



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

Official Form for Comments on the zero-draft

A. Your Information

<i>Title:</i>	Joint civil society comments on the zero-draft		
<i>First name:</i>	Lea	<i>Last name:</i>	Kaspar
<i>Name of Organization:</i>	On behalf of endorsing organisations (listed on pages 15-16 of this submission)	<i>Stakeholder Type¹:</i>	Civil Society
<i>Country:</i>	Various	<i>Email:</i>	lea@gp-digital.org

B. Formal Input

Please input your comments below:

This submission was developed as a joint effort of a diverse number of civil society groups that participated in a WSIS+10 civil society coordination event that took place on October 14 and 15 in New York. The full list of endorsing organisations (as of October 16) can be found on pages 15-16 of this document.

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

PREAMBLE

Section rationale: It is important for the Preamble to recognise that development and human rights are intrinsically linked and interdependent. Our suggestion reaffirms the Geneva Declaration of Principles by reminding Member States and all other stakeholders that “democracy, sustainable development, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as good governance at all levels are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.” (paragraph 4 Geneva Declaration of Principles).

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
1. Recalling the request in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society to the General Assembly to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the centrality of the General Assembly to this process;	NOC	
2. Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/302 of 31 August 2014, decided that the overall review would be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, preceded by an intergovernmental preparatory process that also takes into account inputs from all relevant stakeholders of the WSIS. We additionally recall that the overall review shall take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS and address potential information and communication technology (ICT) gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as challenges, including bridging the digital divide and harnessing ICT for development;	NOC	
3. Building on the WSIS reviews conducted by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in May 2015, the UNESCO-hosted multistakeholder conference Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, held in February 2013, and the multistakeholder WSIS +10 High Level Event hosted by ITU in June 2014, including the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015;	NOC	
4. We reaffirm our common desire and commitment, undertaken at the WSIS, to build a people centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.	NOC	
5. We also recognize the need for respect for political independence, territorial integrity and sovereign equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs of other states, as well as applicable international law, in the realization of the WSIS vision.	NOC	
6. We reiterate our commitment to the objectives, goals and targets established in the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, as well as its Action Lines.	NOC	
7. We recognise the remarkable evolution and diffusion of ICT, unforeseen ten years ago, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, restructured social interaction and business models, contributed to economic growth. Increased connectivity and access to ICT have played a critical role in enabling progress on the Millennium Development Goals, and will play a similarly foundational role for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with ICT access also becoming a development indicator and aspiration in and of itself.	NOC	

	<p>7bis. We emphasise the centrality of sustainable development for the information society and the potential to harness ICTs for development. We reaffirm the Geneva Declaration of Principles which states that “democracy, sustainable development, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as good governance at all levels are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.” To address problems such as poverty, war, insecurity, exploitation, requires the respect international human rights law and investment in human development, institutional capacity, environmental sustainability, and open, inclusive, democratic, and transparent governance.</p>	
<p>8. We note, however, that there are still critical digital divides between and within countries, and between men and women, which need to be addressed through affordability, education, capacity building, appropriate financing, and an enabling policy environment.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>9. We acknowledge that particular attention should be paid to address the challenges facing developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States. Particular attention should also be paid to address the specific challenges facing children, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, women, indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced people, migrants and remote and rural communities</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>10. We also recognise that effective participation, partnership and cooperation of governments and all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, is vital in developing the Information Society. We reaffirm the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the WSIS process since its inception.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	

ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Section rationale: The changes suggested below have been made to create links between the WSIS process and the SDGs, acknowledge the complex and changing nature of the digital divide, recognize the harmful effects of the use of internet shutdowns, and strengthen efforts to achieve development goals by mainstreaming gender, improving education programmes and supporting capacity building.

