



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

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Organization type: *Government* **Country:** *Egypt*

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 Follow-up on the Implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society is considered one of the most important topics, addressed extensively on the global level. It is our collective conviction that Information and communication technologies are becoming indispensable instruments in achieving the internationally agreed upon Millennium Development Goals and the WSIS targets.

The WSIS emphasized the importance of harnessing the ICTs for achieving the developmental goals, which our peoples aspire to in their endeavors for better quality of life. Therefore, plenty of efforts were exerted to bridge the digital divide as a first step towards building the digital economy. When we look at the implementation mechanism of the different WSIS action lines, we note that a lot of activities took place in a multi-stakeholder environment.

While we were setting the WSIS agenda back in 2000, the world had yet to know the full potential of ICTs. Governments and non ICT sectors were gradually learning how the new technologies can affect their work. Today, this agenda has to be set not only with multi stakeholders from the ICT sector, but also with stakeholders from other sectors as well.

We have to admit that our success in 2003 and 2005 have set in motion ICTs as a tool affecting society at large. To live up to the expectations we set, it is duty as ICT institutions, not to monopolize this debate, but to open up to all beneficiaries. Thus, multistakeholderism becomes a MUST.

With the new models of partnership and multi stakeholderism that were introduced for ICT development in the different regions and communities, a number of achievements were realized, such as the development of public information infrastructure that was perceived at different rates across the continents. The ICT development permeated key public services, especially in government, education, health, small and middle enterprises, e-government. It is worth-noting that governments around the globe have developed national e-government initiatives and services at all levels, adapted to the needs of their

citizens and business communities, to achieve a more efficient allocation of resources and public goods. In addition, initiatives were developed to provide access to remote areas and all segments of the society including the under-served and people with disabilities.

The reduction of internet prices and introduction of new means of connecting to the internet, such as USB modems and Mobile Internet were noted. This had led to equal development in the field of e-business and e-commerce initiatives. The introduction of International Domain Names was a major success that contributed to the enrichment of cultural and linguistic diversity on the internet.

Training and capacity building programs are considered as a prominent feature of the ICT development in the past 10 years. Training initiatives and programs were addressed to various segments on the academic and operational levels. The enhanced use of ICTs has meant exerting efforts towards enhancing user confidence and protecting data, especially with the enhancement of the commercial aspects of the Internet signified by e-business and e-commerce developments. This meant harmonized efforts for the formulation of related legislations. This is in addition to attention paid to child online safety.

In summary, the ICTs development was rightly perceived and have affected communication among peoples, nations and regions on the social, economic and political levels. The benefits are huge and the challenges are not less as well. Therefore, collective efforts are much needed to complement previous achievements.

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

Throughout the past 10 years, the ICT sector has forged for itself a very special niche. However, the journey is still full of challenges, using the stocktaking exercise of the ITU and WSIS targets to monitor efforts on the national, regional and global levels.

The majority of the different case studies highlighted important areas of work that need to be addressed as a key challenge for the future or beyond 2015, including both developed and developing countries, such as:

- Broadband Development
- Content Industry
- Cloud Computing
- Social Networking and Freedom of Expression
- Global guidelines or principles for Online Code of Ethics
- ICT for Democracy
- Communications and Intellectual Property Rights
- Network Security
- Digital Identity Management
- Capacity building
- Open Source Technology
- Training and addressing people's with disabilities
- Innovation
- Measuring the impact of ICT on development
- Using ICT in sustainable development
- Big data

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?

Inclusion is a key factor in the development of ICT. Inclusion means that the benefit from ICT development be directed to various segments of the society. This includes and is not limited to youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples.

