



WSIS+10 High-Level Event

Open Consultation Process

Official Submission Form #1 on the Outcome Documents of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event 13-17 April 2014, Sharm el-Sheikh

Background: The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will be an extended version of the WSIS Forum to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes related to the WSIS Action Lines under mandates of the participating agencies, while providing a platform for multistakeholder coordination of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, with involvement and participation of all WSIS action line facilitators, other UN agencies and all WSIS stakeholders.

The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will review the WSIS Outcomes (2003 and 2005) , in particular, related to the Action Lines with a view to developing proposals on a new vision beyond 2015, potentially also exploring new targets. The meeting will be organized taking into account decisions of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly.

This open and inclusive open consultation process will result in:

- Draft Outcome Documents for consideration by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, by 1st March 2014:
 - Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes
 - Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating Agencies

(Please see the Official Submission Form #1)

- Multistakeholder guidance on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event.

(Please see the Official Submission Form #2)

Please note that formal submission should be sent to the wsis-info@itu.int not later than **20 September 2013**.

A. Your Information

Title: Mr

First name: Hristo **Last name:** Hristov

Organization: Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications

Organization type: Ministry **Country:** Bulgaria

B. Formal Input on the WSIS+10 High-Level Event Outcome Documents

Referring to the background documents i.e. the WSIS +10 Visioning Challenge, the Final Statement and Final Recommendations from the WSIS+10 Review Event Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, the Booklet WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013: Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015 and the WSIS Forum 2013 Outcome Document, all WSIS Stakeholders are kindly invited to provide formal submissions and inputs towards the Outcome Documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

1. Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

(Please note that the anticipated length of this Statement is two pages)

Since the two Summits, in 2003 and 2005, WSIS Stakeholders have made every effort in implementing a common vision of the Information Society.

Overall;

- a) What are the main achievements in the area of the information society, in particular, in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines, in the past ten years?

The biggest achievement in the area of information society is the recognition of the value of multistakeholders' cooperation. The Tunis Agenda has created two tracks based on the multistakeholders' philosophy – the Internet Governance Forum and a process of 'enhanced cooperation'. The purpose of the latter is "to keep Internet going" and make it available for a wider range of users and to result in open, democratic and resilient Internet as a key factor for the establishment of more progressive knowledge based society.

The IGF has marked a significant progress in the wider implementation of the multistakeholders' approach towards an inclusive information society. The IGF has stimulated the exchange of views and ideas about a wide range of Internet issues, including critical Internet resources. However, responding to the novel challenges the IGF should improve its methods and procedures to include on an equal footing all existing stakeholders and even go further to reflect the dynamic development in the field by inviting more stakeholders. The IGF should work not only globally but pay particular attention to regional and local IGF fora and establish a stable network. The IGF could contribute greatly to prioritizing the enhanced cooperation process. The IGF network can be a vehicle for enhanced cooperation aiming at bridging the digital divide and particularly at developing the ICT in the developing countries.

b) What key identified challenges would need to be addressed in the next 10 years?

In the next ten years the ICTs will continue advancing and accelerating innovation. This in turn will have a profound impact on the economy, social life and culture. UNESCO has put forward the concept of inclusive “knowledge societies” to signify a comprehensive vision of human development, reaching beyond connectivity and technology. The tenth anniversary of WSIS will be the beginning of a new chapter that builds on the lessons learned over the past decade especially concerning the complex foundations of a more equitable and prosperous life for humanity. In the next 10 years the genuine social and particularly human potential of the Internet has to be fully developed and entrenched. Such globally relevant goal should be premised on full respect for and enjoyment of human rights especially of the right to freedom of expression. Freedom of expression as a fundamental right in a democracy should be effectively guaranteed in the multidimensional digital environment. This will result in more openness, diversity and creativity and in wider participation.

c) What do the WSIS Stakeholders envision for an information/ knowledge society ensuring that the youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples benefit from the enormous opportunities provided by the ICTs?

