1. The same rights that people have offline must also be protected online as stated in in June 2012 Resolution 20/8 of the Human Rights Council on The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet, and as reaffirmed in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of the Geneva Declaration.

* **Russian Federation, Government: Deleted.**

1. Universal access to information and knowledge, with due respect for the and free flow of information and knowledge must be ensured with the active contribution of the most vulnerable stakeholders.

* **Russian Federation, Government**: Universal access to information and knowledge, with due respect for the free flow of information must ensured with the active contribution of the poorest and most marginalised people.Their interests ~~of the poorest and most marginalized people~~ are addressed in a **rights-based approach** to development as a cross-cutting priority encouraging the participation of all stakeholder communities, youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples in this process.

1. There are open, collaborative and voluntary policy and technical processes. A society where everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy the social and economic benefits of ICTs,
2. Multistakeholder processes have become an essential and unique approach to engagement in addressing issues affecting the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) areare harnessed,with particular emphasis on the benefits of the inclusive decision-making structure.
3. The interests of the most vulnerable stakeholders are addressed in a **rights-based approach** to development as a cross-cutting priority encouraging the participation of all stakeholder communities, youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples in this process.

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* **ISOC, Civil Society**: The interests of the poorest and most marginalized people are addressedas a cross-cutting priority encouraging the participation of all stakeholder communities, youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples in this process.

1. **Digital inclusion** of the most vulnerable stakeholder communities remains a cross-cutting priority, going beyond affordability and access to ICT networks, services and applications. It recognizes the that specific vulnerable stakeholders have unique additional needs , that include assistive technologies (such as text-free interfaces) for persons with disabilities, information and media literacy training for a wide range of vulnerable stakeholders such as poor women, youth and indigenous peoples, and. it also recognizes the importance of the effective implementation of appropriate international interoperable technical standards, of disability-inclusive development frameworks, and enabling policy environments such as public procurement policies [and in international regulatory fora?]. The importance of ICTs for social and economic empowerment, including, e.g. ICTs to promote youth employment and entrepreneurship is recognized.
2. In order to remove **gender inequalities,** in access to ICTs, there is a need to apply a gender lens in all aspects of ICTs across all sectors, and from strategies and planning through to the implementation of WSIS outcomes. This includes awareness raising, literacy and meaningful engagement to affordable access, appropriate policy frameworks and relevant content. An important way of ensuring this is realized though encouraging women to work toward leadership positions and participate in decision-making processes.
3. There is full respect for **cultural and linguistic diversity**, and that everyone’s right to express themselves and to create and disseminate their work and local content in the language of their choice.
4. [Old 16 & 17] Relevant and useful multi lingual and local digital content is encouraged to ensure that all members of the community are able to understand and e contribute to online content, and preservation of digital heritage is encouraged.
5. There is effective cooperation between stakeholders, backed with adequate project**funding and assistance for inclusive ICT initiatives** for the benefit of the developing and least developed countries.

* **Russian Federation**: There is effective cooperation backed with  **and assistance for inclusive ICT initiatives** for the benefit of the developing and least developing countries.

1. Stakeholders from relevant scientific communities are encouraged to participate in the **innovation process** and in finding pathways to development of sustainable, inclusive and equitable ICTs, which are respectful of the environment. Science is acknowledged as a common or public good that is to be shared universally.

**[New Para ISOC, Civil Society]:** An open Internet based on open standards development processes, as key enablers for an inclusive knowledge and information societies.

1. **Trusted technologies** **A trusted environment** and **safe spaces**, both online and offline areavailable to build confidence in the security of ICTs and their uses , in particular ensuring that **children and vulnerable communities, feel secure and are protected online.** National and regional collaborative efforts to collectively strive not only toincrease the safety of ICTs, especially for the vulnerable stakeholders, but also endeavor to build an inclusive information society, are promoted.

* **ISOC, Civil Society**: **AA trusted environment**, both online and offline, is critical to build confidence and security in ICTs and their uses , in particular ensuring that **children and vulnerable communities, feel secure and are givengiven the tools to be empowered online.** Collaboration to collectively strive not only to make ICTs safer for everyone, especially the vulnerable, but also endeavor to build an inclusive information society should be promoted.
* **Canada, Government**: **Trusted technologies** and **safe spaces**, both online and offline are available to build confidence and security in ICTs and their uses , in particular ensuring that **children and vulnerable communities, feel secure and are protected online.** Collaboration to collectively strive not only to make ICTs safer for everyone, especially the vulnerable, but also endeavor to build an inclusive information society should be promoted.