Youth are igniting societies with their enthusiasm, creativity and forward looking. If there will be a group to think outside any box, it should be youth. In addition, the largest segment of ICT users in any given community is formed of youth. Hence, there is a need to focus on developing youth capabilities through means of ICTs in various domains, including education, health, and environment. Providing youth with easy access to ICTs will enable them to get oriented to the world of economy and business, and hence enable them for better job creation and employment. The development of ICT needs innovative thinking; a requirement that is found in fresh minds of youth. There is a need to cater for this innovative capabilities through providing incubation facilities for brilliant ideas, and embracing promising endeavours that are expected to be entrepreneurial successes. Knowledge transfer and sharing of best practices is necessary while building youth capabilities in related areas of ICTs. This is to be through organizing camps and specialized events where youth lead with their views, ideas and lessons learnt. In addition, ICT means should facilitate youth contribution in policy making and public governance. This means that ICT has the role of reducing the gap between public governance and young citizens.

Women do not only comprise half of any given society, but they are as well a driving force on many levels. Enabling them will be in favor of the development of large segments of the society and the community at large. Women, if educated, they will facilitate the education of a whole nation. Hence, there is a need to address women issues through ICTs. There is an equal need to involve women in ICT training and raising awareness. Capacity Building should be geared towards catering for their daily lives and concerns, like access to health care, exercise of legal rights and participation in government. ICTs as an enabler will help women to develop their economic profiles, and hence their gender equality, self-independence and self-realization. In this regard we suggest that the international community should start to think about working on developing a crosscutting program/initiative on “using ICT to empower girls in rural areas” to fight the concept of early marriage for young girls, especially in rural areas in developing countries and LDCs. Encourage mobile developers and industry inventors to develop mobile application dedicated for women in rural areas “mobile money technology” to deal with their own business, in order to have their self-independence and self-realization.

Poverty is not only lack of money, but in the first place lack of resources and access to knowledge and eventually to development. ICTs have proved to be a source for developing economies and societies. Sustainable access to information and services will enhance peoples' capabilities, especially in remote and under-served areas, providing an equal opportunity to benefit from the knowledge society, starting with education to services and of course to business opportunities. Hence, it is of great importance to focus on infrastructure development to cover all society segments. Good, widespread ICT infrastructure will enable provision of information and capacity building and hence to economic opportunities and prosperity.

Social inclusion is one of the major benefits of ICTs, due to its ability to cross barriers of time, space and effort. Hence, ICTs are to be considered as adequate platform to serve people with disabilities by filling gaps, connecting people, transferring knowledge and ideas, and much more. The benefits of ICTs to people with disabilities to better include them in their societies and help them to interact, need to be considered and developed to cater for various needs and provide them with basic public services. Thus, there is a need for utilizing ICTs to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities by providing access to information and knowledge, new employment and socialization opportunities. This could be through adopting an international guidelines focusing on supporting access to information and knowledge; providing better services and enhancing services accessibility; promoting equality in educational opportunities; providing better employment opportunities; building the knowledge infrastructure for PWDs; and promoting ICT research, development, and innovation to serve PWDs.

Due to the high rate of unemployment among PWDs, income levels of PWDs in developing countries is usually very low, which affect their affordability and increases illiteracy rate among PWDs and decrease ICT use among them; this prevents ICT technology from providing suitable means for PWDs to promote their inclusion within the society and at the same time completes the vicious circle of higher unemployment. In this connection, we would like also to encourage the international community and developers to start working on special applications that enable mothers and specially the illiterate to help their children with special needs, ensure that they are included in their communities and guarantee jobs for them on the long run.

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
 - Revisiting and developing national plans, ensuring the multi-stakeholder approach for ICT development and promotion on the national and regional levels. There is a need to maintain regular monitoring and evaluation of these plans.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
 - There is a need to develop and disseminate educational easy-to-use devices to enable better education process and enhance learning abilities.

There is a need to focus on content development on the web to serve various nations in different languages.

It is necessary to provide ICT services that guarantee the inclusion of people with disabilities. Specialized training is an important component in this regard.

- C3. Access to information and knowledge
 - There is a need to develop and disseminate educational easy-to-use devices to enable better education process and enhance learning abilities.

There is a need to focus on content development on the web to serve various nations in different languages.

It is necessary to provide ICT services that guarantee the inclusion of people with disabilities. Specialized training is an important component in this regard.

