

2 Debate shall be confined to the question before the Preparatory Committee and the President may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3 The Preparatory Committee may limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each participant may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives of States in favour of and to two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Preparatory Committee, the President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call her/him to order without delay.

Rule 20

Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative of a State may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 21

Precedence

The Chairperson of a subcommittee may be accorded precedence on the list of speakers for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Rule 22

Closing of the list of speakers

During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Preparatory Committee, declare the list closed.

Rule 23

Right of reply

1 Notwithstanding rule 22, the President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Preparatory Committee or of the European Community who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply.³

2 The statements made under this rule shall normally be made at the end of the last meeting of the day of the body concerned, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the relevant item if that is sooner.

3 The representatives of a State or of the European Community may make no more than two statements under this rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes.

4 The statements made under this rule shall attempt to be as brief as possible.

³ Observers do not have the right of reply.

Rule 24

Adjournment of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Preparatory Committee may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives of States in favour and to two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 27, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 25

Closure of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Preparatory Committee may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives of States opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 27, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 26

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Subject to rule 37, a representative of any State participating in the Preparatory Committee may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 27, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 27

Order of motions

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions and points of order before the meeting:

- a) to suspend the meeting;
- b) to adjourn the meeting;
- c) to adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;
- d) to close the debate on the question under discussion.

Rule 28

Submission of proposals and amendments

Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee or her/his designated representative, who shall circulate copies to all participants. However, the President of the Preparatory Committee or the Chairperson of the appropriate subcommittee shall decide in each case whether an oral proposal or amendment submitted during a session must be presented in writing for publication and distribution.

Rule 29

Withdrawal of proposals, amendments and motions

A proposal, an amendment or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before a decision on it has been taken, provided that it has not been amended. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, a proposal, an amendment or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Rule 30

Decisions on competence

Subject to rule 27, any motion submitted by a representative of any State participating calling for a decision on the competence of the Preparatory Committee to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 31

Reconsideration of proposals

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Preparatory Committee, by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two representatives of States opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

IX Decision-making

Rule 32

Consensus

- 1 The Preparatory Committee shall make every effort to ensure that its work is accomplished by consensus.
- 2 Negotiations are conducted by Member States of the United Nations or of any specialized agency and the delegation of the European Community only.

Rule 33

Voting rights

Each State participating in the Preparatory Committee shall have one vote.

Rule 34

Majority required

- 1 In case there is no consensus, decisions of the Preparatory Committee on all such matters shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting.
- 2 If a vote is equally divided, the proposal, amendment or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 35

Meaning of the phrase "representatives present and voting"

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "representatives present and voting" means representatives casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives who abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Rule 36

Method of voting

- 1 Except as provided in rule 43, the Preparatory Committee shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative of a State may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Preparatory Committee, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State shall be called in all roll-calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".
- 2 When the Preparatory Committee votes by mechanical/electronic means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative of a State may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative of a State requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Preparatory Committee.
- 3 The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the meeting.

Rule 37

Conduct during voting

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Rule 38⁴

Explanation of vote

Representatives of States may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of their vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of its vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

Rule 39

Division of proposals

A representative of a State may move that parts of a proposal be decided on separately. If a representative of a State objects, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives of States in favour of and to two opposing the division. If the motion is carried, those parts of the proposal that are subsequently approved shall be put to the Preparatory Committee for decision as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Rule 40

Amendments

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be regarded as including amendments.

⁴ This provision shall apply by analogy when a decision is taken by consensus.

Rule 41

Order of voting on amendments⁵

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Preparatory Committee shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all the amendments have been voted upon. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Rule 42

Order of voting on proposals⁶

1 If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Preparatory Committee decides otherwise, be voted upon in the order in which they were submitted. The Preparatory Committee may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2 Revised proposals shall be voted upon in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case, the original proposal shall be regarded as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3 A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 43

Elections

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Preparatory Committee decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

X Subsidiary bodies

Rule 44

Subcommittees

1 The Preparatory Committee may establish subcommittees as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2 Except as otherwise provided in these rules, each State participating in the Preparatory Committee as well as the European Community may be represented on each subcommittee.

⁵ This provision shall apply by analogy when a decision is taken by consensus.

⁶ This provision shall apply by analogy when a decision is taken by consensus.

Rule 45

Officers, conduct of business and decision-making

The rules contained in chapters V, VIII (except rules 18 and 28) and IX above shall be applicable, *mutatis mutandis*, to the proceedings of the subcommittees.

XI Languages and records

Rule 46

Languages of the Preparatory Committee

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Preparatory Committee.

Rule 47

Interpretation

1 Speeches made in a language of the Preparatory Committee shall be interpreted into the other such languages.

2 A participant may speak in a language other than a language of the Preparatory Committee if the participant concerned provides for interpretation into one such language.

Rule 48

Languages of official documents

Official documents of the Preparatory Committee shall be made available in the languages of the Preparatory Committee.

Rule 49

Sound recordings of meetings

Sound recordings of plenary and subcommittee meetings of the Preparatory Committee shall be made and kept, unless otherwise decided by the Preparatory Committee.

XII Public and private meetings

Rule 50

The meetings of the Preparatory Committee and its subcommittees are public unless decided otherwise by the body concerned.

XIII Other participants and observers

Rule 51

Representatives of entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices

Representatives designated by entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, and, as appropriate, any other subcommittee.

Rule 52

Representatives of the specialized agencies

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, and, as appropriate, any other subcommittee on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 53

Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

Save where otherwise specifically provided with respect to the European Community in these rules of procedure, representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations invited to the Preparatory Committee may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, and, as appropriate, any other subcommittee on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 54

Representatives of interested United Nations organs

Representatives designated by interested organs of the United Nations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, and, as appropriate, any other subcommittee on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 55

Representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and business sector entities

1 Non-governmental organizations, civil society and business sector entities accredited to participate in the Committee may designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Preparatory Committee and its subcommittees.

2 Upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the body concerned and subject to the approval of that body, such observers may make oral statements on questions in which they have special competence. If the number of requests to speak is too large, the non-governmental organizations, civil society and business sector entities shall be requested to form themselves into constituencies, such constituencies to speak through spokespersons.

Rule 56

Associate members of regional commissions

Representatives designated by associate members of regional commissions may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, and, as appropriate, any other subcommittee on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 57

Written statements

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 51 to 56 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Preparatory Committee, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization or a business sector entity is related to the work of the Preparatory Committee and is on a subject in which the non-governmental organization or the business sector entity has a special competence.

XIV Suspension and amendment of the rules of procedure

Rule 58

Method of suspension

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Preparatory Committee provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative of a State objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.

Rule 59

Method of amendment

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Preparatory Committee taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the Bureau has reported on the proposed amendment.

Arrangements for participation

The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit on the Information Society (PrepCom-1) decides that:

- Accredited NGOs and business sector entities are encouraged to actively participate in the intergovernmental preparatory process and the Summit as observers.
- All of these actors would have the same status.
- NGOs and business sector entities will be allowed to make the following substantive contributions:
 - Substantive written contributions along with executive summaries thereof would be welcomed on the basis of the Summit themes with fixed deadlines. They will be published by the Executive Secretariat on the WSIS website and circulated upon request in hard copies to the governments.
 - All executive summaries would be compiled by the Secretariat in a document according to the Summit themes, identifying the sources.
 - The document will be widely circulated before the second preparatory meeting and all stakeholders would have the opportunity to discuss its contents and hold workshops and meetings to coordinate positions.
 - As an informal part of the Preparatory Committee meetings, a number of multi-stakeholders thematic roundtables will be organized. The outcome of these thematic roundtables will be a Chairman's summary of the discussion, which will be submitted to the preparatory committee and incorporated in its records.
 - They are invited to nominate speakers to make statements in the Preparatory Committee, in accordance with the rules of procedure, reporting on the proceedings of parallel and networked series of events, with a view to contributing effectively to the success of the Summit.

