



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

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### Official Form for Written Submissions

#### A. Your Information

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**Title:** Third Secretary

**First name:** Mohammad **Last name:** Aboulwafa

**Name of Organization:** Permanent Mission of Egypt to the UN in NY **Stakeholder Type<sup>1</sup>:**  
Government

**Country:** EGYPT **Email:** maboulwafa@gmail.com

#### B. Formal Input

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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?

1. Framework:

Review of Implementation:

While recognizing how much we have achieved so far, we still face the challenges of bringing the benefits of the Information Society to over half the world population and increasing security of communications.

The outcome document should reaffirm all the development commitments contained in the Geneva

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

and Tunis Agenda, avoiding selective approach to those commitments.

There are several paragraphs of interest to developing countries in Tunis Agenda and Commitment, but it did not receive its share in the implementation.

For example, and not limited to, paragraphs 10 and 19 of the Tunis Commitment, 9 and 65 of the Tunis Agenda, taking into consideration that para 65 of Tunis Agenda should be the guiding principle for all decisions related to Internet governance, as it read as follows:

“65. We underline the need to maximize the participation of developing countries in decisions regarding Internet governance, which should reflect their interests, as well as in development and capacity building.”

The Outcome document should not simply comprise a future action plan; the Priority is to measure the achievements and identify the gaps in the development-oriented information society, as adopted in Geneva and Tunis.

The Outcome document should include specific political commitments by Members States, aiming at bridging the gaps in implementation and harnessing information technology for development.

The Outcome document should affirm the respect to national sovereignty and applicable international law in the consideration of information and communications technologies for development.

The document should recognize that internet connectivity remains a challenge and access to broadband continues to be unequal, with penetration rates around four times higher in developed countries as compared to developing ones.

The outcome document should reemphasize the importance of the concept of “Enhanced Cooperation” which would allow governments to, on an equal footing with each other, carry out their roles and responsibilities on international public policy issues relating to the Internet, and would allow developing countries with important ideas to contribute to Internet policy.

## 2. Indices and indicators for implementation:

The lack of specific set of indicators hinders the measurement of the progress made in the implementation of WSIS outcomes; this must be overcome through the development of specific criteria, indices and indicators for the implementation of the action lines, with priority given to those aspects of the developmental orientation of the information society.

## 3. Multistakeholders responsibilities:

Increasing space for participation of stakeholders should be coupled with responsibility, including:

i. Corporate Social Responsibility as stated in para 17 of Tunis Agenda which should be reaffirmed in the outcome document.

“17. We endeavour to engage in a proactive dialogue on matters related to corporate social responsibility and good corporate governance of transnational corporations and their contribution to the economic and social development of developing countries in our efforts to bridge the digital divide”

ii. Corporate Developmental Responsibility which we consider as a vital role of private corporates and should be reemphasized and up scaled in the WSIS review document, through:

- a. Reinvestment of revenues in developmental projects.
- b. Training and capacity building of developing countries.
- c. Preferential and concessional transfer of technology to developing countries.
- d. Maximizing local component in supply and production chain.

## 4. Capacity Building and Transfer of Technology:

The document should reaffirm the need to Support access to digital economy in developing countries through strengthening e-commerce, building human capacity and adapting new techniques to match

local needs.

The outcome document should recognize the importance of youth in developing an information society and the integration of people with disabilities (PWDs) into the society; as well as boosting invention, entrepreneurship in order to provide distinguished opportunities for youth and help develop the sector.

The outcome document should affirm the key role of ICT tools whether in information privacy or child online protection, or in decreasing natural hazards and preventing the impact of e-waste.

#### 5. Culture and linguistic diversity

The review should emphasize that Cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind. The information society must be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations. The promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages, as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, will further enrich the information society, and should be reemphasized in the outcome document.

The outcome document should highlight the importance of preserving cultural and linguistic diversity as a catalyst to develop local content, thus preserving society identity

#### 6. Malicious vs. beneficial use:

Developing countries are most vulnerable to malicious use of ICTs and Cyberspace, hence, the review should emphasize the need to take all necessary measures that guarantee the Exclusive peaceful use of cyber space, and ICT security.

The review must emphasize that Cyberspace must not be a field of war, and every measure should be taken to prevent the transformation of ICTs opportunities into risks.

In their use of ICTs, States must observe their obligations under Article 2(3) of the United Nations Charter to settle international disputes by peaceful means, as well as the prohibition in Article 2(4) of the Charter on the threat or use of force. In the context ICT Security, threat or use of force would also encompass the destruction or causing harm in any form to all layers of the ICT infrastructure, whether physical or digital, of a Member State. we specify in particular three interlinked layers of the internet: a) telecommunications and related infrastructure; b) technical standards; and c) content and its related applications.

Capacity building and transfer of technology in cyber security to developing countries is crucial in that regard taking into account variable capabilities of countries.

Gaps in capacity related to ICT security among States increase vulnerability in an interconnected world, especially for developing countries which face additional challenges due to the limited resources.

Developing countries are hence most affected by the negative impact of adverse and malicious uses of ICT, commensurate capacity building and adequate transfer of knowledge and technology should be integral to any multilateral initiatives regarding ICT security.

Establishing attribution for attacks on ICTs, and the related aspects of state responsibility, requires enabling to the fullest degree, the participation of all countries, especially developing countries, in all arrangements related to the management and governance of the critical internet infrastructure.

The contribution of governments in areas related to public policy aspects of ICT security should be recognized in this regard and reflected in the document.