- C4. Capacity building
 - It is important to provide development and training on mobile technologies to serve various purposes especially e-education and e-health. Safety of usage should be an important component of training.

It is necessary to provide specialized training for people with disabilities.

- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
 - Build national and regional capabilities in the field of Cyber-Security. There is a need to continue building national and regional Computer Incident Response Teams.

Raise public awareness in regards to online safety at large for all segments of users with various aims.

- C6. Enabling environment

- There is a need to develop broadband strategies under the umbrella of national and regional policy and regulatory environment. Both should be geared towards access to information and ICT services.

There is a need to involve the private sector in the implementation of broadband strategies.

- C7. ICT Applications:

- E-government

- On-going automation of central governmental offices and services and related branches in remote underserved areas.

There is a need to focus on Green IT for preserving the environment.

- E-business

- Raise awareness among SMEs about finding e-business opportunities and related procedures, including accuracy and safety of online transactions.

- E-learning

- Provide training for teachers on using ICT media in the learning process. Avail ICT media for students and teachers, especially in developing countries and in remote, underserved areas. Safety measures need to be taken into consideration.

- E-health

- Health experts in developing countries need easy access to the world's medical knowledge and locally-relevant content resources for strengthening public health research and prevention programs. There is a need to use ICTs for better health services, specially for citizens in remote and under-served areas in developing countries.

- E-employment

- Allow citizens, particularly in the developing countries and small economies, to live and work anywhere, and increase employment opportunities for women and people with disabilities.

- E-environment

- There is a need for more studies and raising public awareness on green ICT issues and how the ICTs contribute towards preserving a green environment. The business community should be part of the process.

Related policies should be developed and harmonized among countries and regions for better management of ICT wastes.

- E-agriculture

- [Click here to enter text.](#)

- E-science

- There is a need to provide access to scientific information and researches for educational purposes and for the commercialization of research.

- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

- Broadband development and penetration is key to allowing better accessibility and hence better cultural and linguistic diversity through the provision of new related content.

- C9. Media

- [Click here to enter text.](#)

- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society

- Develop global online code of ethics.

- C11. International and regional cooperation

- [Click here to enter text.](#)

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
 - Entrepreneurship Strategy: The government should enhance the entrepreneurship framework in order to help the SMEs acquire the necessary capital to finance their growing operations.
 - ICT Research and Development Centers of Excellence are virtual or physical centers of sustained distinction in research in key areas that have the potential to increase the country's capacity in highly qualified human resources. The purpose of these centers is to provide a platform for research and development (R&D) by concerned experts in their respective fields of specialization.
 - Ensuring widespread, affordable access to ICT is key to the success of the government's efforts to foster an information society.
 - The need to develop a strategy for the parliaments to utilize the ICT tools in the parliamentary proceedings.
 - Mobile and Electronic governments, and also for different organizations become a key pillar for connected and responsive governments.
 - The digital Identity Management is a one of the issues that should be considered and held by the governments to ensure the achievement of the Information Society target.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
 - Recognize the importance of cloud computing in the international ICT arena by exerting the needed efforts in this field and the related areas of data centers, integrated solutions and Web 2.0 technologies.
 - Develop a convergence strategy between broadcasting and mobile services by having a new technological and regulatory approaches.
 - The transition from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting will be essential to benefit consumers by having more choices and quality in television services, and also to free up radio spectrum for new services. The needs of the developing countries should be considered in this aspect.
 - Develop new technologies and standards to lower the cost of broadband backbone infrastructure.
 - There is a need to develop new business models and finance arrangements for funding broadband backbone development, which is vital for enhancing the investment opportunities in this fields, especially in the developing countries and rural areas.
 - Network needs to be planned by using a database referring to a common GIS.
 - Ensure the utilization of Broadband for sustainable development.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge

- Assure the gender aspect by providing women the access to information, research, databases, legislation, and career and business opportunities.
- Develop Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programs that provide funding, mentorship and knowledge, and moreover helps in promoting and supporting social entrepreneurship for the aim of creating solutions for social, economic and environmental challenges.
- Develop content, with respect to accessibility and open standards.
- Promote Universal Design for all parties.
- Consider the Free and Open Source Software for facilitating access, and develop the need procedures in this regard.
- Encourage the use of Open Systems Solutions as effective long-term sustainability priorities.
- Acknowledge, support and promote small-scale, independent or user-defined FOSS incubators, in addition to the allocation of public funds and procurement processes;
- **C4. Capacity building**
 - Promote the utilization of the embedded software system for training and education.
 - Support the local content and software industry for the use of ICT in the training and education systems, to be in accordance with the national culture and respecting the linguistic aspect of each state.
 - Develop an e-skilling impact assessment framework, with clear indicators that are relevant and acceptable.
 - The increasing importance of the development of enabling policies for M-learning, taking into consideration the need to provide professional development to teachers on using mobile technologies to support teaching and learning; acquiring more affordable and relevant devices, content and connectivity, including smart phones, notepads, tablets and integrated digital textbooks; creating an ecosystem for the safe use of mobile technologies for education; encouraging private-public partnerships to popularize and roll out m-learning initiatives; and the new to assure the importance of research in the area of m-learning.
- **C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs**
 - Promote the use of e-signature methods, with enhancing the confidence and security in using such technology, which could be done through adopting efficient legislations and using different mechanisms as developing USB-based authentication token for multiple applications and network services.
 - Develop an effective and efficient equipment certification process and ensure adherence to global standards benefits both the industry and users, as it protects the integrity of the telecom networks, guarantees that consumers get standard equipments that works and prevents frequency spectrum interferences.
 - Facilitate the introduction and expansion of electronic transactions over the Internet and the development of efficient security systems in this regard.
 - Raise the awareness on the IPR and related rights.

- Encourage the education and training institutes to develop related programs on cyber security to ensure the availability of qualified human resources.
- Develop policies to guide child online protection.
- Adopt a strict hierarchical architecture for the public key infrastructure (PKI) set up as it is becoming central to efforts to protect digital identity for individuals and organizations, enabling advanced e-business, e-government and e-commerce activities.
- Support countries to establish Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), which provide support to various entities in the ICT, banking and government sectors, helping them tackle cyber security threats and deal with denial of service (DoS) attacks. This should be considered especially with developing countries.
- Cooperate with the business sector, such as manufacturers and operators, to pave the way toward the achievement of the “security by design” concept, where devices and products contain standard security features to reduce the exploitation of vulnerabilities.
- Pursue national, regional and international frameworks.
- C6. Enabling environment
 - Promote the use of e-signature methods by enhancing the confidence and security in using such technology, which could be done through adopting efficient legislations and using different mechanisms as developing USB-based authentication token for multiple applications and network services.
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- Pursue national ,regional and international frameworks.
- C7. ICT Applications:
 - E-government
 - The use of new media to inform and connect citizens to e-government and sustainable development processes are of paramount importance.
 - Promote e-skills and suitable infrastructure in the developing world and amongst valuable social groups.
 - Development in applying green ICT technology through e-governance will contribute to sustainable economic, financial and social development.
 - Adopt a legislation that regulates the use of mobile technology by the government and other stakeholders.
 - E-Government enables access to people with disabilities.
 - E-business
 - - Adopt an electronic signature law that will enable the government and the country's citizens to use electronic documents, in addition to creating a supporting environment for electronic payments, e-contracting and e-payments.
 - Develop a strict hierarchical architecture for the public key infrastructure (PKI) set up to create qualified e-signatures. PKI is becoming central to efforts to protect digital identity for individuals and organizations, enabling advanced e-business, e-government and e-commerce activities.
 - The increasing importance of mobile and international broadband connectivity will influence the creation of local content and the ability of developing countries to market their ICT products.
 - In least developed countries, capacities in IT and Internet-related subjects need to be strengthened, including business-related components.
 - Enhance the access of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to affordable computer and broadband infrastructure to offer effective e-commerce solutions.
 - Encourage women in developing countries to become more engaged in the e-commerce processes in order to provide them with income opportunities in rural and remote communities, benefiting them and their families.
 - Improve telecom regulations, infrastructure, and the emergence of new business opportunities, illustrated by offshoring.
 - E-learning
 - - Develop enabling policies for M-learning, taking into consideration the need to provide professional development to teachers on using mobile technologies to support teaching and learning; acquire more affordable and relevant devices, content and connectivity, including smart phones, notepads, tablets and integrated digital textbooks; create an ecosystem for the safe use of mobile technologies for education; encourage private-public partnerships to popularize and roll out M-learning initiatives; and assure the importance of research in the area of M-learning.