Arrangements for accreditation

In order to participate in the PrepComs and the Summit accreditation is needed.

Those non-governmental organizations currently in consultative status with ECOSOC and ITU Sector Members, that wish to attend the Preparatory Committee meetings and the Summit must inform the Executive Secretariat and register to participate. As a rule, they shall be considered as accredited. The list of such non-governmental organizations shall be circulated to Member States two weeks before the session of the Preparatory Committee¹.

Those non-governmental organizations, civil society and business sector entities not covered in the previous paragraph, but wishing to attend and contribute may apply directly or through their governments to the Executive Secretariat of the Summit for that purpose. The application requires the submission of the following information:

- a) name of the organization/entity and pertinent contact information, including address and main contact;
- b) legal status;
- c) year of establishment;
- d) purpose of the organization/entity;
- e) a list of the members of the governing body of the organization/entity and their countries of nationality;
- f) a description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names of organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;
- g) programmes and activities in areas relevant to the subject of the Summit and indicating in which country, or countries, they are carried out;
- h) copies of the annual reports, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions, if applicable;
- i) a copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization;
- j) a completed pre-registration form prepared by the Executive Secretariat;
- k) confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international levels.

These may be submitted by mail or by fax to the Executive Secretariat. The deadline for submitting accreditation applications is six weeks before the start of each Preparatory Committee meeting. The Executive Secretariat will review the relevance of the work of the applicants on the basis of their background and involvement in information society issues. It shall seek the assistance of the UN Non-governmental Liaison Service, in this context. In its evaluation, the Executive Secretariat will ensure that NGOs, civil society and business sector entities whose applications are rejected or whose accreditation has been cancelled do not apply under new names. If the evaluation shows, on the basis of the information provided, that the applicant is competent and its activities relevant to the work of the Summit, the Executive Secretariat will make recommendations to the Preparatory Committee for its decision on the accreditation of those NGOs, civil society and business sector

¹ In this context, the ECOSOC resolution 1996/31 shall apply.

entities. In cases where such recommendation is not made, the Executive Secretariat will make available to the Preparatory Committee meeting the reasons for not doing so. The Executive Secretariat will circulate its recommendations and the reasons for them to Member States two weeks before the start of each committee meeting. This document will be circulated in the languages of the PrepCom and would contain separate recommendations for all the different categories. Member States may be provided by the Executive Secretariat upon request additional information referred to in paragraphs a) to k). In case the above conditions are not met, in a way that impedes a sufficiently informed decision, the PrepCom may defer its decision regarding the applicant(s) concerned until its next meeting.

Accreditation is a continuous process. An organization that has been granted accreditation according to these rules² to attend a session of the Preparatory Committee meeting may attend all subsequent preparatory sessions, as well as the Summit unless the PrepCom or the Summit decides otherwise.

² It is understood that all accreditation at the first session of the Preparatory Committee was provisional and needs to be reviewed in the light of the present rules at its second session.

**Draft report of the Chairman of Subcommittee 2
(Content and themes)**

1 At its first Plenary Meeting, on 1 July 2002, the WSIS PrepCom 1 agreed to create a subcommittee to discuss the content and themes of the Summit. PrepCom approved the nomination of Mr Pablo MACEDO (Mexico) to chair it. Subcommittee 2 held two meetings on Thursday, 4 July. The meeting was open to all stakeholders involved in WSIS preparations.

2 On the basis of the discussions, the Chairman presented two non-papers, containing the principles guiding the preparatory work and the WSIS and proposed themes for the WSIS. These non-papers were discussed during informal consultations. The first non-paper (principles) was adopted by the Subcommittee. The second non-paper (themes) appears under the authority of the Chairman as an annex to this report and could serve as a guide for future work.

PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE PREPARATORY WORK AND THE WSIS

The first Preparatory Committee identified, in a preliminary manner, the following general set of principles to guide the preparatory work and the Summit:

- The Preparatory Committee and the Summit should be aimed at extending the benefits of the information society to all and should be development-oriented, overcoming the digital divide.
- The need to find a shared understanding of and to raise awareness of:
 - the information society; and
 - how the challenges of the digital divide can be met.
- [The Summit should consider, in a balanced manner, infrastructure and content issues.]
- Preservation of linguistic diversity and cultural identity should be a priority.
- [Ethical values should be considered an essential component.]
- A spirit of international cooperation should prevail.
- ICTs are a tool for achieving economic and social goals, such as those stated in the UN Millennium Declaration, and not an end in themselves.
- The importance of universal and inclusive access to the information society.
- [There is a need for broad-based partnerships among stakeholders.]
- The importance of utilizing ICTs for the benefit of disadvantaged communities (e.g. women, youth, children, the disabled, indigenous groups, migrants).
- [The importance of the issue of information network security.]

ANNEX 1

Proposal from the Chairman of Subcommittee 2 Themes for the WSIS

The Chairman of Subcommittee 2, based on the discussions and informal consultations that were held, identified the following themes as an initial basis for further work:

- Infrastructure: financing, deployment and sustainability.
- Identifying and overcoming barriers to the achievement of the information society.
- The role of government, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development.
- Education, human resources development and training.
- Access to information and communication technologies.
- Information network security.
- Development of a policy and regulatory framework.
- ICT applications (education, health, culture, poverty eradication, government, employment, business).



COMMENTS OF CIVIL SOCIETY

ON THE
DRAFT DECLARATION
Based on the
DISCUSSION IN THE WORKING GROUP OF SUB-COMMITTEE 2

PRODUCED BY THE CIVIL SOCIETY CONTENT AND THEMES WORKING GROUP

VERSION February 27, 2003 10:00
(This document supersedes the PROVISIONAL VERSION
February 26 2003, 19:30)

Suggestions of additions (in bold) and deletion in []

A. Preamble

- 1 An inclusive global information society is one where all persons, without distinction, are empowered freely to create, receive, share and utilize information and knowledge for **their social, economic, cultural and political development.**
- 2 The World Summit on the Information Society offers an historic opportunity to **create the conditions for the sustainability of** this vision.
- 3 By harnessing the potential of information and communication technologies, in all areas of human life, we can now **contribute to** new and better responses to vital and longstanding issues, such as in poverty reduction and wealth creation, as well as equity and social justice.
- 4 Knowledge has always been at the core of human progress and endeavour. Yet now, as never before, knowledge and information constitute **one of** the fundamental sources of well-being and progress. Our individual and collective ability to create and share knowledge has become **one of** the driving forces in shaping all our futures.
- 5 Today, the dramatic increase in the volume, speed and ubiquity of information flows that has been made possible through new information and communications technologies has already brought about profound changes in the **impacts**, demands and expectations upon government, business, civil society and the individual.
- 6 Meanwhile the information and communication revolution is still in its infancy. The untapped potential of ICT to improve productivity and quality of life is a serious issue for many

developing countries, which risk being left behind **or having development models that are not respectful of their specificity imposed on them.**

7 Faced with complex and ever-evolving challenges, all stakeholders have critical choices to make. New forms of solidarity and cooperation, new modes of social and economic organization and new ways of thinking are called for.

