



General Assembly's overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes

Official Form for Written Submissions

A. Your Information

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B. Formal Input

Some guiding questions for your submissions are listed below:

1. To what extent has progress been made on the vision of the people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society in the ten years since the WSIS?

There have been improvements in the following areas which support or promote the Information Society:

- A more coordinated approach by governments in the support of ICTs for development.
- Emphasis on accurate data and measurement of progress.
- Development of techniques, policies and collaborations for more efficient use of available spectrum.
- Emphasis on lower-cost network infrastructure, through technology, standards, sharing, partnerships and new business models, to maintain the economic viability of broadband networks and to extend their reach into unserved and underserved areas.
- Emphasis on open software systems to promote open access to information and education.
- Emphasis on affordable and relevant devices, content and connectivity to increase ICT penetration in unserved and underserved areas.
- Public-private partnerships aimed at "train the trainer" and upgrading e-skills.

¹ When specifying your stakeholder type, please indicate one of the following: Government, Civil Society, Private Sector, Academia, and Technical Sector.

- Deployment of Computer Incident Response Teams.
- Development of national, regional and international frameworks for security.
- Emphasis on safety and security by design.
- Development and implementation of national broadband strategies in collaboration with all stakeholders.
- Adaptation of the legislative and regulatory environment to meet new challenges resulting from increased competition, the need for universal service, and new services from IP networks and cloud computing.
- Reach of e-government was extended, including to the disadvantaged and the disabled, and more capability such as through e-signatures.
- Recognition of the need for better data and analysis to allow decision makers to better understand e-business trends and impacts.
- Recognition of the impact and applications of mobile technology to expand the reach and options available for distance learning.
- Commitment to national e-health strategies and adoption of ICT's to support health sector priorities, along with increasing use of mobile technologies in health projects and emphasis on ensuring affordable and reliable connectivity from remote areas to health centers.
- Recognition of the need for greater collaboration between the ICT community and the environmental, meteorological and other communities, at the national, regional and international levels, on programs and strategies for environmental issues, climate change, electronic waste management, and disaster risk reduction.
- Growth of mobile technology and information services related to e-agriculture, along with mentoring and encouraging youth to enhance the agricultural sector through implementation of ICT innovations, as well as integrating ICT content and capacity into national and regional agricultural policies.
- Recognition of the need for a web-based platform to support policy decisions for the benefit of science and society, allowing open and free access to scientific knowledge.
- Promotion of infrastructure to leverage the relationship within countries between the deployment of Internet infrastructure and the development of local digital content.
- Efforts to maintain a balance between online freedom and rights of privacy and between freedom of expression and other national, regional and international imperatives.
- Recognition of the need to support equitable participation of all stakeholders and to build national and regional capacity to analyze, discuss and respond to ethical challenges of the Information Society.
- Recognition of the need to step up the use of internationally agreed ICT indicators.

2. What are the challenges to the implementation of WSIS outcomes?

WSIS recognized that Internet issues exist in two broad and interrelated categories: technical issues and public policy issues (including economic and social considerations). Most of the emphasis and progress in the last ten years has been on technical issues. Significant technical challenges still remain in the areas of efficiency, standards, protocols, cost improvements, cybersecurity, spectrum management, simplified devices, and integration of new technologies.

There has been little progress in the area of international public policy. Indeed, there has been deliberate action to block any move to establish the mechanisms needed to develop public policy, including enhanced cooperation. In the context of WSIS, there has been minimal coordinated international effort to deal with Internet abuses, cybercrime, environmental issues, assistance to developing countries, and ethical issues.

The lack of coordinated international public policy development is a serious deficiency in implementation of the WSIS outcomes and has a direct negative impact on a "people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society". The private sector, which effectively manages Internet governance, is motivated by profit and not by people-centred and inclusive considerations. Those are the responsibility of governments, and they are not performing their role in Internet governance as per paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda.

3. What should be the priorities in seeking to achieve WSIS outcomes and progress towards the Information Society, taking into account emerging trends?

Priorities include the following:

- Internationalization of Internet governance.
- Actualization of enhanced cooperation to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
- Implementation of a true and inclusive model, encompassing all stakeholders in their respective roles, related to developing and implementing policies, plans, strategies and programs at the national, regional and international levels.
- Enhancing cybersecurity and combating cybercrime.
- Full multilingualization of the Internet including email, search engines and native capability for Unicode.
- Technical evolution of the Internet to address known weaknesses and to increase speed and capability, while maintaining full interoperability and stability. This may include parallel deployment of a future internet which is interoperable with the existing Internet protocols and technology and gradual migration until existing protocols can be retired.
- Full deployment of IPv6 and retirement of IPv4.
- Deployment of e-services to marginalized and disadvantaged members of society.
- Addressing ethical issues related to emerging technologies and the Information Society.
- Addressing e-environment issues and challenges.
- Addressing cloud computing, particularly security issues.
- Developing agreed goals and time-based targets along with enhanced monitoring and reporting.

4. What are general expectations from the WSIS + 10 High Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly?

The WSIS+10 Overall Review should result in an assessment of where we have succeeded and where we have not in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, along with an analysis of why we have or have not succeeded. The WSIS+10 must address the shortcomings in the implementation of the Tunis Agenda. An important expected outcome of the Review is an action plan for the future; addressing what still needs to be done and how to do it. The assessment and analysis should be both global and regional, identifying those regions that remain most disadvantaged, and the analysis should be linked to the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. What shape should the outcome document take?

An important outcome of the Review is a plan for the future; addressing what still needs to be done and how to do it, particularly in view of the significant changes to ICT challenges since 2005.