World Summit Geneva 2003 Tunis 2005
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action

ITU UNESCO UNITED NATIONS UNCTAD UNDP

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: *Knowledge and Innovation Coordinator*

First name: *Jennifer*   *Last name:*   *Breslin*

Organization: *UN Women*

Organization type: *UN*   *Country:*   *USA*

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?

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

Gender: Despite progress, women still lack access, requisite skills, awareness and are not well represented in decision-making positions and as producers in the ICT sector. These are critical areas for action in any forward looking document. Promoting awareness and prevention of prevalent discriminatory and negative gender stereotypes and violence against women in the online world.

General: Preserving the public good nature of the internet and open systems; ability of societies to adapt to unforeseen developments in the landscape; broadband without increasing further gaps in access; improved engagement of youth as partners; urbanization; skills gaps, particularly for women; privacy and security issues as technology advances, becomes "smart" and convergence takes place ; need to take a much less siloed approach within government to ICTD policy and investments; promoting green and sustainable ICTS – not just their application to support sustainability but also in their production – including conflict minerals - and waste management.

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?

UN Women endorses the recommendations that were provided at the Paris WSIS+10 meeting which frame the gender issues a forward looking framework should address.

In order that gender inequalities in the knowledge society are removed and that the knowledge society actively empowers women in all aspects of their lives, it is necessary to apply a gender lens in all aspects of the knowledge society, across sectors and from strategies and planning through implementation and investments. This includes on the demand and supply side, from awareness, literacy and meaningful engagement to affordable access, appropriate policy frameworks and relevant content. An important way of ensuring this is realized is though women's leadership and participation in decision-making.

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
  - Click here to enter text.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
  - Broadband Access for all and target on gender
- 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.

- o E-learning
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- o E-health
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- o E-employment
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- o E-environment
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- o E-agriculture
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- o E-science
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
    - o Click here to enter text.
- C9. Media
    - o Click here to enter text.
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
    - o Click here to enter text.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
    - o 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**.

OVERALL: Need for more developed gender language within action lines, as well as language and commitments that address new dimensions, both opportunities and threats, of the information society.

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
    - o Need to take a holistic approach, across sectors, to build the information society. Need to utilize gender analysis in strategy, planning, investment and monitoring so that women are not merely an add on or target group. Action cannot stop at the level of developing policy – on the books is not enough – enactment and investment are required.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
    - o Better use of USF and other modalities to promote women's access.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge
    - o Relevant content must be developed by and for women.
- C4. Capacity building
    - o Click here to enter text.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
    - o Violence against women online which presents a serious threat and inhibitor for women's use of ICTs; privacy issues.
- C6. Enabling environment
    - o Click here to enter text.
- C7. ICT Applications:
    - o E-government
        - ▪ Click here to enter text.
    - o E-business

- ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-learning
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-health
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-employment
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-environment
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-agriculture
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
  - o E-science
    - ▪ Click here to enter text.
- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  Need for reflection of cultural and linguistic diversity and the specific contexts within which women engage with ICTs and in the information society. In terms of ability to participate, develop and use content that meets their needs, addressing these issues is critical. Recognition of women as bearers of local knowledge which is often undervalued or invisible.
- C9. Media
  - o Click here to enter text.
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - o Click here to enter text.
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - o 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.

Gender as a standalone goal and action line.

Need for a specific action line or specific section on gender in any forward looking document. The provision of a paragraph in the Geneva and Tunis chapeaux around including gender equality perspectives and explicit references to gender within action lines has not been seen as sufficient in ensuring that commitments to gender are adequately implemented. Rather is it suggested that there needs to be both reference to gender within action lines, as well as discrete and fuller treatment of gender issues in their own right. This dual stream approach to gender is similarly being advocated for in the post2015 context.

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?

While ensuring shared responsibility of all stakeholders to contribute efforts, resources and investments to reach WSIS commitments on gender equality, it is important for there to be mechanisms for holistic monitoring of gender commitments across all spheres of the review

process.

An organization should be given responsibility for leading an action line or section on gender as in the cases of other action lines.

Need for specific targets on gender within action lines.

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?

Click here to enter text.Any additional comments or suggestions

Click here to enter text.