7 B Women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis or equality in all spheres of society, including participation in the decision-making process and access to power, are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace (art. 13, Beijing declaration, BPFA)

7 C Eradication of poverty based on sustained economic growth, social development, environmental protection and social justice requires the involvement of women in economic and social development, equal opportunities and the full and equal participation of women and men as agents and beneficiaries of people-centred sustainable development (art. 16, Beijing declaration, BPFA)

8 In order to translate the rhetoric of the information and communication revolution into equitable growth and sustainable development on a global scale, and to realize the potential of ICTs to empower people, all stakeholders need to embrace fully their new roles and responsibilities.

9 Information and communication technologies (ICTs) should be regarded as a tool and not as an end in themselves.

10 In all parts of the world remarkable success has been witnessed in using information and knowledge for individual and collective development. The Summit provides a platform to allow the dissemination and replication of such success stories and best practices **and learn from unsuccessful experiments.** In so doing it will contribute to reducing disparities, including those of the "digital divide". **At the same time, we must be continually vigilant in not assuming that technology alone can solve political and social problems, and we must dispel popular myths about the infallibility of technological systems.**

11 To take advantage of the unprecedented win-win situation that an information society can yield, concrete action and global commitment are now required.

B. Common Vision

12 **In** the Information Society ~~[[is an economic and social system where]]~~ knowledge and information constitute ~~[[the]]~~ fundamental sources of well being and progress and represent an opportunity for our countries and societies. The development of that society should take place within a global and local context of fundamental principles such as those of respect for human rights, democracy, environmental protection, the advancement of peace, the right to development, fundamental freedoms, economic progress and social equity.

12 B Global Knowledge Commons and the public domain of information constitute resources that are cornerstones of a global public interest. They should be protected, expanded and promoted, in particular, via open source and free software.

13 The vision of an Information Society is one where all persons, without distinction of any kind, exercise their right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the freedom to hold opinions without interference, and to ~~create~~ seek, receive and impart information and ideas, through any media and regardless of frontiers, **as stipulated in articles 19 UDHR. Further the right to create, as stipulated in Art. 27 of the UDHR, must be enjoyed by all persons, without distinction.**

13 B . National and global media concentration is contrary to diversity of information. To ensure diversity and pluralism in the Information society, monopolies and excessive concentration in the media, including those in new communication and information technologies should be subject to general anti-monopoly laws. Such general laws should be enacted where they do not already exist and strengthened where necessary.

14 **We understand the Information Society as one in which highly-developed ICT networks, equitable and ubiquitous access to information, diverse content in accessible formats and effective communication could help people to achieve their potential, promote sustainable economic and social development, ~~[[improve quality of life for all, contribute to alleviate poverty and hunger, and facilitate participatory decision-making processes.]]~~ However the lack of basic social, educational technological infrastructures as well as socio-cultural barriers could hinder these potential benefits from being experienced by all. ~~[[Hence they enable the sharing of social and economic benefits by all, by means of ubiquitous access to information networks, while preserving diversity and cultural heritage.]]~~**

15 The Information Society should be people-centred, with citizens and communities at its core. It should be at the service of humankind, including disadvantaged and marginalized groups and those with special needs. To reach its full potential, the Information Society requires the genuine participation, contribution and commitment of all, especially **national and local** Governments, private sector and civil society.

16 The Information Society we envisage is one that reduces poverty and creates wealth to satisfy the basic needs and rights of all peoples. The Information Society offers great potential in promoting international peace, sustainable development, democracy, transparency **and** accountability. ~~[[and good governance.]]~~

17 Full exploitation of the new opportunities provided by information and communication technologies (ICTs) and of their combination with traditional media, as well as an adequate response to the challenge of the digital divide, should be important parts in any strategy, national and international, aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and gender inequality.¹ ~~[[Without the widespread and innovative use of ICTs, the MDGs may prove impossible to attain.]]~~

18 **(The right to communicate² including) the right to participate in the communication and information process in conformity with article 19 of the UDHR and without any obstacle to freedom of expression, and press freedom, as well as the right to access, create and disseminate information, without any kind of censorship, should be considered basic human right.**

¹ Elements from para 2-4 of the UN Millennium Declaration to be inserted later.

² **The media caucus of civil society does not agree to the expression the right to communicate, as they consider that it is already covered by art. 19 UDHR.**

19 The use of ICTs in human resources and human capacity development, including ICT literacy, should be promoted as a continuous and fundamental requirement of the Information Society, with special reference to people with disabilities. Education and training, the fostering of science, innovation and technology deserve full and adequate support.

20 Confidence, trust and robust technical reliability are essential to the full functioning of the information society, and should underpin measures taken to protect users of media, communication and information networks against any misuse and the violation of privacy and confidentiality.

21 Preservation of cultural identity and linguistic diversity of hallmarks of a successful information society. Creativity and the creation, processing dissemination and conservation of local content can best be stimulated through **an adequate balance for intellectual property rights between creators, information industry and the users of information.**

22 The existence of independent and free communication media, **including community media**, in accordance ~~[[with the legal system of each country]]~~, is an essential requirement for freedom of expression and a guarantee of the plurality of information. Unhindered access by individuals and communication media to information sources shall be ensured and strengthened in order to promote the existence of a vigorous public **sphere** as a pillar of civil responsibility in accordance with article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international and regional instruments dealing with human rights.

C. Key Principles

23 The Summit should be aimed at extending the benefits of the Information Society to all and should be development-oriented. The Global Information Society should address the interests of all nations, most particularly, the interests of the developing countries, in a manner that secures the fair, balanced and harmonious development of all the people of the world.

24 A primary aim of the Information Society must be to facilitate full utilization of information and communication technologies (ICT) at all levels in society and hence enable the sharing of social and economic benefits by all, by means of ubiquitous access to information networks, while preserving diversity and cultural heritage.

25 In building an Information Society, we should take into account:

- Gender issues: Unequal power relations and other social and cultural aspects have contributed to differential access, participation and status for men and women. In this regard, more attention should be given to overcoming these constraints and ensuring that women can equally benefit from the increased use of ICTs for empowerment and full participation in shaping political, economic and social development;
- Special circumstances of Small Island Developing States (SIDS): These countries, with fragile ecosystems vulnerable to environmental hazards, and characterized by small, homogenous markets, high costs of access and equipment, human resource constraints exacerbated by the problem of "brain-drain", limited access to networks and remote locations, will require particular attention and tailored solutions to meet their needs;
- On the one hand, young people constitute the majority of the world's population, and are leading creators and adopters of ICTs. Their experience and energy are often an untapped

resource for sustainable development. On the other hand, too many youth remain disadvantaged and disconnected. More attention should be given to empower young people, as learners, the future workforce, and citizens with special needs.

The particular needs and contributions of indigenous peoples and communities must receive priority attention. This includes strengthening human, institutional and organisational capacity and promoting cultural and linguistic diversity, local contents and media development, harnessing the capabilities of indigenous people to contribute to this process.

26 The social and economic progress of countries and the well being of persons and communities shall occupy a central place in activities aimed at building an information society.