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
<p>11. We recognize with satisfaction that the last decade's considerable increases in connectivity, use, creation, and innovation have created new tools to drive economic, social, and environmental betterment, especially in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Fixed and wireless broadband, mobile Internet, smartphones and tablets, cloud computing, social media and big data were only in their early stages in Tunisia, and are now understood to underpin sustainable development</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>12. We reaffirm that the spread of these technologies must be a core focus and outcome of the WSIS process. We are highly encouraged that the number of mobile phone subscriptions is estimated to have risen from 2.2 billion in 2005 to 7.1 billion in 2015, and that by the end of 2015, 3.2 billion people are expected to be online, over 40 per cent of the total world population and of which 2 billion are from developing countries. We also note that fixed broadband subscriptions have reached a penetration rate of almost 10 per cent, as compared to 3.4 per cent in 2005, and that mobile broadband remains the fastest growing market segment, with continuous double-digit growth rates and an estimated global penetration rate of 32 per cent, or four times the penetration rate recorded just five years earlier.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>13. We note that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy, and that ICT connectivity is correlated with increases in GDP. ICT has created a new generation of businesses and jobs, and, while altering and making obsolete others, have also generally increased the efficiency, reach, and ingenuity of all sectors.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>14. We also recognize that ICT is contributing to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels among citizens, businesses and governments to share and augment knowledge, as well as participate in decisions that affect their lives and work. As envisioned by the WSIS Action Lines, we have seen ICT-enabled breakthroughs in e-government, e-business, e-education, ehealth, e-employment, e-agriculture and e-science, allowing greater numbers of people access to services and data that might previously have been out-of-reach or unaffordable. We have also seen ICT become central to disaster and humanitarian response. At the same time, we recognize that ICT is fundamentally altering the way individuals and communities interact, spend their time, with new and unforeseen health and social consequences.</p>	<p>14. We also recognize that ICT can contribute is contributing to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels among citizens, businesses and governments to share and augment knowledge, as well as participate in decisions that affect their lives and work. As envisioned by the WSIS Action Lines, we have seen ICT-enabled breakthroughs in e-government, e-business, e-education, e-health, e-employment, e-agriculture and e-science, allowing greater numbers of people access to services and data that might previously have been out-of-reach or unaffordable. We have also seen ICT become central to disaster and humanitarian response. At the same time, we recognize that ICT is fundamentally altering the way individuals and communities interact, spend their time, with new and unforeseen health, economic and social consequences.</p>	

<p>15. We further recognise that increasing use of ICT both generates certain environmental benefits and imposes certain environmental costs, and we call for increased attention to mitigation. We welcome the opportunity afforded by sustainable energy to potentially decouple ICT growth from contributions to climate change, and we also note ICT’s catalytic value for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and resilient cities, among other abatement options. However, we encourage further action to improve the energy efficiency of ICT, and to reuse, recycle, and safely dispose of e-waste.</p>	<p>15. We further recognise that increasing use of ICT both generates certain environmental benefits and imposes certain environmental costs, and we call for increased attention to mitigation. We welcome the opportunity afforded by sustainable energy to potentially decouple ICT growth from contributions to climate change, and we also note ICT’s catalytic value for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and resilient cities, among other abatement options. However, we encourage further action to improve the energy efficiency of ICT, and to reuse, recycle, and safely dispose of e-waste. We recognize the importance of remote, internet-enabled delivery of services and goods in reducing emissions.</p>	
	<p>15bis. We recognise the importance of culture to development and affirm that cohesive, conceptual and practical digital strategies are needed for the preservation of and access to recorded information in the digital environment in all its forms.</p>	
<p>16. Despite the last decade’s achievements in ICT connectivity, we recognize that digital divides remain – including within and between countries and between women and men – that slow sustainable development. Indicatively, we acknowledge that, as of 2013, around 60 per cent of people globally lack internet access, only 37 per cent of women have internet access, and an estimated 80 per cent of online content is available in only one of 10 languages.</p>	<p>16. Despite the last decade’s achievements in ICT connectivity, we recognize that many different forms of digital divides remain and new forms have emerged. The digital divide is a manifestation of existing social, economic and political inequalities and technological change can exacerbate these divisions. Digital divides impede development goals and the realisation of human rights. Examples include but are not limited to the divides between and within countries, gender, religious minorities, ethnic minorities, sexual minorities, people with disabilities. These digital divides slow sustainable development. Indicatively, we acknowledge that, as of 2013, around 60 per cent of people globally lack internet access, only 37 per cent of women have internet access, and an estimated 80 per cent of online content is available in only one of 10 languages.</p>	
<p>17. We affirm our commitment to bridging the digital divide, and we recognize that our approach must be multi-faceted and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, increasingly focused on the quality of that access. We acknowledge that speed, affordability, language, and people’s capabilities to both use and create ICT are core components of quality today, and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development. We appreciate that divides may worsen or change with technological and service innovation, and we call on CSTD, UNESCO, and ITU to regularly analyse the nature of the digital divide.</p>	<p>17. We affirm our commitment to bridging the digital divide, and we recognize that our approach must be multi-faceted and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, increasingly focused on the stressing the importance of the quality of that access. We acknowledge that speed, affordability, language, and people’s capabilities to both use and create ICT are core components of non-discriminatory access quality today, and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development. We appreciate that divides may worsen or change with technological and service innovation, and seek to reinforce a rights-based approach to access. We call on CSTD, UNESCO, and ITU to regularly analyse the nature of the digital divide.</p>	
<p>18. We recognize that relevant local content and services should be developed and made available in different languages and formats that are accessible to all people, who also need the capabilities and capacities, including media and information</p>	<p>18. We recognize that relevant local content and services should be developed and made available in different languages and formats that are accessible to all people, who also need the capabilities and</p>	