WSIS Stakeholders have to ensure active inclusion of all groups and segments of society. This means to harness their potential to the benefit of all humanity. The Internet should be considered a key factor on the path towards knowledge society which has the potential to bring benefit to the billions of people in the world. The steps undertaken towards this ambitious goal have to bridge the digital divide in any society and in every dimension – global, national or regional, to develop the necessary skills and infrastructure facilitating access to the Internet, the fight against cybercrime and all risks generating in the digital environment through cooperation and assistance in order for to allow different nations to share knowledge and responsibility on an equal footing.

2. Draft WSIS +10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating agencies (Definition of new priorities and objectives for WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015)

Please note: Participating agency refers to the Agencies tasked by the WSIS Outcomes to lead facilitation of WSIS Action Lines; See Annex to the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

a) In your opinion, what are the **key emerging trends** in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) landscape that should be considered in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

Please note: You may wish to refer to the WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013 Booklet on Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015, available at www.wsis.org/review/mpp.

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
 - *The role of public governance authorities is to develop policies and strategies for the wide spread and use of ICT to support the economy growth and the wealth of people. This includes access to ICT and to the Internet in particular as a great social capital and value in the 21 c. having in mind all aspects of the fast evolving technologies - social, political and cultural. It is focused primarily on the development of e-strategies, access to and use of the ICTs as well as on the indicators to measure results.*

- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
 - *Constructing reliable information and communication infrastructure based on next generation networks.*
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
 - *Access to knowledge and information is indispensable to the construction of inclusive, enlightened and knowledge based society. This means all education should be digitized and should become accessible to all different groups in society including people with low income, people with disabilities and special needs, indigenous people. This is a great challenge not only for society itself but for the responsible bodies, above all namely about what strategies and policies they have to pursue. It should be underlined in this respect that such vast and fundamental goal requires committed, open and transparent cooperation of all states and innovative solutions.*
- C4. Capacity building
 - *Capacity building is and will remain crucial for awareness raising and for the formation of the necessary skills for effective work with the new ICT. The Tunis Agenda provides for the following tracks of capacity building*
 - *“enhancing the capacity of communities in all regions to develop content in local and/or indigenous languages.*
 - *strengthening the creation of quality e-content, on national, regional and international levels.*
 - *promoting the use of traditional and new media in order to foster universal access to information, culture and knowledge for all people, especially vulnerable populations and populations in developing countries and using, inter alia, radio and television as educational and learning tools.”*
 - *The new information and communication environment is complex and dynamic and will require much more than that. Capacity building has to be promoted on a large scale encompassing all areas of social life. Broadly speaking it should be related to e-governance and e-democracy. By and large the necessary conditions have to be established so that various types of e-activities may flourish. Despite the global dimension capacity building should be encouraged regionally and locally in order to boost regional and local creativity and multilingualism. Together with the digital culture new media culture for participating full-fledgedly on the net and benefiting from a wider in scope of opportunities freedom of expression should be inculcated. An important dimension of capacity building in all areas and at different levels will be the human rights education in the new information and communications environment. Gender education in digital conditions is unalienable to it. With respect to these objectives WSIS has to collaborate effectively with other organizations in the field and with the Council of Europe for orienting capacity building towards better human rights’ knowledge and understanding.*
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
 - *Cybersecurity is essential for the normal use of the ICT and for work and exchange on the net without privacy and other concerns. We all need safe and secure cyberspace so that we can benefit from its potential. Underpinning such statement is that all sectors – public, private and civil - support trusted and secure cyber environment and there is a wide array of stakeholders that can cooperate for the accomplishment of this highly relevant global goal. Cybercrime nowadays targeting citizens represents a multidimensional threat and cyber attacks are becoming more and more sophisticated being launched by a new generation of criminals. All these challenges require a number of measures - common strategies to be established, networks with the private sector to be build, a new concept of data protection under the conditions of cloud computing to be formulated and cross-border instruments for investigation to be elaborated.*

