



Permanent Mission of Latvia
to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

9 October 2015

Excellency,

As co-facilitators of the General Assembly's review of outcomes from the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), we are pleased to enclose:

1. the zero-draft of the review's outcome document, and
2. the programme of the Second Preparatory Meeting, to be convened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 October 2015.

The zero-draft represents an effort to take into account the many written and oral contributions we received following the release of the non-paper early in September 2015. While there were many points of agreement, there were also points of great divergence. Member and Observer States as well as Observers must ultimately decide on the ambition and scope of this review, but as co-facilitators we have tried with the zero-draft to offer ideas on potential ways forward. Recognizing the very short window for the review afforded by its modalities resolution, it is our hope that these options can contribute to narrowing the gap among perspectives – and spark new suggestions.

The focus of the Second Preparatory Meeting will accordingly be very much on engaging Member and Observer States as well as Observers to reach consensus on critical issues. Given that the review concludes in only two months at the high-level meeting on 15-16 December, the Second Preparatory Meeting is structured to maximize interaction among Member and Observer States as well as Observers and focus attention on compromise.

The first day, 20 October, will begin with general statements in plenary on the zero-draft, allowing all participants to hear the views of other Member and Observer States as well as Observers. We have provided some preparatory questions that may be useful in guiding the statements.

On the second day and the first half of the third day, we will hold interactive negotiations by thematic areas, corresponding to sections of the zero-draft. This structure responds to calls by Member and Observer States as well as Observers for direct opportunities for negotiation. Moderators will lead the discussion, and Member and Observer States as well as Observers should not prepare statements given the pace and fluidity of the sessions. We have also prepared guiding questions as a potential prompt.

On the afternoon of the third day, we will reconvene in plenary to summarize progress on the text, and agree on any next steps toward December.

In addition to the Second Preparatory Meeting, comments on the zero-draft can also be made online at <http://unpan3.un.org/wsis10/>. We encourage submissions prior to the meeting, so that views are known in advance and more time can be spent on forward-facing, interactive dialogue.

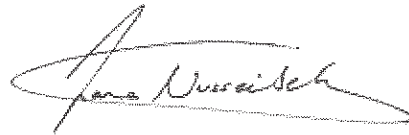
We also note that the President of the General Assembly will convene an interactive dialogue with non-government stakeholders on 19 October at the United Nations, which will provide an additional opportunity to hear different views and solutions on WSIS review issues.

We look forward to your continued support for the review and your feedback before and during the Second Preparatory Meeting. Throughout the review, please do not hesitate to contact us with questions and for consultation. Ms. Elina Volksone, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Latvia (Elina.Volksone@mfa.gov.lv), and Ms. Hana Al Hashimy, Special Advisor, Permanent Mission of the UAE (hana.alhashimi@mofa.gov.ae), are also available for any enquiries.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Jānis Mažeiks
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Republic of Latvia



Lana Z. Nusseibeh
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
United Arab Emirates

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York