1. **Broadband infrastructure and affordable services** reaches everyone, including through universal service and universal access, as well as the development of Exchange Points.
2. The digital and knowledge divides are bridged to cross and reap the benefits of **ICT and broadband** in transforming the lives of communities particularly the most vulnerable stakeholders.
3. [See number 11]

* **ISOC, Civil Society**: M**ultilingual and local digital content** is encouraged to ensure that all members of the community are able to understand and e contribute to online content.
* **[See 10bis] ISOC, Civil Society** :An information society where preservation of its digital heritage is ensured.. Cohesive, conceptual and practical digital strategies, alongside an international legal framework, are necessary to ensure the preservation of and access to recorded information in all its forms in the digital environment;

1. [See 8]Ethical and professional standards are observed.

* **ISOC, Civil Society** :Ethical and professional standards should be explored in search of a common vision and understanding .

1. **The importance of further development of appropriate national and regional policy, legal and regulatory initiatives and approaches** including **multistakeholder public-private partnerships** to pay specific attention to vulnerable stakeholder communities when addressing the range of issues that impact their ability to benefit from the opportunities of ICTs and the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is recognised..

* **ISOC, Civil Society: The importance of further development of appropriate national and regional frameworksframeworks and approaches** including **multistakeholder public-private partnerships** to pay specific attention to youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous people when addressing the range of issues that impact their ability to benefit from the opportunities of ICTs and the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is recognised..
* **Canada, Government: The importance of further development of appropriate national and regional policy, initiatives and approaches** including **multistakeholder public-private partnerships** to pay specific attention to youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous people when addressing the range of issues that impact their ability to benefit from the opportunities of ICTs and the inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) is recognised..

**Indigenous and traditional knowledge** are pathways to develop innovative processes and strategies for locally-appropriate sustainable development isare supported. 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.

1. [See 8]
2. [New number2 too central to leave back here] There is increased **involvement of all stakeholders** in leveraging the transformative potential of ICT and a better and more sustainable socio-economic development in order to reach an inclusive and people-centered inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) .  **All persons have a voice** in the development of policies that are important to them, as different marginalized and disadvantaged groups have different needs

* **ISOC, Civil Society:** There is increased **involvement of all stakeholders** in leveraging the transformative potential of ICT and a better and more sustainable socio-economic development in order to reach an inclusive and people-centered inclusive Information and Knowledge Society (ies) .  **All persons are empowered to participate** in the open and distributed Internet governance model in order to contribute to policies that are important to them, as different marginalized and disadvantaged groups have different needs

1. There is increased **participation of youth in decision-making processes** as vital ingredient for improving democracy
2. **Training and capacity building** in ICTs, including media and information literacy are available to help users develop their abilities to evaluate and interact with online information resources.

* **ISOC, Civil Society: Training and capacity building** in ICTs supported by all stakeholders, including media and information literacy are available to help users develop their abilities to evaluate and interact with online information resources.

1. An enabling **environment**with adequate market, legislative and regulatory reforms would spur competition and improve access to ICTs by making them more affordable. This outcome not only has the potential to transform the lives of citizens and societies but also to help vulnerable stakeholder communities, expanding the rights and possibilities for them and their societies.

* **Russian Federation**, **Government:** An enabling **environment** with adequate market,legislative and regulatory reforms would spur competition and improve access to ICTs by making them more affordable and public. This does not only have the potential to transform the lives of citizens and societies but also to help marginalized and vulnerable, persons with disabilities and indigenous people by empowering them and their communities, including in rural and remote areas, and expanding their rights and possibilities.
* **ISOC, Civil Society**: An enabling **environment** spurringspurring competition and improvingimproving access to ICTs by making them more affordable. This does not only have the potential to transform the lives of citizens and societies but also to help marginalized persons with disabilities and indigenous people, expanding the rights and possibilities for them and their societies.

1. **Ensures affordable and public access to ICTs**, aiming at not only transform lives of citizens and communities, but also to help the marginalized and vulnerable, persons with disabilities and indigenous people by empowering them and their communities, including in rural and remote areas.

* **Russian Federation, Government**: Deleted

1. Regulators and policy makers may consider **transforming existing universal service programmes into programmes for digital inclusion** that support broadband services for all citizens while further facilitating the access to ICTs of vulnerable communities.
2. **Inclusion of people in rural and remote areas** where not only market forces, but investment might be necessary.

1. Vulnerable populations or stakeholder communities have taken on a special importance and their special needs and concerns will need to be addressed if the free flow of information is to be maintained. These vulnerable communities include persons with disabilities, the young, women, the badly educated and trained, the poor, people in remote and underserved areas, indigenous peoples, and many others. For simplicity, this Vision refers to them all as vulnerable stakeholder communities. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)