- *At present an important issue is cloud computing which raises both jurisdictional and investigative problems and needs careful examination.*
- *The more than ten year implementation of the Cybercrime Convention has brought forth a range of measures and partnerships against cybercrime. They have to be enriched further on a global and regional level. Prevention for instance, represents an important stage in the fight against attacks in cyberspace. It is a broad category encompassing the elaboration of standards as well as practical steps such as: constant provision of information about the opportunities and the risks of the Internet; formation of special skills and behaviour of users and especially of young people; distribution of sufficient materials; organization of campaigns; promotion of good models and practices, etc.*
- *Cybersecurity requires also special protection against harmful and inappropriate behaviour on the net. With regard to this children and the most vulnerable have to be particularly protected and educated how to communicate in the new information environment.*
- *Special protection should be offered against cyberbullying and cyberattacks on women. Freedom of expression and the media can be crucial tools for attaining all enlisted goals and the media can be a valuable partner in the fight against cybercrime and other cyber offences and risks. Freedom of expression on the one hand can boost positive attitude and on the other help in exchanging relevant information and good practice.*
- **C6. Enabling environment**
 - *Most important measures are those calling for adequate policy framework which should enhance innovation, participation and entrepreneurship in every area of social life and activity. These measures should rely on bold and innovative solutions counting on transparency and input from various stakeholders and from the public at large, they should foster the Internet development and the effective enjoyment of human rights in and through it and not stifle its immense potential.*
- **C7. ICT Applications:**
 - **E-government**
 - *E-government should be understood as underpinning institutionally e-governance for the accomplishment of transparent, deliberative and inclusive e-democracy which in turn expands and supports democracy in the digital age. In this respect access to information and free communication as corollaries of the implementation of freedom of expression in the new digital environment is of crucial importance. E-government is a broad project in itself that should be put into practice as institutional and procedural undertaking reflecting democratic principles and values and rule of law.*
 - **E-business**
 - *E-business should be promoted and for that however, security on the net should be strengthened. Creating an ICT enabling environment is an essential goal in this respect. Particular attention should be paid to promoting e-business in developing countries which is an element of the process of bridging the digital divide.*
 - **E-learning**
 - *E-learning is an unalienable element of modern education and it has to be pursued through effective strategies. It has to be considered as an issue to be settled also for the developing countries.*
 - **E-health**
 - *E-health strategies are to be considered as a tool for the comprehensive implementation of the ICT in all areas of social life to the benefit of the citizens.*
 - **E-employment**

- *E-employment may facilitate the finding of jobs in the digital environment and can stimulate small and medium size business especially it can contribute to the settling of the problem of unemployment among young people.*
 - **E-environment**
 - *Our natural environment will more and more rely on innovative solutions for its sustainability. These solutions should be developed as multistakeholders' and multidisciplinary projects. Awareness should be raised about the opportunities for society and nature through the expansion of a green economy. In this respect e-environment education should be elaborated as an element of e-education. Common objectives can be formulated on the basis of the evaluation of the stage of development of e-health, e-business and e-environment in the countries. A global common strategy for sustainable and beneficial e-environment related to the overall strategy for the protection of the environment should be laid down.*
 - **E-agriculture**
 - *Feeding in the WSIS new Action Plan more proposals to enhance e-agriculture. E-agriculture can be efficient mechanism for improvement of rural areas and in particular envisaging projects to be implemented in the rural areas of developed countries to boost entrepreneurship and growth.*
 - **E-science**
 - *It will be more fruitful if e-science strategies are interwoven with other e-strategies such as e-learning, e-education and e-business to launch multistakeholders' and multidisciplinary projects. Security on the net is vital for the effective carrying out of such undertakings. Affordable and reliable high-speed Internet connection for all universities and research institutions, digitization of libraries and documents, free access to databases and training for information gathering, processing and research in the new information and communication environment are relevant objectives to be further pursued for the establishment of genuine knowledge society.*
- **C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content**
 - *Cultural diversity, identity and local content should be boosted through promoting the public service value on the Internet and particularly through safeguarding freedom of expression implemented by a multiplicity of platforms and services.*
- **C9. Media**
 - *The media has been evolving through time and changes under the impact of the ICTs have occurred in the media sector. Taking these into account a new notion of media in the novel information and communication environment had to be elaborated.*
- **C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society**
 - *There will be a need to make significant contribution to the protection of human rights and democracy. Work in the field of freedom of expression and freedom of the media, its instruments for enhancing the creative communicative potential of the Internet and the empowerment of Internet users particularly children should be explicitly underlined. These can serve as sources for inspiration, deliberation and standard adoption to shape the ethical dimensions of Information society.*
- **C11. International and regional cooperation**
 - *Cooperation should be based on good and coherent coordination among international and regional bodies and various fora. Relevant communities should be constant and reliable partners underpinning the multistakeholders' nature of collaboration. Openness and transparency are principles which implementation should be consistent and on-going.*