<p>literacy skills to make use of ICT.</p>	<p>capacities, including media and information literacy skills to make use of ICT. We further emphasize the importance of open and public standards and the use of Free and Open Source Software and Hardware (FOSSH) to further education, access and development.</p>	
<p>19. We moreover call for a significant increase in access to ICT and to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet to all by 2020. We welcome the targets for the growth of access, broadband for all, inclusiveness, innovation and partnerships in ICT, as agreed by the international community under the Connect 2020 Agenda, adopted at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014.</p>	<p>19. We moreover call for a significant increase in access to ICT and to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet to all by 2020. We welcome the targets for the growth of access, broadband for all, inclusiveness, innovation and partnerships in ICT, as agreed by the international community under the Connect 2020 Agenda, adopted at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014. In addition, we should recognize the SDG goal of: significantly increasing access to information and communications technology and striving to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in Least Developed Countries by 2020.</p>	
<p>20. We draw attention, in particular, to the gender digital divide which persists in access to and use of ICT, and also in ICT education, employment and other economic and social development factors. We commit to mainstream gender in the WSIS process, including through a new emphasis on gender in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines. We call for immediate measures to ensure gender equality in internet users by 2020, and to enhance women’s education and participation in ICT, as users, entrepreneurs and leaders.</p>	<p>20. We draw attention, in particular, to the gender digital divide which persists in access to and use of ICT, and also in ICT education, employment and other economic and social development factors. We commit to mainstream gender in the WSIS process to contribute to, inter alia, the realisation of Sustainable Development Goal 5, including through a new emphasis on gender in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines. We call for immediate measures to ensure gender equality in internet users by 2020 access goals such as those included in the Sustainable Development Goals to provide universal and affordable access to users in Least Developed Countries by 2020, and to enhance women’s education and participation in ICT, as users, entrepreneurs and leaders.</p>	
	<p>20bis We encourage all stakeholders to take concrete steps and formulate policies to ensure that the Information Society enables women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes, mainstream a gender equality perspective, and create an enabling environment that fosters increased participation of women in ICT policy spaces, including in decision making positions.</p>	
<p>21. We note that divides are often closely linked to education levels, and that policy and financing frameworks also strongly influence quality of access. We therefore call for a special focus on interventions that improve the enabling environment for ICT and expand related capacity-building.</p>	<p>21. We note that divides are often closely linked to education levels, and that policy and financing frameworks also strongly influence quality of access. We note that according to UNESCO (2015), 58 million children are out of school (not including displaced children). Ensuring universal access to education is essential to development. We therefore call for a special focus on interventions that improve the enabling environment for ICT and expand related capacity-building.</p>	

<p>22. We recognize that certain policies have substantially contributed to bridging the digital divide and ICT's value for sustainable development, and we commit to continue identification and implementation of best and emerging practices for establishment and functioning of innovation and investment frameworks for ICT. We acknowledge that school curriculum requirements for ICT; open access to data and free flow of information; fostering of competition; creation of transparent, predictable independent, and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems; access to finance; allowance of public-private partnerships; national broadband strategies; and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>23. We recognise that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge among developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States. Deliberate efforts, especially through research and development, may be necessary to spur lower-cost connectivity options.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
	<p>23bis Full, open, and non-discriminatory access to the Internet is necessary to ensure an enabling environment for ICTs to contribute to sustainable development. We recognize that network shutdowns, which may include the blocking or throttling of internet services and applications, harm access to ICTs and the Internet. These disruptions of internet and communication networks obstruct access to education, business, information, health, and emergency services. Shutdowns usually prevent the realization of human rights, and often lead to human rights violations.</p> <p>Unconstrained filtering of content on the Internet and using communications 'kill switches' (i.e. shutting down entire parts of communications systems) are measures that can never be justified under human rights law.</p>	<p>The second paragraph draws from the 'Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and responses to conflict situations by the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Organization of American States (OAS) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information .</p>
<p>24. We request the UN agencies to regularly advise governments and all stakeholders of specific, detailed interventions they can consider to support the enabling environment for ICT and development.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>25. We welcome that total public and private spending on ICT has increased substantially in the last decade, now reaching the trillions annually, and has been complemented by a proliferation of new financing mechanisms, both results marking progress on paragraphs 23 and 27 of the Tunis Agenda</p>	<p>NOC</p>	