27 The information society shall be oriented towards eliminating existing socio-economic differences in our societies, averting the emergence of new forms of exclusion and becoming a positive force for all of the world's people by helping to reduce the disparity between developed and developing countries, as well as within countries, **for example through volunteering and other community initiatives.**

28 The information society should serve the public interest and the aim of social well-being by contributing to the eradication of poverty, the creation of wealth, the promotion and enhancement of social development, democratic participation, linguistic diversity and cultural identity, while at the same time ensuring equal opportunities for gaining access to information and communication technologies and at all times upholding the principle of legality to ensure its efficient and orderly use.

29 It will be necessary to formulate an agenda for action aimed at achieving specific objectives leading to the transition into an information society, emphasizing the needs of youth, women, and underprivileged groups by selecting appropriate and affordable technologies for implementation, thus bridging the digital divide.

1) Information and communication infrastructure

30a (new) The availability of power sources is a prerequisite in bridging the digital divide. It is therefore essential to elaborate an active policy in terms of renewable energy resources; this policy defined by public authorities is to be secured by all partners involved in ICT deployment, to warrant an adequate quality and a permanent availability for all users, particularly those in rural and isolated areas.

30 Access to information and free flow of information are fundamental human rights. Equitable and appropriate access for all is essential for well-developed, affordable and easily accessed information and communication network infrastructures. All citizens should be provided with the means of using ICT networks as a public service.

31 An adequately developed infrastructure is the precondition for secure, reliable and affordable access to information by all stakeholders, and for the upgrading of relevant services. The improvement of connectivity is of special importance in this respect, and it should be undertaken by the public and the private sectors, acting in partnership. Community-led development is a critical element in the strategy for achieving universal access to information and knowledge. Community access centres and public services (such as post offices, libraries, schools) can provide effective means for promoting universal access in particular in remote areas, as an important factor of their

development. Moreover, in order to ensure greater affordability, policy action **should aim at establishing a transparent and enabling regulatory framework.** [[setting up an appropriate open and competitive environment.]]

32 Information and communication services should be provided to disadvantaged groups in society, in particular those from lower income groups, to contribute to the alleviation of poverty.

33 In building an Information Society, we should take into account the unique geographic features and demographic diversity of nations and regions.

34 Universal access to information and communication technologies shall be an objective of all the stakeholders involved in building the information society, [[in accordance with the legal framework in force in each country.]]

35 While technology is significantly improving and costs are decreasing, it is important to ensure that access to information will be made available to all segments of the population. This is still not the case in many developing countries **nor even in** developed countries. Rural communities and poor strata of the population still cannot afford information services. Through a combination of new and more efficient technologies, common and shared access, open systems, and **common interest service** provision, information and its ensuing knowledge should be considered vital, and prioritised and delivered accordingly.

36 It is advisable to devise ICT-specific indicators, **including gender disaggregated data**, which realistically reflect needs and performance of developing countries **as well as developed countries.** Such indicators should take into account the particular conditions of developing countries where several people often share access to the Internet and a whole community may share usage of ICT equipment and infrastructure. Targets should also be set to benchmark penetration and **appropriation** of ICT services within communities at urban and rural levels **and also amongst marginalised groups.**

2) Access to information and knowledge

37 Individuals and organisations should benefit from access to information, knowledge and ideas. Notably, information in the public domain should be easily accessible. **Free, affordable access to information, as well as media freedom, are the corner stones** of a well-functioning and transparent decision-making process and a prerequisite for any democracy. Knowledge is a **key agent** for transforming both our global society and local communities.

37A. The potential of open source will improve productivity and quality of life in developing countries. The process of transformation into information societies requires the full participation of all member states. Developing countries should investigate how to leverage the opportunities presented by the emergence of Open Source Software in the context of limited financial resources and expertise.

38 The sharing and strengthening of global knowledge for development can be enhanced by ensuring equitable access to information for educational, scientific, economic, social, political and cultural activities, [[leading to]] **and by actively extending and protecting** a vibrant public domain of information.

39 It is recognized that **some of the barriers to equitable access result from differences in education and literacy levels, gender, age, income, language and connectivity.** In this context, particular attention should be given to least developed countries, economies in transition and post-conflict countries.

40 A The integration of all socially vulnerable sectors, including, but not limited to, older adults, children, rural communities, indigenous peoples, differently-abled persons, the unemployed, displaced persons and migrants shall be a priority objective in building the information society. **Social economy, including volunteer action, which involves hundreds of millions of people globally, plays a crucial role towards such inclusion.** To that end, barriers to participation, such as illiteracy, the lack of user training, cultural and linguistic constraints and particular conditions of access to the relevant technology, shall be overcome.

40 B **Research and academic freedom are keystone of the information society. It is essential that scholars and institutions have the ability to conduct independent research through public and private funding mechanisms. In addition, support must be given for research programs on technical and social issues dealing with ICTs, especially in the countries of the south, including North-South and South-South information Society.**

40C **The Information society is partly the result of the recent technological revolution. Science and technology are a driving force of global development. The public domain for scientific and engineering data must be strengthened as it plays a crucial role in the provision and dissemination of knowledge. Therefore academic and public research results should be as far as possible included in the public domain. In addition free access for all scientific and engineering data and information in all archives, libraries and research institutions should be made available in the information society.**

3) *The role of governments, local authorities, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development*

41 All partners— **public local and national authorities**, private sector and civil society organizations—have a stake in the development of communications and should be fully involved in decision making at the local, national, regional and international levels. This will require:

- forging new forms of partnership based on complementarities among the various categories of public, private sector and civil society stakeholders;
- establishing and/or strengthening at the local, national, regional and international levels, institutions that will create greater coherence and achieve better synergy in developing the information society.

42 **In the transition to the information society shall be led by the Governments as well as local authorities** in close coordination with private enterprise and civil society. An integral approach shall be taken that provides for an open and participatory dialogue with the whole of society in order to incorporate all stakeholders involved in the process of building a common vision for the development of an information society ~~in the region.~~

43 The importance of the ICT sector **industry** has grown over time, especially in the developed world. However, developing countries are lagging behind in terms of ICT manufacturing capabilities, ~~[[imports of embodied ICT technology]]~~ and, more importantly, research and development (R and D), incubation schemes and venture capital investment. **The great wealth of**

indigenous knowledge must be respected by international, intellectual property rights regimes. It is essential for governments to ~~[[encourage]]~~ investment in the creation of ~~[[regional]]~~ **locally owned and controlled** ICT production facilities.

44 The growth in the demand for applications should spawn the dynamics for creating a favourable environment for the private sector to invest and meet the challenges that applications present in moving towards the information society. The demand created by e-government, e-learning, e-health and e-business applications should induce the introduction and development of new services.

44 B **Civil society has always played and continues to play an important role in bottom up policy development with regard to the information society. Civil society makes a crucial contribution to the implementation of adopted strategies by creating public awareness and understanding, distributing knowledge and mobilising human resources for concrete actions towards social, economic and cultural uses of ICT.**

4) *Capacity building*

45 People should be enabled to acquire the necessary skills in order to participate actively in and understand the Information Society and benefit in full from the possibilities it offers. Individuals should be engaged in defining their own needs and in the development of programs to meet those needs. Technological change will progressively require life-long learning and continuous training by all. Public policy should take into account inequalities in access to quality education and training, particularly in the case of vulnerable groups and underserved or remote areas. Specific attention has to be paid to training of trainers **and to developing research driven by social needs.**

46 The use of ICTs for capacity-building and human resource development, including ICT literacy, should be promoted, with special reference to the requirements of people with disabilities.