- Mobiles can be extended beyond learning to improve the learning opportunities for women and girls in regards to the status of their respective communities, which will help in strengthening their connection to the world, maximize the potential of economic opportunities, and increase their autonomy.
- Develop a network between the schools using the ICT tools to achieve computer literacy, in addition to enhancing student creativity and positioning them to cope with the requirements of the modern workplace, and also to improve teaching and educational methods, by introducing interactive education methods such as learning management and school management systems.
- Promote the e-learning procedures for marginalized groups as for the disabilities and to empower women.
- E-health
 - - Develop the utilization of mobile technologies in health projects.
 - Evaluate mechanisms for the impact of e-health.
 - Support health professionals, working in remote areas especially in the developing countries, and in specific in the rural areas.
 - Target financial resources specifically for e-Health services
 - Develop human capacity in e-Health
- E-employment
 - - Enhance the international cooperation in regards to the promotion of green ICT field.
 - Set legislations in regards to e-waste management and ICT devices flow across borders.
 - Adopt a life-cycle management approach for ICTs, looking at policy, standards, consumer education and design innovation to promote resource efficiency. Responsibility needs to extend beyond government and corporations to include the end user (the general population), specifically by increasing consumer awareness and improved use of social media. Attention should be directed to management including the disposal of out-of-life ICT equipment.
 - Emphasize the measuring performance and establishing reduction goals and agree on a common set of methodologies and engaging the private sector to adopt these standards.
- E-environment
 - - Enhance the international cooperation in regards to the promotion of green ICT field.
 - Set legislations in regards to e-waste management and ICT devices flow across borders.
 - Adopt a life-cycle management approach for ICTs, looking at policy, standards, consumer education and design innovation to promote resource efficiency. Responsibility needs to extend beyond government and corporations to include the

end user (the general population), specifically by increasing consumer awareness and improved use of social media. Attention should be directed to management, including the disposal of out-of-life ICT equipment.

- Emphasize the measuring performance and establishing reduction goals and agree on a common set of methodologies and engaging the private sector to adopt these standards.

- Widen the scope of e-environment into e-sustainability, which would allow for more flexibility to the areas that have been brought in this regard.

- Promote the importance of capacity building and raising awareness on the challenges of climate change adaptation and the contribution that ICTs can make to support disaster risk reduction strategies.

- Support the role of the UN to assist developing countries in using the best technological solutions for each context.

- Improve the information available on e-waste, and make it available to decision makers to allow for better policies to be introduced.

- The use of ICTs in climate monitoring should be seen as an “end to end” system from observations to predictions.

- E-agriculture

- - Facilitate the information flows and social networks for maximizing the positive impact that the ICT can have on the livelihoods of people in rural agricultural communities.

- Promote Mobile technology as an important tool in agricultural information services.

- Assure the role of the rural women and empower them with the knowledge of ICT usage in agriculture.

- Improve the related content, including hyperlocal information.

- Support multistakeholder approach to develop and implement e-agriculture strategies.

- There is an urgent need for affordable and quality ICT access providing relevant, quality and actionable content in rural areas, with a particular focus on agricultural smallholders, women and youth

- E-science

- - Encourage the development of different applications using e-science mechanism leading to more innovative and scientific solution to a variety of challenges and sectors.

- Develop a web-based platform in support of the policy and for the benefit of science and society should be a priority. This platform will allow open and free access to scientific knowledge and allow countries to optimize their capacities to use e-Science to pursue their development and learning objectives.

- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

- Expand and focus on appropriate culturally sensitive e-government and e-community initiatives for the specific indigenous peoples, when these strategies are being developed in local areas.
 - Enhance the local content industry with respect to the cultural diversity among and within countries.
 - Develop the establishment of domain names in different languages to meet the multilingualism aspect.
 - Encourage the use of Social media and new networks by developing its use in different languages.
 - The digital Identity Management is a one of the issues that should be considered and held by the governments to ensure the achievement of the Information Society target.
- **C9. Media**
 - Support the growth of converged media industries and the applications that will devolve from it.
 - Encourage the heavy investments in telecommunications and IT infrastructure and looking particularly closely at the potential that broadband connectivity presents to deliver media content that has been traditionally delivered through terrestrial and satellite broadcasting.
 - The delivery of the content over electronic networks could be the catalyst needed for stimulating demand for communications as well as media services.
 - Address freedom of expression and privacy protection on internet in formulating an inclusive information society.
 - Dealing with the liability of intermediaries and governmental surveillance, particularly in relation to freedom of expression on internet and privacy protection.
 - Optimizing the role of traditional media, such as public service broadcasters and community radios, by embracing new media platforms and user-generated content in the emerged Internet era.
 - Develop policies and strategies for the increasing role of media and Internet/mobile and digital platform based on new media.
 - Continue the ongoing multistakeholder consultative and participatory process and formulate a coordinated strategy with stakeholders, including UN agencies.
 - Support all the media initiative in terms of human rights.
 - **C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society**
 - Promote the gender equality in using ICT by empowering women especially
 - Using the new social media mechanisms to communicate with citizens where Government officials could have social media accounts which will achieve political and economic inclusiveness, in addition to realizing basic human rights, and Protection of the rule of law,

accountability and transparency.

- Promoting inclusiveness & diversity through establishing social media with local content and applications.

- Promote user-driven models that provide better alternatives than consumer-driven and regulatory focused approaches to understanding the drivers of social change and ethical behavior on-line amongst individual and groups.

- Recognizing the right to disconnect and its implications.

- Promoting the rights to communications as a main pillar of the basic human rights in the emerging Information Society.

- Preserving the Communications rights which enable the citizens to use the ICT tools with respect to the ethical and legal frames in accordance to the cultural and religious bases of the society.

- Developing national strategies and legislation that enhance the right to communicate and the communications rights of the citizens.

- Regional and International Cooperation among the different stakeholders on the newly emerging communications rights.

- **C11. International and regional cooperation**

- Promote Programs and Projects working on utilizing ICT indicators.

- Enhance the cooperation on the related programs on the utilization of ICT tools for enabling Gender equality, disabilities and indigenous groups.

- Developing e-strategy development; access to and use of ICT in developing countries; enabling environment and measuring ICT for development with focus on e-government indicators development worldwide.

- Creating ICT-based services using mobile communications services.

- Access to the internet in developing countries has to be expanded.

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

There a number of priority areas that needs to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS beyond 2015, due to its effect in the development process and strengthening the move towards building Information Society and Knowledge Economy. Those areas come in light of the improvements that emerge from the ICT sector itself, in addition to the demands of the other sectors of the economy and the society which urges its enhancement.

The suggested key areas are as follows:

- **Broadband Development:** The broadband has become a vital source for the usage of different actors either on the level of citizens, or on the level of the other stakeholders as the governments, private sector, civil society, academia, and international organizations. The development of an advanced

broadband network supports the economic growth of the country and facilitate the utilization of ICT tools by the citizens. This process urges high investment in the infrastructure for establishment of broadband networks. The investment opportunities are one of the main obstacles that face the developing countries due to the challenge of raising funds in this regard. Countries need to develop relevant strategies and policies that could meet the new developments that occur in the broadband networks in order to expand the benefits on all the society sectors and different stakeholders.

- Cloud Computing: The cloud computing has been one of the emerging issues in the ICT sector that should be addressed in the implementation of WSIS beyond 2015. The development of this technology requires an advanced infrastructure that could support its implementation. Moreover, the countries should adopt related policies in this regard.