<p>26. We recognise, however, that harnessing ICT for development, bridging the digital divide, and creating enabling environments will require greater and sustainable investment in ICT infrastructure and services, capacity building, and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms over many years to come. These mechanisms remain a primary focus for all countries and people, particularly in developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	
<p>27. We call for close consideration of public resource allocation to ICT deployment and development, recognizing the need for ICT budgeting across all sectors, especially education. We recommend that capacity development should be emphasised to empower local experts and local communities to fully benefit from and contribute to ICT development applications.</p>	<p>27. We recognise the critical importance call for close consideration of public resource allocation to ICT deployment and development, recognizing the need for ICT budgeting across all sectors, especially education. We recommend that capacity development should be emphasised to empower local experts and local communities to fully benefit from and contribute to ICT development applications. We recognise the significant possibilities for ensuring connectivity, particularly in rural and underserved areas, through universal service funds, publicly funded national backbones, innovative spectrum use, local community-owned and/ or local government managed last mile infrastructure.</p>	
<p>28. We recognise that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for ICT can make significant contributions to development outcomes, particularly where it can de-risk public and private investment, as well as use ICT to strengthen tax collection. We encourage greater input of developing countries on the deployment of funds for ICT.</p>	<p>28. We recognise that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for ICT can make significant contributions to development outcomes, particularly where it can de-risk public and private investment, as well as use ICT to strengthen tax collection. We encourage greater input of developing countries on the deployment of funds for ICT. We call for greater accountability and transparency in ICT financing, particularly the disbursement of funds and their use.</p>	
<p>29. We also encourage a prominent profile for ICT in the new technology facilitation mechanism established by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and for assessment of how it can contribute to gaps in implementation of the WSIS Action Lines.</p>	<p>29. We also encourage a prominent profile for ICT in the new technology facilitation mechanism established by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and for assessment of how it can contribute to gaps in implementation of the WSIS Action Lines. We also call for a greater emphasis on funding ICT related development activities in official development assistance efforts, including as they relate to the SDGs.</p>	
<p>30. We express concern at the lack of progress on the Digital Solidarity Fund, welcomed in Tunis as an innovative financial mechanism of a voluntary nature, and we call for a review of options for its future.</p>	<p>30. We express concern at the lack of progress on the Digital Solidarity Fund, welcomed in Tunis as an innovative financial mechanism of a voluntary nature, and we call for a review of options for its future. We call for consideration of additional innovative financing mechanisms.</p>	
<p>31. We recognise the critical importance of private sector investment in ICT access, content, and services, and of legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to investment and innovation. We recognise the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end.</p>	<p>NOC</p>	

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Section rationale: The amendments to the text proposed aim to strengthen the document so that it embraces more open, inclusive, transparent, and democratic approaches to all aspects of internet governance, with meaningful participation of all stakeholders. The changes propose concrete measures to strengthen these approaches, particularly with respect to the IGF.

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
32. We recognise the general agreement that the governance of the Internet should be open, inclusive, and transparent. We reiterate the working definition of Internet governance set out in paragraph 34 of the Tunis Agenda, as 'the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision making procedures and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet'.	32. We affirm recognise the general agreement that the governance of the Internet should be open, inclusive, and transparent, and democratic . We reiterate the working definition of Internet governance set out in paragraph 34 of the Tunis Agenda, as 'the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision making procedures and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet'.	These additions are to strengthen the text to affirm how the internet should be governed. The word 'democratic' is added for consistency.
33. We reaffirm the principles agreed in the Geneva Declaration that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations, within their respective roles and responsibilities as set out in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda.	33. We reaffirm the principles agreed in the Geneva Declaration that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve full and effective participation of all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations, within their respective roles and responsibilities. We call for an inclusive, democratic, and transparent dialogue on the respective roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders. as set out in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda.	The role of stakeholders is a contentious issue that needs to be addressed in an open, inclusive, and transparent manner.
34. We recognise that there is a need to promote greater participation and engagement of all stakeholders, from developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States in internet governance discussions.	NOC	
	34bis We call for commitment to stable and sustainable, public, and other public interest funding mechanisms that are transparent and accountable to increase participation and engagement of civil society and other underrepresented and marginalised groups/stakeholders, from developing countries in particular, in Internet governance processes. All stakeholders should be involved in the process of developing these mechanisms.	In order to increase consistent and meaningful participation, we propose to add para 34bis. This would greatly improve internet governance processes, which currently lack physical participation from stakeholders from developing countries and underrepresented groups, especially on a longer-term basis.
35. We recognise the principle and importance of net neutrality, and call for its protection accordingly.	NOC	
	35bis. The internet is a global resource that should be governed in the public	It is important to uphold the basic