47 Building and exploiting processes for education, establishing new institutional forms, including incubation schemes and technology-based business start-up support programmes as well as other enterprise promotion modalities, and creating training and technology assessment networks that specifically target educational systems, are of utmost importance.

47 B **Social economy, volunteerism provides an effective means, with their attributes of universality, solidarity, social inclusion and cost-effectiveness, to help address the massive needs of human and institutional capacity building for the Information society.**

48 Institutional capacities to collect, organize, store and share information and knowledge is as critically important as human capacities.

5) *Security*

49 To realise the full benefits of ICTs, networks and information systems should be sufficiently robust to prevent, detect and to respond appropriately to security incidents. However, effective security of information systems is not merely a matter of government and law enforcement practices, nor of technology. A global culture of cyber-security needs to be developed, **with the inclusion of all stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society and the developers of technology and without hindrance to freedom and expression.**

50 ICTs can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and ~~[[security]]-peace~~ and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields, as well as in relation to the functioning of their economies. ~~[[It is also necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes.]]~~³

51 Governments should promote awareness in their societies of cyber security risks and seek to strengthen international co-operation, including with the private sector **and civil society** so as to build confidence and trust in the Information Society, **by respecting privacy and the free flow of information.**

52 The issue of Internet security is critical **for the development of a free and open society.** National and regional efforts should be coordinated, taking into consideration the importance of secure infrastructure and data flow in concordance with international standards and guidelines.

52 a Efforts to achieve secure networks and information systems must ensure that human rights and civil liberties such as privacy and legal protection are guaranteed.

52b Real Internet security is most effectively achieved by the use of free and open source software whose source code is freely available to be changed and verified.

6) *Enabling environment*

53 The existence of a supportive and predictable legal framework is an important prerequisite for enhancing trust in ICTs, ~~[[and]]~~ e-business and other **e-resources.**

54 To maximise the economic and social benefits of the Information Society, governments need to create a trustworthy, transparent, and non-discriminatory legal, regulatory and policy environment, capable of promoting technological innovation and competition, thus favouring the necessary investments, ~~[[mainly]]~~ **including those** from the private sector, **in the development of local industry and new services, and** deployment of infrastructure. ~~[[and development of new services]]~~

55 In building an Information Society, we should ~~[[take into account]]~~ **seek to redress** the imbalance of information flows **by supporting the production and dissemination of local content.**

56 Access to information and communication technologies shall be secured in accordance with international law, bearing in mind that some countries are affected by unilateral measures which are not compatible with it and which create obstacles for international trade⁴.

57 Strengthening the policy-making capacity in the area of ICTs to enhance national and regional ICT policy-making processes and institutions is of utmost importance. **Developing nations must be able to participate in policy-making processes in a timely and adequate manner.** ICTs will advance development if related efforts and programmes are integrated in a national development strategy. Governments are the primary actors, in concert with the private sector and civil society, in the pursuit of access for all to ICTs for development.

58 The responsibility for **key resources of the Internet, inter alia** root directories and domain names should rest with a ~~[[suitable]]~~ **relevant** international ~~[[inter-governmental]]~~ organisation and should take multilingualism into consideration. Countries' top-level-domain-names ~~[[and Inter Protocol (IP) address assignment]]~~ should be the ~~[[sovereign right]]~~ responsibility **of the government and Internet communities in those countries.** Internet governance should be ~~[[multilateral]]~~ **multi-stakeholder**, democratic, **open** and transparent, **should include Internet users, and be based on principles of bottom-up policy development and gender equity,** ~~[[and should take]]~~ **taking** into account the needs of the public and private sectors as well as those of the civil society.

7) *ICT-Applications*

59 Cooperation and collaboration should be enhanced through the development of applications and content suited to local needs. **The use of free and open source software should be actively promoted as an affordable means for developing such content and applications.**

⁴ Reservations that have been made to this paragraph:

Statement of the United States: "The United States of America reserves on this paragraph and submits its objection to the language, which is inappropriate and is inconsistent with the purpose of the Conference"

Statement of Canada: "Canada appreciates the efforts of the Host Government and other Governments to achieve a consensus text for this paragraph. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, Canada cannot associate itself with the final text of that paragraph."

³ This sentence should be removed, because it is in practice impossible to prevent criminals or terrorist from registering for a free e-mail account or from buying a prepaid phone for example. It would only be possible in a state of total control. One can not prevent this unless one knows who is a terrorist or a criminal before he/she commits the crime. It is contradictory to the presumption of innocence and could easily lead to the denial of basic liberties.

60 The effort to build an information society shall encompass access to information and communication technologies, the utilisation of these technologies through the articulation of local, regional and global actions, and their use for public and social purposes in such areas as government, health care and **life-long learning**.

61 **[[E-government]] Governments and local authorities are encouraged to adopt ICT applications designed that** empower **[[s]]** citizens through access to information, improve **[[s]]** interactions with business and industry, and lead **[[s]]** to better delivery of government services to citizens and more efficient government management. The resulting benefits can be greater convenience, improved efficiency of the economic system, increased transparency **[[and]]** less corruption, **and enhanced possibilities for more community-level participation in governance issues**. **[[leading to increased possibility for developing countries to attract foreign investments and financial assistance]]**.

62 Member States should **contribute and** ensure that all schools; universities and other learning institutions have Internet and multimedia access for educational, training, re-skilling and research purposes. **[[Attention must be directed to the training of]] Teachers should be trained to adapt to the new learning environment. Legal, economic [[and]] social and cultural [[issues considered as]] obstacles to the development of [[the e-]] appropriate ICT application in learning processes – including discrimination based on gender, race and or ethnicity - [[in the region]] should be identified and acted upon.**

63 Healthcare applications over networks could provide unique opportunities for patients and practitioners alike, particularly for those from developing countries provided the infrastructure supports such applications. Healthcare is becoming information intensive. Hospital management systems need to be encouraged and the Internet increasingly used to obtain medical information. **[[Health information networks between points of care, such as hospitals, laboratories and homes, electronic health cards and online health services have already been implemented or are being considered in many developed countries.]]* Member States should take advantage of the success achieved in this field, but measures must be taken to protect patients privacy against any misuse of personal health data and ensure that any data protection principles are upheld.**

** can be dealt with in the action plan*

64 The restructuring of business processes to make use of digital technologies is essential, particularly for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and public policies should support this process. These policies should also aim at strengthening the entrepreneurial spirit of the business community.

64a **ICT enables individuals and organisations from Civil Society to build innovative and affordable forms of media public which will not replace traditional media but add new forms of participative exchange of information. The development of these new media forms need to be encouraged and supported.**

8) Cultural identity and linguistic diversity, local content and media development

65 The Information Society is founded on respect for, and enjoyment of, cultural expression. **All forms of media and** new ICTs should stimulate cultural diversity and **[[pluralism]] multilingualism** and enhance the capacity of all **stakeholders, especially** governments to

contribute to the development of active policies to that end, **in particular to work on a global convention on cultural diversity.**

66 The creation **and dissemination** of local content **in all forms of media, including ICTs,** should be accorded high priority.

67 Technology supply should be diversified through:

- the implementation of an operational plan of action geared to the cultural and linguistic specificities of all countries.
- Investment and funding strategies should be pursued through assistance with content creation and democratisation of access with particular emphasis to women and the youth.

68 Multilingualism should be promoted and cultural diversity maintained as the driving force for the process of developing content for local and international use **and dissemination.**

69 ICTs can strengthen **all forms of** traditional media such as broadcasting and print, which will continue to have an important role in disseminating content in the Information Society.

