



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

Official Form for Written Submissions

A. Your Information

Title: Third Secretary

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Stakeholder Type¹: Government

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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?
2. What are the challenges to the implementation of WSIS outcomes?
3. What should be the priorities in seeking to achieve WSIS outcomes and progress towards the Information Society, taking into account emerging trends?
4. What are general expectations from the WSIS + 10 High Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly?
5. What shape should the outcome document take?

The Permanent Mission of Cuba believes that the final document and the discussions aim to guide the High-Level Event to Review the Agreements of the World Summit on the Information Society should address the following elements:

- Ratify that there are important concrete commitment of the Summit still to be accomplished, particularly concerning the non-implementation of unilateral measures contrary to the United Nations

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

Charter against States, closing the “digital divide” and the achievement of authentic internet governance.

- Express the validity of the main challenges, concerns and defies identified 10 years ago in terms of ICT and the existence of emerging or reinforced challenges, like in the field of cyber-security.
- Ratify, this way, paragraph 46 of the Geneva Declaration of Principle which reads as follows: “In building the Information Society, States are strongly urged to take steps with a view to the avoidance of, and refrain from, any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, and that hinders the well-being of their population.” (Some countries continue to implement such measures.)
- Underscore the validity of Resolution A/RES/69/204 referring that: “In spite of recent progress, an important and growing digital divide between countries remains in terms of the availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies and access to broadband, and stressing also the need to close the digital divide, including with regard to such issues as Internet affordability, and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all.”
(The tendency to assess the digital divide taking into consideration the deployment of technology alone and not its use in function of the countries’ needs is counterproductive. Digital divide is but a reflection in the ICT sector of the current unfair international economic order. Until a new just, equitable and solidary international order is established, the “digital divide” among countries and within them will not be solved. To build a global and inclusive information society, developing countries need financial assistance and technical support.)
- Reaffirm the need to implement paragraph 10 of the Tunis Commitment. Today it remains an imperative to remove hurdles in the way of developing countries in accessing new technologies from their insufficient resources, infrastructure, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as in terms of security and intellectual property. Technology transfer is critical.
(Unfortunately, Information Society remains an exclusive concept in many corners of the world, and most of the world inhabitants remain marginalized from technological advances. ICT beneficial impact is significantly lower in developing countries.)
- Claim the creation of a global culture of cyber-security, just as pointed out in paragraph 39 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society. The absence of international regulations on internet and cyber-security is of concern; this causes adverse effects to ensure the peaceful and development-oriented use of ICT.
- Consider specific, effective and urgent international cooperation measures to counteract and tackle the covert and illegal use of computer systems to attack other States. These measures should be consistent with the social norms, principles and policies agreed upon in the national and international levels. We should work to prevent the use of ICT for subversive, political, military or criminal purposes.
- Underscore that the access to the Network should enable a proper, educational, ethical, objective and truthful use of it, at the same time it ensures supply and consumption of broad and diverse cultural products.
- Demand an acceleration of the debates on internet governance, one of the issues that has advanced the less since the Summit. Reaffirm, this way, paragraph 48 of the Geneva Declaration of Principles: (“Internet has evolved into a global facility available to the public and its governance should constitute a core issue of the Information Society agenda. The international management of the Internet should be

multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations. It should ensure an equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet, taking into account multilingualism”)

- Reaffirm paragraph 68 of the Tunis Agenda referring that “We recognize that all governments should have an equal role and responsibility, for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet. We also recognize the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders.” Internet critical resources should bear a collaborative management free of monopolistic controls.