	interest, and in accordance with human rights. We call for an open internet which is based on principles of interoperability, open standards, and net neutrality. The open internet is furthered by open data, use of free and open source hardware and software, and open access networks.	foundations of the open internet to ensure it works for the public good, as well as realise its development potential.
36. We note that a number of member states have called for an international legal framework for internet governance.	NOC	
37. We acknowledge the unique role of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) as a multistakeholder platform for discussion of Internet governance issues.	37. We acknowledge the unique role of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) as a multistakeholder policy dialogue for discussion of Internet governance issues.	This inclusion makes the text consistent with paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda.
	37bis We extend the IGF mandate for another five years with its current mandate, while taking into account the report of the CSTD Working Group on improvements to the IGF, which was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution and ongoing work to implement the findings of that report. We call for the IGF to fulfil all parts of its mandate as set out in paragraph 72, in particular paragraph 72g, of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and to improve its transparency and accountability.	There are increased calls for the IGF to be able to have more substantial outcomes, and that it should be more accountable and transparent as an institution.
	37ter. We call for the IGF to increase efforts to include women, young people, marginalised and at-risk communities and persons. We call on the CSTD Secretariat to report annually on fulfillment of the recommendations of the Working Group on improvements to the IGF and Forum outcomes and participation of stakeholders from developing countries.	This text reflects calls for evidence of progress and regular reporting.
38. We acknowledge that various initiatives have been implemented and some progress has been made in relation to enhanced cooperation. We acknowledge that the organizations and processes that coordinate Internet governance have evolved in response to changes in technology and demands from their stakeholders, which has included efforts to increase participation of stakeholders from developing countries. We note the Reports by the Secretary General on enhanced cooperation (A/66/77; E/2009/92) and the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.	NOC	
39. We recall paragraphs 69 and 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and note concerns that their full implementation has not been achieved. We call for strengthening 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, butnot in the day-to-day technical and operational matters, that do not impact on international public policy issues. In order to address these concerns, we call for an inclusive, democratic, and transparent dialogue on enhanced cooperation.	39. We recall paragraphs 69 and 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and note concerns that their full implementation has not been achieved. We call for strengthening 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, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters, that do not impact on international public policy issues. In order to address these concerns, we call for an inclusive, democratic, and transparent dialogue on enhanced cooperation, involving all stakeholders. Efforts to provide governments with the opportunity to discuss internet-related public policy matters should be adequately and appropriately linked with the Internet Governance Forum.	

HUMAN RIGHTS

Section rationale: We suggest placing a stand-alone section on human rights after the preamble to be consistent with the WSIS vision of a people-centered, inclusive, and development-oriented information society. The amendments to this section propose stronger references to human rights and limited restrictions that are in accordance with international human rights law.

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
<p>40. We reaffirm, as an essential foundation of the Information Society, and as outlined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, that this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. We underscore the need for respecting freedom of expression and the independence of press. We believe that communication is a fundamental social process, a basic human need and the foundation of all social organization, and is central to the Information Society. Everyone, everywhere should have the opportunity to participate and no one should be excluded from the benefits the Information Society offers.</p>	<p>40. We reaffirm, as an essential foundation of the Information Society, and as outlined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, that this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. We underscore the need for respecting freedom of expression and the independence of press. We believe that communication is a fundamental social process, a basic human need and the foundation of all social organization, and is central to the Information Society. Everyone, everywhere should have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of public life and no one should be excluded from the benefits the Information Society offers.</p>	<p>We suggest adding wording on participation in all aspects of public life.</p>
<p>41. We reaffirm the commitment set out in the Geneva Declaration and the Tunis Commitment to the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.</p>	<p>41. We reaffirm the commitment set out in the Geneva Declaration and the Tunis Commitment to the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development. Any restrictions to such rights must be prescribed by law, and must be necessary and proportionate in pursuant of a legitimate aim, in accordance with international human rights law.</p>	<p>We suggest adding that restrictions to human rights must respect international human rights laws.</p>
<p>42. We reaffirm the principle, recognised in General Assembly resolution 68/167, that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online.</p>	<p>42. Human rights are an essential foundation of the Information Society. We reaffirm the principle, recognised in General Assembly resolution 68/167, that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online. This includes economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights as referenced in international human rights instruments.</p>	<p>We suggest adding a statement on how human rights are the foundation of the information society.</p>
<p>43. We emphasise that no person shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home, or correspondence, consistent with countries' applicable obligations under international human rights law. We encourage all stakeholders to ensure respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data.</p>	<p>43. We emphasise that no person shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home, or correspondence, consistent with countries' applicable obligations under international human rights law. We encourage all stakeholders to ensure respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data. The UN General Assembly resolution 69/166 should be implemented in its entirety, setting up domestic and international mechanisms to allow individuals to fully enjoy and exercise their fundamental right to privacy. We emphasize that arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data, as highly intrusive acts, violate the rights to privacy and freedom of expression and may contradict the tenets of a democratic society. We encourage States to review their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, with a view to upholding the right to privacy by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law.</p>	

<p>44. We reaffirm our commitment to the provisions of Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of their personality is possible, and that, in the exercise of their rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society. These rights may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. In this way, we shall promote an Information Society where human dignity is respected.</p>	<p>44. We reaffirm our commitment to the provisions of Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of their personality is possible, and that, in the exercise of their rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by international human rights law. solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society. These rights may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. In this way, we shall promote an Information Society where human dignity is respected.</p>	
	<p>44bis. We emphasize that the state obligation to protect human rights entails protection against human rights violations by non-state actors and requires public actors to take appropriate steps to prevent, investigate, punish and redress violations through effective legislation and remedies. We reaffirm, in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, that private actors should avoid causing or contributing to adverse impacts on human rights and should cooperate in the provision of effective remedies to such impacts including through appropriate judicial or non-judicial mechanisms. Private remedies should not seek to substitute or replace existing public remedies, but should complement them.</p>	
	<p>44ter. We recognise the role that anonymity and encryption can play as enablers of privacy protection and freedom of expression, and facilitate dialogue on these issues.</p>	
	<p>44quater. We recognise that decisions related to the technical dimension of the information society and to the development of the use of the internet and ICTs might have implications for human rights. There is a need to promote human rights considerations in the development of Internet standards and protocols. Further, the alignment of Internet and ICT-related laws and policies should be aligned with International Human Rights Law.</p>	

BUILDING TRUST, CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY IN THE USE OF ICTS

Section rationale: It is important that this section reflects a truly people-centered approach to addressing security in ICTs that is underpinned by the promotion and protection of Human Rights. Proposed changes also reflect the need for the involvement of all stakeholders in efforts to build trust, confidence and security in the use of ICTs, through open, inclusive and transparent processes, as instrumental to achieving the WSIS vision.

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
45. Strengthening confidence and security in the use of ICT is a prerequisite for the development of information societies and ICT success as a driver for economic and social innovation.	45. Strengthening trust , confidence and security in the use of ICT is crucial a prerequisite for achieving a people-centered, inclusive, and development-oriented the development of information societies and ICT success as a driver for economic and social innovation.	We suggest this change to better reflect the correlation between the terms, and ensure consistency with the WSIS vision.
	45bis Efforts to address the security of ICTs at national, regional, and global level, must involve all stakeholders and we recognise the special importance/contribution of civil society and national human rights institutions.	We suggest adding 45bis to recognise the importance of all stakeholders in addressing the security of ICTs.
	45ter. Any approaches, policies, or efforts to address the security of ICTs, must go hand-in-hand with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international instruments, and should be developed through open, inclusive, and transparent processes.	Suggest adding 45ter to root this section more strongly in human rights-based considerations and place people at the center of efforts to create a safe and secure cyberspace.
46. We acknowledge the work that governments, businesses and other stakeholders are undertaking, through a wide variety of initiatives, to strengthen cybersecurity, including the work of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Group on Cybercrime. We recognise the need for governments, which have responsibility for national security and the personal safety of their citizens, to play an enhanced role, alongside other stakeholders, in ensuring cybersecurity.	46. We acknowledge the work that governments, the private sector, civil society, technical community, academia, and international organisations businesses and other stakeholders are undertaking, through a wide variety of initiatives, to strengthen confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs, including in the field of cybersecurity and cybercrime, and encourage efforts to improve collaboration and transparency, bearing in mind protection of the right to privacy. cybersecurity. We recognise the need for governments, which have responsibility for national security and the personal safety of their citizens, to play an enhanced role, alongside other stakeholders, in ensuring cybersecurity.	We suggest these changes to make clear that the emphasis in this paragraph is on the recognition of increasing collaboration in all aspects of addressing security of ICTs.
47. We reiterate the importance of cyber ethics in establishing a safe, secure, tolerant and reliable cyberspace and strengthening the role of ICT as the enabler of development, as emphasised in paragraph 43 of the Tunis Agenda and mentioned under the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action. We recognise the need for special emphasis on the protection and empowerment of children online. In this regard, governments and other stakeholders should work together to help all children to enjoy the benefits of ICT in a safe and secure environment.	47. We reiterate the importance of cyber ethics in establishing a safe, secure, tolerant and reliable cyberspace and strengthening the role of ICT as the enabler of development, as emphasised in paragraph 43 of the Tunis Agenda and mentioned under the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action. We recognise the need for special emphasis on the protection and empowerment of at-risk ICT users, including older people, persons with disabilities, children, especially marginalized children, people discriminated against based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and other disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. In this regard, governments and other stakeholders should work together to help all disadvantaged and vulnerable groups children enjoy the benefits of ICT in a safe and secure environment.	To strengthen this paragraph, the suggestions broaden the scope to include all disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, reflecting language from the Geneva Plan of Action.