[[70 Active steps towards encouraging the production of local content should be taken. Steps involve the establishment of conditions for development of digital content and local multimedia industries including intellectual property right provisions, promotion of tools for the management of local languages, including internationalised domain names, as a means for promoting multilingualism and investment in projects aiming at the promotion of this objective.]]

footnote: We propose to delete this paragraph as some points are covered in point 66, and others can be dealt with in the Action Plan.

9) Ethical dimensions of ICT

9.1 **The value-base of the information society is the ensemble of globally agreed upon conventions, declarations, and charters. These documents need permanently be re-interpreted and adjusted according to technological, media, and societal development.**

9.2 **If there is a major ethical principle and objective of the information society then it lies in guaranteeing equal and open access to information resources of any kind for all, at any time, from everywhere, and under fair conditions.**

9.3 **An inclusive and sustainable society can only develop when knowledge is clearly considered a common good and when the principle of access to and the free flow of information can come to reality.**

9.4 **Due to the heterogeneity of the interests of the different parties involved in the development of the information society and due to the diversity of the underlying cultures and values it is almost unavoidable that conflicts, even clashes will permanently occur. Information societies will have to live with it. These conflicts should not be solved on the basis of political power or economic dominance but solutions to these conflicts need to rely and should be based on an ethical-based discourse. Any ethical discourse must respect heterogeneous interests and cultures and must build reliable partnership between governments, private sector, and civil society.**

9.5 Uses of health and medical information, which can preserve as well as take away life, require application of the highest ethical standards.

9.6 Ethical dimensions of ICTs include the need to guarantee the respect of personal privacy and of human dignity, particularly in the context of growing invasive information technologies, surveillance systems and 'information awareness'.

9.7 Although technology and society have always intersected in a complex process, technology in general and ICTs in particular should always be thought of in a human development perspective.

10) International co-operation

[[71 The information society is intrinsically global in nature. Thus, a policy dialogue based on global trends in the information society should take place at the world, regional and sub-regional levels in order to facilitate:

- the provision of technical assistance aimed at national and regional capacity-building for the maintenance and reinforcement of regional and international cooperation;
- the sharing of experiences;
- the sharing of knowledge; and
- the development of compatible regulations and standards that respect national characteristics and concerns.]]

72 International policy dialogue on the Information Society at global, regional and sub-regional levels is important for promoting and achieving Millennium Development Goals. Dialogue with a sustainable and equitable economic development focus is crucial in the overall effort to bridge the social and economic divide. All efforts promoting the exchange of experience, the identification and application of compatible norms and standards, the transfer of know-how and the provision of technical assistance with a view to bridging capacity gaps and setting up international cooperation programmes, in particular in the field of creation of content must take into account this focus. Sharing success stories and experiences will also pave the way for new forms of international co-operation.

11) Other issues

73 Every citizen should be guaranteed freedom of expression and protected access to information in the world-wide public domain as part of their inalienable right to freely accessing the information constituting the heritage of humankind, which is disseminated in all media. This may involve the strengthening of networks that can increase individual participation in local, national, regional and international democracy.

25 February 2003 16:00

WSIS- Civil Society Working Group on Content and Themes -- Drafting Committee

Contribution on Common Vision and Key Principles for the Declaration

DECLARATION

A. Preamble

Recognizing the efforts of governments for developing the Compilation of the Outcomes of the Regional Conferences (Document WSIS/PC-2/DT/1(Rev.1)-E), the Civil Society Working Group on Content and Themes contributes this document.

This document includes input from over twenty thematic caucuses.

B. Comments on Common Vision

Visions:

We particularly welcome and underline the following references in the compilation document and recommend their inclusion in the declaration:

- "Freedom of opinion and expression" fundamental to the information society (as embodied in article 19 of the UDHR); "the right to communicate and the right to access information"
- "Knowledge and information constitute fundamental sources of well-being and progress"
- Recognition that the digital divide "reflects and is a factor in the differences that exist between and within countries"
- Development of an information society based on "respect for human rights..., democracy, environmental protection, the advancement of peace, the right to development, fundamental freedoms, economic progress and social equity".
- Pursuing the Millennium Declaration goals: "reducing poverty and unemployment, raising levels of education, improving health services, enhancing empowerment and minimising loss of environmental resources"; also the aim to pursue "goals of promoting sustainable economic and social development, improve quality of life for all, alleviate hunger and facilitate participatory decision-making processes".
- Serving "the needs of developing countries" and their "opportunity to harness ICTs for shaping their future without the risk of losing cultural identity."
- "The process of transformation into an information society should be sustainable and equitable."
- The "need for a people-centred approach"
- Harnessing "the knowledge and experience of citizens" as the "driving force behind the Information Society"
- The "genuine participation of all stakeholders"

- “Women's equal access to information and knowledge as well as equal opportunities as participants and decision-makers in (...)shaping ICT policies and frameworks”

In addition we propose to include the following ideas:

We envision inclusive information and communication societies founded on human dignity, human rights and intercultural dialogue for the advancement of world peace, in an environment free from violence and hatred.

The right to communicate should be a fundamental right in the information society. It includes and extends freedom of opinion and expression, with no obstacles to free speech and press freedom. It is based on the right to create, innovate, research and impart information and knowledge freely.

Societies where every citizen has the opportunity not only to access information but also to produce it and exercise their creativity.

Societies that mobilise global solidarity to overcome social and geographic inequities and contribute to a more equitable distribution of technological and information resources.

Knowledge and creativity are at the heart of the information society. The diversity and plurality of knowledge plays a crucial role.

Knowledge is the heritage of all humanity. It is an unlimited resource, that grows and is enriched as it is shared. Extending and protecting the information in the public domain (global information commons) is a major way of bridging the digital and information divide within and between countries and ensuring conditions for intellectual creativity, technological innovation and participation in the information society.

The personal and public domain knowledge shall be shared between people.

In a democratic society, Information and communications are the foundation for transparency, debate and decision-making and for informed choice of an active citizenry.

C. Comments Key Principles

General Principles:

We welcome and underline the following issues in the compilation document and recommend their inclusion in the declaration:

- Communication as “the basis of individual and societal existence”, and its contribution to securing “the fair, balanced and harmonious development of all people of the world”, particularly “the most disadvantaged”.
- Addressing “the interests of all nations, most particularly the interests of developing countries”, as well as the “special circumstances of regional, small island developing states”.

- Centrality of “social and economic progress of countries and the well-being of persons and communities’ well being; use and benefit of ICTs in order to satisfy needs of individuals, communities and society.
- “Pooling global and regional available resources” to “extend the benefits of ICTs to all inhabitants of the world”.
- Attention to overcoming “unequal power relations” and “the use of ICTs for empowerment of women”.
- “Averting new forms of exclusion and reducing disparities between developed and developing countries.”
- “Ensuring equal opportunities for access to information and communication technologies.”
- “Invoking use of ICTs as a tool for environmental preservation and sustainability, (and...) disaster mitigation and prevention.”
- Promoting “appropriate and affordable technologies.”

In addition we propose to include the following principles:

Any action relating to development of information and communication societies should be based on human rights and sustainable human development, with reference to the human rights framework. This framework is articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international instruments adopted by member states.

The principles of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and especially those articulated in its sections I and V -- “Values and Principles” and “Human rights, democracy and good governance,” respectively -- constitute the framework for evaluating these developments. The final Declaration and plan of action of WSIS should include a direct reference to the UN Human Rights framework, as proposed above.