b) What are areas that have **not been adequately captured by the framework of the existing 11 WSIS Action Lines** and would need to be addressed beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
 - Click here to enter text.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
 - Click here to enter text.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
 - Click here to enter text.
- C4. Capacity building
 - Click here to enter text.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
 - Click here to enter text.
- C6. Enabling environment
 - Click here to enter text.
- C7. ICT Applications:
 - E-government
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-business
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-learning
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-health
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-employment
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-environment
 - *E-government, e-learning, e-health, e-employments, e-environment, e-agriculture, e-science have not been captured in their interrelated complexity and have not been fully dealt with. Work in these areas should continue deeply having in mind the experience accumulated in these areas and the opportunities for transversal projects.*
 - E-agriculture
 - Click here to enter text.
 - E-science
 - Click here to enter text.
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
 - Click here to enter text.
- C9. Media
 - *The media has evolved enormously under the impact of the new ICT. Activities in the field of the media being an unalienable element of a democratic and people-oriented Information society and a powerful factor for freedom and participation should continue and expand.*
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
 - Click here to enter text.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
 - *The issue of enhanced cooperation as related to regional and international cooperation should be further elucidated. New lines of action reflecting the achievements in other*

spheres and reflecting the needs and aspirations of developing countries should be put forward.

- c) In your opinion are there any priority areas that need to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

3. Ensuring accountability of the WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015 (Targets and Indicators for an open and inclusive information/knowledge society for all beyond 2015)

Please note that information provided under this point will be relevant to the second physical meeting of the open consultation process on WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

- a) How can the **monitoring and evaluation** of future implementation of the WSIS process, in particular, the Action Lines be better enabled?

Regular monitoring and evaluation at various levels is worth being implemented – reports and independent expert evaluation in two years. Monitoring has to be carried out through questionnaires, exchange of results and best practices. There should be maximum transparency through regular publication of all reports and information about evaluation, successes and failures.

- b) What are the **priority areas** that the post-2015 WSIS process should focus on and which goals and targets could monitor the new vision for WSIS beyond 2015?

ICTs are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare. Many innovations have occurred which were not anticipated at the time of WSIS, including the growth of mobile Internet, social networking and cloud computing. These innovations, and the increasing pervasiveness of ICTs within society, have had profound impacts on the ways in which governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers, and citizens participate in public and private life.

The contribution of ICTs needs to be catalysed through the actions of a variety of actors, particularly governments, private sector and development partners.

4. Any additional comments or suggestions

The WSIS +10 meeting should map the necessary steps towards a comprehensive, open and human oriented information society. Sustainable development should serve society prosperity, human progress and democracy. Diversification of bodies, persons and communities included in the preparation and implementation and media promotion can support intellectually this most relevant meeting.

The WSIS+10 Review should make a powerful contribution to the General Assembly's consideration of the post-2015 development agenda. ICTs will play a critical role in achieving the sustainable development goals. The participation of all WSIS stakeholders will be critical both in ensuring that ICTs are fully incorporated in these goals and securing the long-term benefits that can be realized through them.