<p>48. We recognize the central importance of the principles of international law enshrined in the UN Charter in building confidence and security in the use of ICT, particularly the political independence, territorial integrity and sovereign equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs of other states and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>	<p>48. We recognize the central importance of the principles of international law enshrined in the UN Charter in building confidence and security in the use of ICT. particularly the political independence, territorial integrity and sovereign equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs of other states and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>	<p>The deletion ensures the text now encompasses a broad range of principles enshrined in existing international law, rather than focusing on specific elements.</p>
<p>49. We are concerned about certain uses of ICT that increasingly threaten national security, including terrorism and cybercrime. We reiterate our belief that a global culture of cyber security needs to be promoted, developed and implemented in cooperation with all stakeholders and international expert bodies in order to foster trust and security in the emerging Information Society.</p>	<p>49. We are concerned about certain uses of ICT, including cybercrime, that increasingly threaten human national security, including terrorism. We reiterate our belief that a global culture of cybersecurity needs to be promoted, developed and implemented in cooperation with all stakeholders and international expert bodies in order to foster trust and security in the emerging Information Society. We recognise the importance of privacy-enhancing technology in building trust, confidence and security in the use of ICTs.</p>	<p>The suggested changes aim to capture the full scope of the problem at hand. Risks associated with the use of ICTs can affect all elements of society. Individuals should be able to access privacy-enhancing technologies, which are themselves examples of scientific advancement, and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress in furtherance of security online.</p>
<p>50. We call for increased global efforts and cooperation in combating cybercrime, cyberterrorism and countering cyber-threats, including discussion forums, information sharing, the development of national capabilities and elaboration of national cyber security strategies, improved indices for measuring cyber security; and cooperation on cyber security standards and technical specifications. We acknowledge the call for a convention on international cybercrimes. We recognise that approaches to cybersecurity should be compatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>	<p>50. We call for increased global efforts and cooperation in combating cybercrime, cyberterrorism and countering cyber-threats, including through discussion forums, information sharing, vulnerability disclosure programs, data protection policies, notification of breach and misuse of data, the development of national, regional, and global capabilities and elaboration of national cyber security strategies, improved indices for measuring cyber security; and cooperation on cybersecurity standards and technical specifications. We acknowledge the call for a convention on international cybercrimes. Such efforts should be done in an open and transparent way, including all stakeholders. We recognise that approaches to cybersecurity should be compatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>	<p>We do not have any agreed definitions for cyberterrorism; the suggested changes add examples of efforts and measures that improve transparency and call on the expertise of diverse stakeholders to more accountably combat ICT-related risks.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Section rationale: As the information society enters a crucial phase post the WSIS+10 review, we underscore the need to evaluate its progress by charting a concrete path for the future. This section emphasises the need for continued civil society input and multistakeholder contributions, as a means to addressing ongoing and emerging challenges through the WSIS framework. It also sets realistic target dates for the adoption and implementation of WSIS. Finally, the section assigns responsibility to specific intergovernmental bodies to move forward through agreed upon processes.