The final declaration of the WSIS should explicitly express the strong connection between free exchange of knowledge and preservation of peace.

Knowledge and education are critical enabling agents in building information societies in which all citizens can participate on an equal footing. Collective cleverness and innovation based on cooperative work should be promoted.

Research and academic freedom are keystones of the information society. Academic and public research results should be as far as possible included in the public domain. The public domain plays a crucial role in the creation, evaluation and dissemination of knowledge.

ICTs, communication and knowledge can play a major part in solutions to the major global problems articulated in the UN Millennium Declaration.

Effective and equal participation of both women and men in the information society needs to be assured if countries are to achieve their development goals and priorities.

Technologies should be at the service of people and their needs. Shaping the future cannot be left solely to market forces.

Recognising cultural development as an alive and evolving process, linguistic diversity and cultural identity need to be not only preserved but also actively fostered. ICTs may provide a means of sustaining languages and cultures. Particular attention should be given to indigenous peoples' needs and contributions.

Media, whether based on digital and traditional technologies, is central to any conception of an information society. Policies must be adopted to guarantee the existence of free, independent, plural and diverse media, including community-owned and managed media.

Radio, as the most widespread electronic communications device in the world, is an effective means of reaching the world's poorest communities. Community broadcasting is increasingly recognised as a bridge across the digital divide between those who have access to the world's information resources and those who do not.

A global debate must be fostered on the future of the information society, and in particular on the role of ICTs in social and community development. An environment should be created that supports social and community appropriation of technology to meet particular needs.

The global commons, developed as it is by means of public funding and the will of creators, and deriving from our shared physical environment, constitutes a public resource that should not be sold for private profit.

The concept of fair use should be protected to maximise the potential of creativity in the public sphere. Non commercial use of digital contents should be regarded as fair use and thus protected. Authors should be enabled to donate their intellectual contents to the public domain without technological or financial obstacles.

Promote policies to build the infrastructure of the information society in developing countries through responsible re-investment of telecommunications profits made in those countries, whether from the private or public sector.

Recognising young people as leading creators, adapters and adopters of ICTs, with a crucial role to play as agents of change, multi-stakeholder and intergenerational partnerships should be encouraged.

While harnessing the use of ICTs as a tool for environmental preservation and sustainability, there is a need to pay attention to: the energy consumption of ICTs, the potential of ICTs to help dematerialize our economic activities, ecodesign and longer life cycles of electronic equipment, recycling and the trade in e-waste, and improved coherence of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) such as the Basel Convention on Toxic Waste (including electronic waste) with the WTO.

There must be democratic and transparent Internet Governance, including globally shared responsibility Root-Server management. [PPP, Public Private Partnership Model]

Each country should have the right to make their own rights and policies, including intellectual property laws for developing its own knowledge base and culture without any oppression from other countries.

Priority should be given to community-driven communication initiatives, developed in response to local needs and under community control.

Global intellectual rights regimes should be reviewed to restore the balance between common interest of sharing knowledge and culture on the one hand and ensure continuing expansion of creation on the other. They should also protect the access to past knowledge, in any new format and media, as part of the global heritage of humanity.

Current concerns felt by many governments in the area of 'information security' is resulting in the formulation of policies and regulation (in areas such as data retention, data sharing, monitoring, surveillance, interception, filtering, blocking) which run the serious risk of infringing people's right to communicate freely using information and communication technologies and services. It also contributes to an insecure atmosphere which is incompatible with peace seeking

25 February 2003 16:00

WSIS- Civil Society Working Group on Content and Themes -- Drafting Committee

“ Seven Musts”: Priority Principles Proposed by Civil Society

The following seven principles reflect the issue areas that the **Civil Society working group on contents and themes**, created by the civil society plenary, feels should be prioritized:

1. Sustainable Development

An equitable Information Society needs to be based on sustainable economic and social development and gender justice. It cannot be achieved solely through market forces.

2. Democratic Governance

ICTs should facilitate democratic governance and foster participation by citizens. Transparent and accountable government structures at local, national and international levels should be established.

3. Literacy, Education, and Research

Only an informed and educated citizenry with access to the means and outputs of pluralistic research can participate in and contribute to Knowledge Societies. Access to tools and facilities that enable lifelong learning need to be created, extended and secured.

4. Human Rights

The existing human rights framework should be applied and integrated into the Information Society. ICTs should be used to promote awareness of, respect for and enforcement of universal human rights standards.

5. Global Knowledge Commons

Global knowledge commons and the public domain constitute resources that are cornerstones of a global public interest. They should be protected, expanded and promoted.

6. Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

Recognizing cultural development as a living and evolving process, linguistic diversity, cultural identity and local content need to be not only preserved but also actively fostered.

7. “ Information Security ”

“Information security” concerns should not infringe in any way on people’s privacy and right to communicate freely, using information and communications technologies.

This document comes out of a broad process of consultation and is a work in progress, as defined in the Civil Society document “Contribution on Common Vision and Key Principles for the Declaration.”

Compiled by the Drafting Committee of the NGO Subcommittee on Content and Themes.

28 February 2003 11:30

WSIS- Civil Society Working Group on Content and Themes -- Drafting Committee

Explanatory Note

This document is a compilation of comments received by the Drafting Committee of the Civil Society Working Group on Content and Themes. These issues are cited in the context of the sections and general structure of the Action Plan released on 27 February 2003 by the **WORKING GROUP OF SUB-COMMITTEE 2**.

We hope that these issues and viewpoints on them will be taken into serious consideration by the **WORKING GROUP OF SUB-COMMITTEE 2**.

Plan of Action: Civil Society’s Priorities

This document is a work in progress that gathers proposals drafted by the various thematic caucuses of the civil society present at Prepcom2.

A – List of issues

B – Objectives

Benchmarks

- One Public access point to the network for each village/large community by 2005.
- Access to radio sets by everyone before 2010, to be ensured by governments in cooperation with the private sector and radio broadcast coverage of all of the world’s population by 2010
- Set targets for delegations in all future conference related to ICT to include at least 30 percent women, including gender and ICT advocates

C – Strategies programmes, methods for implementation

The WSIS Action Plan must take into account and provide support for existing Action Plans developed by the DOT Force process and the UN ICT Task Force.

1) Information and communication infrastructure: financing and investment, affordability, development, and sustainability

- ⇒ An official body must be settled within the UN in charge of proposing new mechanisms of funding adapted to a society in which international information flows are one of the main sources of growth.