- Content Industry: This is one of the main pillars for the promoting the Information Society and in specific the developing countries. There is a need to develop the content industry to meet the diversity in cultural and religious aspects, and be in accordance with the WSIS target to assure on the multilingualism aspect. The development of this industry will enhance the access and inclusiveness of different societies and groups, especially in rural areas and for the indigenous people. The content should be also developed in a way that could meet the needs of the disabilities. A related aspect for the content industry is the development of ICT applications that could be relative to the cultural diversity. Moreover, there should be support for the adopting the use of Internet domain with the local languages.

- Social Networking and Freedom of Expression: The social networks has become one of the main mechanisms that reflects the widespread of using ICT tools and the expansion of Internet utilization, in line with assuring the main rights of access and freedom of expression. The social networks have become a new alternative means for media, becoming a main source of information and interaction. Furthermore, social networks has relevance to promoting the principal of ICT for Democracy, which provides virtual citizenship creating a platform for mutual discussions and interaction among citizens within and across border, in addition to the tendency of the government and all its officials to use such tools for the interaction with the citizens. Accordingly, the means for dealing with the social networks are vital for WSIS beyond 2015 to guarantee adopting the policies and strategies for access and openness for the different actors to be engaged in those tools.

- Global guidelines or principles for online code of ethics: The use of Internet has become related to a variety of ethics that could lead to the beneficial use of this important tool without leading to harmful misuse or leading to negative impacts. Consequently, the different stakeholders on national, regional and international levels should encourage the discussion on the main code of ethics that should be adopted by different actors while using the ICT tools. The essential principal of the right to communicate could be on the top priorities of any proposed code of ethics where all the actors should be guaranteed the right to communicate on the bases of equality and inclusiveness, either in respect to gender, cultural, religious, linguistic diversity, in addition to the disabilities and indigenous groups. Moreover, there should be development on the main agreed upon communications rights that any ICT user should enjoy, and can't be deprived; however, regulated in a manner that cope with the cultural frame of the society, and in accordance to avoiding any harmful impact on the other actors.

- ICT for Democracy: It is one of the emerging primary areas that rose due to the improvement in the ICT tools that are being used, especially social networks and mobile internet. This concept is highly related to the use of ICT in development in line with the widespread of democracy ideas worldwide, and in specific the developing countries. Accordingly, the use of ICT tools to ensure the freedom of expression from one side for all citizens, and from the other side that the government and its officials could use those tools to interact with the citizens, and moreover have a transparent and accountable way of governance. This is related to the e-government field where the government could use the ICT tools to

interact with the citizens and provide the needed services which helps in enhancing the efficiency of the government.

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?

Reviewing and Reconsidering the WSIS targets according to the rapid change in the communication and Information technology (i.e. remove some indices and include others reflecting the changes).

Call upon all international organizations to take into consideration the specific features of developing countries when reviewing and designing new sets of targets, measurements and indices. Many developing countries are making good progress in their ICT sectors, but are disadvantaged by other factors such as large population; which underestimates penetration rate indicators in those countries. In this context we suggest searching for other indicators that use different types of growth rates in the number of subscribers or users to reflect the progress of developing countries.

Calculating the index depending on ICT penetration indicators underestimate the progress in ICT sector achieved by developing countries with high population such as Egypt and India. This problem can be mitigated if the indicator of “mobile broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants” is calculated as a ratio of total mobile subscribers (as in the DOI), as well as calculating “fixed lines” as a % of households and not population. Preventing redundancy in the index calculation we propose to omit “the proportion of households with a computer” might; given that the indicator is already reflected in the indicator of “proportion of households with internet access at home”. Due to the recent technological changes, we think that the indicators weights should change and more weight should be given to the “mobile cellular subscription per 100 inhabitants” than the indicator of “fixed telephone lines per 100 inhabitants”. In general, the indicators included in the ICT skills sub – index, are not referring to ICT skills and despite the unavailability of other indicators for all the countries, still those indicators need to be reconsidered to reflect the real capacity of use of ICTs.

in this connection, International organizations should think on focusing on ICT related variables in the formulation of ICT measurements and indices, and look for new sets of indicators that would suit the nature of developing nations and truly reflect the progress they achieved in ICT.