Co-facilitators text	Our suggestion	Rationale
51. The implementation of WSIS outcomes will require the continued commitment of all stakeholders, including United Nations agencies, international organisations, governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community and academia. All stakeholders across government, industry, civil society, the technical community and international organisations should continue to focus on practical implementation measures that address the full set of WSIS Action Lines	NOC	
52. The continued implementation of WSIS outcomes should take place within the context established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Close links should be established between WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals to ensure that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness will serve to accelerate human progress, bridge the digital divide and develop knowledge societies.	The continued implementation of WSIS outcomes should, amongst others, take into consideration the context established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Close links should be established between WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals to ensure that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness will serve to accelerate human progress, bridge the digital divide and develop knowledge societies.	
53. We call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of WSIS outcomes through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)	NOC	
54. We call for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS), in coordinating the work of United Nations agencies. We also urge United Nations Regional Commissions to conduct regular regional reviews of WSIS implementation.	We call for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS), in coordinating the work of United Nations agencies. We also urge United Nations Regional Commissions to conduct regular regional reviews of WSIS implementation, with participation of all stakeholders. These multistakeholder regional reviews should feed into the annual review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes by the CSTD.	
55. We recognize that the WSIS Forum has been a valuable platform through which all stakeholders can review the implementation of WSIS outcomes, and should continue to be held annually.	NOC	
56. We call for increased efforts to improve the extent of data collection and analysis, including quality of connectivity and the impact of ICT on development, based on international standards and definitions; the inclusion of ICT statistics in national strategies for the development of statistics and in regional statistical work programmes, and the strengthening of local statistical capacity by assessing capacity needs and delivering targeted training on ICT statistics. The activities of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development have made a valuable contribution to data gathering and dissemination and should be continued.	NOC	

<p>57. We call for a review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes by the UN GA in 202X, the conclusions of which would feed into the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with input of all relevant stakeholders in both its preparatory process and its proceedings to guide the intergovernmental process. We also call for further reviews on a regular basis each decade.</p>	<p>We call for a review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes by the UN GA in 202X, the conclusions of which would feed into the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with input of all relevant stakeholders in both its preparatory process and its proceedings to guide the intergovernmental process. We also call for further reviews on a regular basis each decade.</p>	<p>Addressed in next para</p>
<p>58. We recognize that in the preparation of the WSIS review a number of challenges have been identified, requiring further consultations in the framework of a higher level process. This could include the assessment and reconsideration of Action Lines; potential new legal instruments; and further improvements on enhanced cooperation. We agree to hold a [World Summit] [High Level Meeting] on the Information Society in 202X in order to discuss such issues.</p>	<p>58. We recognize that in the preparation of the WSIS review a number of challenges have been identified, requiring further consultations in the framework of a higher level process. This could include the assessment and reconsideration of Action Lines; potential new legal instruments; and further improvements on enhanced cooperation. We agree to hold a World Summit [High Level Meeting] on the Information Society in 2020 in order to discuss such issues, as well as to conduct a further overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes, with the participation of all stakeholders. The conclusions of this Review, and any possible subsequent reviews, would feed into the review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <p>This Summit must be the outcome of a comprehensive global preparatory process that is open, inclusive and transparent, builds on other multistakeholder processes since the WSIS including that used in developing the SDGs, and makes use of online means, along with regional consultation and preparatory mechanisms.</p>	

This submission has been endorsed by the following organisations:

1. Access Now, Global
2. Association for Progressive Communications (APC), Global
3. BFES - Bangladesh Friendship Education Society, Bangladesh
4. BurundiX ASBL, Bujumbura, Burundi
5. Bytes for All, Pakistan
6. Centre for Communication Governance at National Law University Delhi (CCG), India
7. Center for Internet and Society (CIS), India
8. Center for Studies on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information (CELE), Universidad de Palermo, Argentina
9. Center for Technology and Society of the Getulio Vargas Foundation School of Law in Rio de Janeiro (CTS-FGV), Brazil
10. Coding Rights, Brazil
11. Derechos Digitales, Chile
12. Global Partners Digital, UK
13. Hiperderecho, Perú
14. Hivos Southeast Asia, Indonesia
15. Horizontal, México
16. International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), Kenya
17. ICT Watch, Indonesia
18. International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), Global

19. Internet Democracy Project, India
20. IT for Change, India
21. Just Net Coalition, Global
22. Karisma Foundation, Colombia
23. KICTANET, Kenya
24. Law Life Culture, Bangladesh
25. National Association of Human Rights Research and Graduates Studies (ANDHEP), Brazil
26. Public Knowledge, US
27. Society for Knowledge Commons, New Delhi, India