- ⇒ As many developing countries face a drastic shortage of electricity, renewable and decentralised energy sources must be mobilised and established as a pre requisite for universal access to network infrastructures. This priority shall be pursued in reference to the Johannesburg Summit 2000 (World Summit on Sustainable Development) goals. A particular attention must be given to rural and isolated communities.
- ⇒ Technology systems should be developed that are appropriate to local environments to effectively bridge the digital divide, for example community radio, local newsletters, and other forms of community and non-profit media shall be privileged.
- ⇒ Specific support must be given to the convergence of traditional community media with other ICTs, for example through community telecentres which combine community radio with the Internet.
- ⇒ Strong public policies should be at the heart of the information societies, although some steps towards liberalisation, privatisation and competition, and the removal of excessive levels of tariffs may play a role in ensuring connectivity. In any case the latter must not represent the only strategy.
- ⇒ To improve efficiency and reduce costs of use of infrastructure in developing countries, optimise connections between major information networks by creating regional Internet exchange points and by extending the capabilities of regional infrastructures.
- ⇒ Coordinate intergovernmental action, with participation of civil society, to negotiate fair prices for Internet traffic that must flow through major Internet exchanges in the US.
- ⇒ Public access points rely to a large extent on the existence of terrestrial networks, and complementarily on satellites. Consequently, it is imperative for Africa to rehabilitate and develop the existing PANAFTTEL network, and where necessary, complete it with new backbones to create extensive African Interconnection Network (AIN). This network should be completed by International/Intercontinental access points to the global telecommunications network. On the other hand, remote regions that are too distant from terrestrial networks should have priority access to the satellite services, particularly the RASCOM African satellite.
- ⇒ Regarding IP traffic, which is rapidly growing in the short term, a "Gateway Internet Exchange" (GIX) network must be designed at the regional level as a priority, in order to keep the intra-African IP traffic within the continent, with the dual goals of fully leveraging the AIN network and of reducing the volume of international traffic.
- ⇒ Priority must be given to those who have no access and are excluded from the information society, especially to young people, women, the elderly and people with disabilities, taking into account their specific knowledge abilities, needs and facilitating their participation capabilities.
- ⇒ Ensure provision for increased access to ICTs and integration into programmes that assist with poverty alleviation and the empowerment of women and men
- ⇒ Equitable tariff and quota structures for telecommunication services (backbone, local access, telecommunication) should be created

- ⇒ Link "traditional" media and the Internet for community access to information "mixed media approach", as well as embracing and building on African traditional communication channels into the information society
- ⇒ Community information and communication centres are critical to ensure inclusive access to information and social services. Universal access policies shall promote the best possible level of connectivity at a reasonable cost for all under-served rural, urban, and regional areas. Technological convergence must be monitored with a view to integrating traditional and new ICTs in order to create alternative forms of access that can help narrow the digital divide. The creation and provision of low-cost access equipment and multi-purpose community access points shall be an integral part of the agenda for reducing the digital divide.
- ⇒ Public funding should be made available to ensure Internet access in public institutions such as schools, libraries, and community centres.
- ⇒ To save large investment and operation costs, a common use of infrastructure is recommended for both telecommunication and radio/TV information transport and distribution.

2) Access to information and knowledge

- ⇒ Compilation work done in building databases and non-creative works shall not be protected under copyright law.
- ⇒ The right of Internet hyperlinking, framing and mirroring shall not be restricted, under the provision that the name and URL of the original site is properly indicated and acknowledged.
- ⇒ Free modification and adaptation of a copyrighted web page shall be permitted for personal non-commercial use as a means of free speech.
- ⇒ Rules of loans existing in traditional libraries must be extended without hindrance to digital media belonging to online libraries
- ⇒ Use of Peer to Peer technology shall be promoted to share public domain information.
- ⇒ Authors must be encouraged to retain ownership of their copyrights and not to automatically transfer copyrights to publishers or other intermediaries.
- ⇒ Non-commercial use and private copy of digital contents should be regarded and protected as fair use.
- ⇒ Computer software has different characteristics from other creative works in that it is functional/technical works and has no meaning as a public domain after the protection period. So, computer software should not be protected by copyright, or at least, the protection period of computer software should be shortened.
- ⇒ Open Source/Free Software shall be adopted by all public authorities and bodies.
- ⇒ Developing countries should investigate how to leverage the opportunities presented by the emergence of Open Source/Free software in the context of limited financial resources and expertise.
- ⇒ Change current intellectual property regimes so that all information and knowledge produced with the aid of public resources, for example the outputs of publicly funded educational and research institutions, are automatically released as open content and made available and accessible at no cost into the public domain.

- ⇒ Software shall not be patentable, in principle.
- ⇒ Business model (or method) patent should not be allowed.
- ⇒ A first-to-invent instead a first-to-file patent application rule shall be adopted, in order to better preserve the rights of academic scientists and low-income inventors.
- ⇒ The purpose of patent is to develop technology and thus to promote the quality of life such as health, etc. In line with it, national policy to limit patent holders right for public health such as compulsory licensing and parallel importation should be allowed without interference of other countries as addressed in the declaration on TRIPS agreement and public health adopted in Doha WTO ministerial conference.
- ⇒ Web pages of all public bodies should be fully accessible with any kind of browsers, including the free software browsers such as Mozilla.
- ⇒ The need for a legal protection of traditional knowledge must be implemented
- ⇒ Generic domain names shall not be subject, in any way, to trademarks laws.
- ⇒ A specific status concerning transition and developing countries shall be recognised in regards to Intellectual Property Rights.
- ⇒ Recognition of and support for community and non-profit media as the major platform for the public to both access and contribute to global knowledge and information must be ensured.
- ⇒ Public service values in the Information Society should be encouraged, including genuine public service broadcasting. State-controlled media should be transformed into editorially independent public service media organisations.
- ⇒ Availability of both traditional and newer technologies should be guaranteed to promote equitable access to information at all levels of the information society.
- ⇒ Ensure free access to all scientific and engineering data and information that are available in archives, libraries and research institutions.
- ⇒ Promote and guarantee access for all starting from the community level. While that access should be affordable and premised on effective use of information and communication technologies, recognition should also be made that this requires not only infrastructure and technology but also meaningful content, capacity building and an enabling environment that encompasses the needs based on gender, lack or total absence of literacy, ethno-cultural diversity and political plurality.
- ⇒ Information and communication technologies should foster the flow and exchange of information; maximise access and participation of remote areas and marginalized groups.
- ⇒ Awareness should be created among civil society at large for the need to support an independent, open-access public domain
- ⇒ There is a need to make provision for the appraisal and preservation of, and access to information in all its forms
- ⇒ Scientific information should be available or at least indexed within a multilingual context.

- ⇒ Encourage Open Access content models whereby the content in digital format is freely available, while paper-printed versions or CD burned versions may be sold by institutional or commercial channels.
- ⇒ Encourage publishers to develop Open Access business models whether these models are commercial or not-for-profit.
- ⇒ Encourage the creation by scientists of not-for-profit Open Access Journals
- ⇒ Encourage existing subscription-based journals to turn to Open Access models.
- ⇒ Encourage authors to submit their papers to Open Access Journals.
- ⇒ Encourage authors to write Open Access books and multimedia material for research and education.
- ⇒ Encourage authors to maintain a personal web page whereby all their research findings and reports are freely available.
- ⇒ Recommend the creation of institutional Open Archives at the national and international level.
- ⇒ Recommend a program funded by the UN (or its agencies) to create a world-wide portal to Open Access journals and Open Access books.
- ⇒ Recommend the creation of a funding program by the UN (or its agencies) to ensure financial support to not-for-profit Open Access Journals.
- ⇒ Recommend a program funded by the UN (or its agencies) to create a world wide scientific Open Archive
- ⇒ Recommend the creation of a funding program by the UN (or its agencies) to provide financial support to the creation and maintenance of institutional Open Access archives
- ⇒ Encourage the creation and maintenance of mirrors sites of Open Access contents in institutions belonging to transition countries, in order to save Internet connection costs.
- ⇒ Recommend a program funded by the UN or its agencies to distribute free CDs containing Open Access contents to transition countries.
- ⇒ Recommend that member states should adopt national legislation making it compulsory for scientists to deposit their published works in a national or a UN funded world-wide Open Access archive.
- ