



## 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](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int) not later than **20 September 2013**.

## A. Your Information

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**Title:** Mr

**First name:** Suleman **Last name:** Bakhsh

**Organization:** Telecommunication Regulatory Authority

**Organization type:** Government **Country:** United Arab Emirates

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

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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 UAE has made a great progress in fulfilling the WSIS recommendations since 2003/2005. The recommendations were translated into tangible policies, projects and services in all of the society's vital sectors. A significant element of the WSIS process is monitoring progress and taking stock of achievements. Here in the UAE, we have achieved several milestones in terms of implementing and following up on the progress made on the WSIS action lines with "collaboration" playing a key role. Being named 'Strategic Partner' for the WSIS Forum 2011, 2012 and the "Visioning Partner" for WSIS Forum 2013, gave the UAE a great opportunity to lead by example and encourage other stakeholders to commit and work toward the global information society vision, this was evident through the annual reports of UAE WSIS Committee "Successful Stories" capturing many of the UAE's achievements and initiatives in all of the WSIS action lines. These reports are available online through ITU/WSIS website and through the WSIS National Committee website [www.wsjs.ae](http://www.wsjs.ae). In addition, Some of the key areas of achievements and trends observed in the UAE and in the region as well:

- 1- High level of Mobile Penetration
- 2- The rise of Broadband Penetration
- 3- The role of information society in bridging the digital divide and poverty reduction
- 4- Public private partnerships
- 5- Liberalization of telecom sector

## 6- Capacity Building

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

ICT infrastructure, Broadband penetration and local content  
ICT Capacity building and Open Data  
Maturity of e-government and Smart/Mobile government  
Information security, Spam, IPR and consumer protection and its economic and social implications  
International multi-stakeholder cooperation  
Private Sector participation, incentives and role  
SME's, e-business and Entrepreneurship support  
Global and National awareness about the significance of WSIS and its direct relevance to National Strategies and Policies

### 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?

The WSIS Stakeholders in the UAE envision the ease of access for all segments of society through current and advanced ICT infrastructures and frameworks. An example of a key initiative from UAE is the "Echo of Silence" in 2009. This initiative aims to bridge the digital divide by providing advanced technology services and training to the hearing and speech impaired people. This initiative gives the opportunity to communicate with ease through ICT services and enable them to remain active in the society. We are also in the view that in order to harness the opportunities provided by the ICT's to the women, poor and persons with disabilities there is an urgent need to establish international technical standards and promotion of proper policy and regulation. Moreover the content and application development has to take into account the persons with disabilities and their accessibility.

## 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](http://www.wsis.org/review/mpp).*

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
  - • E-Government and m-government model and practices
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure

Cloud computing

Development of Policies and regulations for fostering the ICT Environment

Affordable and inexpensive ICT equipment's, handsets etc

Meeting the spectrum requirements of the emerging data driven ICT society

- C3. Access to information and knowledge
  - • Development of International technical standards.
  - ICT access for persons with disabilities
  - Focus on Accessibility, usability, and adequacy of ICT's by everyone at any time, and through any media and channel.
- C4. Capacity building
  - Smart Learning ( Schools, Teachers and Students ) practices
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
  - National CERTS and Security Awareness campaigns
- C6. Enabling environment
  - The need for open consultations in creating smart regulations
- C7. ICT Applications:
  - E-government
    - The need to access eGovernment services using all types of operating systems and browsing platforms at all times
    - Government mobile applications
  - E-business
    - SME and online entrepreneurships
  - E-learning
    - The need to assess emerging student trends of learning with ICT technologies in eEducation
  - E-health
    - Healthcare shared information systems
    - Healthcare Mobile Apps
  - E-employment
    - E-employment portals providing the ability/information to connect employers with potential candidates
    - Matching the Educational Systems with the Job market needs
  - E-environment
    - • Climate Change, e-waste, ICT Green Standards.
  - E-agriculture
    - • Development of applications and content.
    - promoting the public private partnership.
  - E-science
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - • Internationalized domain names.
  - Development of policies and frameworks for strengthening and recognizing the interrelationship between cultures
  - the rise of online translations and local search engines
- C9. Media
  - • Digital rights and IPR
  - Identity theft and social media
  - Frameworks and policies on integrity of media, human rights and freedom of expression
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society

- • Holistic Integrated Policy and Framework
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - • Policies and frameworks for poverty reduction
  - Development of bilateral and multilateral agreements on the issues of common interest

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
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - 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
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

WSIS/ICT National Strategies and Policies

Cyber Security and Identity

Internet broadband access and Local Content

Multistakeholder model and the future collaboration opportunities

### 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?

Introduce a focal point for monitoring and evaluation “ The Partnership “

Introduce clarity on the information required, the indicators/targets, the frequency of information required for gathering on the national level and the measurement model

Conduct regional workshops and awareness sessions to disseminate the knowledge around WSIS

Process evaluation, outcomes and benefits

Introduce Possible ranking for stakeholders with clarity on the methodology and the criteria

Map and relate WSIS evaluation criteria/process with current available global indicators/processes

Provide one-one feedback/ review on the progress made and seek to identify the future opportunities and challenges

- 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?

Priority Area: Affordable Broadband roll out globally.

Target: Increase broadband penetration

Priority Area: Global Platform for cyber security

Target: Reduction in Cybercrimes

### 4. Any additional comments or suggestions

- 1- Consider embedding the WSIS recommendations and targets into the national ICT strategies and policies through a “national declaration” adopted by stakeholders, were the list of stakeholders adopting the declaration are recognized publicly by the “Partnership”
- 2- Consider creating a model/guide in establishing “National WSIS Committee”, a function that will carry out the follow up work nationally as a focal point on WSIS Targets and follow up on the implementation of actions lines.