- 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?

In order to answer this question we need to remember that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Geneva Plan of Action has identified ten targets to be achieved by 2015. This should be our base to evaluate what has been done and consider candidly the priority areas and/or challenges that obstructed or delayed the process of development and achievements. The WSIS' action lines, WSIS beyond 2015 as well as MDGs and Post MDGs are linked together.

We will focus on three targets out of the ten WSIS targets, that we deem particularly important and consider as being the key for achieving any ICT sustainable development.

We believe that Access should remain the first priority on our discussion table. There are still several impediments to affordability that prevent many countries from joining many ICT events even remotely. It is noticeable that the current distribution of access to the Internet needs to be redressed, especially with regard to the developing world. So if we look at the access targets number one and ten; In many developing countries, more than half of rural households have a mobile telephone, but very few have Internet access; broadband access levels remain negligible. Taking Africa as an example: although the internet usage growth rate from 2000 to 2012 was 3,606.7 %, Africa online users remain a mere 7.0 % from the globe compared to Latin America/Caribbean (10.6 %) and Asia (44.8 %)

If we compare this to the number of mobile subscribers, we will find that we have now 6 billion mobile users. That is equivalent to 87 percent of the world population, and is a good increase from 5.4 billion in 2010 and 4.7 billion mobile subscriptions in 2009.

Mobile subscribers in the developed world have reached a saturation point with at least one cell phone subscription per person. This means market growth is being driven by the demand of the developing world, led by rapid mobile adoption in China and India, the world's most populous nations. At the end of 2011 there were 4.5 billion mobile subscriptions in the developing world (76 percent of global subscriptions). Mobile penetration in the developing world now is 79 percent, with Africa being the lowest region worldwide at 53 percent. As for the mobile and fixed broadband still we need more work to be done even though the broadband commission efforts to increase the access of the internet. The global active mobile broadband in 2011 was 1,186 in million where Africa still the lowest region by 31 million user behind the CIS and Arab states regions 42 and 48 million users consecutively.

These numbers show that we need to give a special attention to the Mobile app as they are probably the main tool of ICTs that would serve the next billion users. More studies about their market, impact and how best to exploit them in developmental purposes is certainly needed led by a long term vision and clear legal framework. Appropriate tools and applications need to be developed so that all segments of society regardless of social classes, gender, geographical or age distribution can benefit from Internet services. National broadband and introducing WiFi hotspots in public areas, as well as promoting WiMAX deployment and promoting wireless LANs in residential areas are key among the options to solve access concerns.

Another target we would like to focus on is Target 9: Encourage the development of content and

put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet.

- o The Internet is a viable tool that could be utilized in reaching out for rural and remote areas, providing them with the kind of information and support they need.
- o In my opinion this is one of the most important targets and I think that we as governments have exerted good efforts in this regard from the technical perspective, where the role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development is highly recognized through the cooperation between UNESCO, ICANN and the Governments.
- o Nevertheless, the absence of localized content stands as an obstacle in that regard. The African Continent for instance is very rich in cultural and natural heritage. However, we still do not see enough African local content online. Egypt believes that it is our clear responsibility together to further dig into current mechanisms and propose creative models to address policies that encourage the creation of multilingual content and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). The lost inter- alia business that could happen if we are able to communicate with our local languages is immense.
- o Also, we still need more to do with regard to the content industry itself and again the connectivity issue whether through encouraging the creation of national or regional IXPs.
- o With regard to the remaining targets, although of their major importance, the world still needs a lot of efforts and to develop new policies and regulations, whether local or regional in order to facilitate the achievement of these targets and to provide related services to the public.

In conclusion, we believe that the priority areas that need our focus beyond 2015 are:

- connectivity
- content industry
- policy framework and guidelines that covers the issues mentioned in Q:1 (b)
- new financial mechanism

4. Any additional comments or suggestions

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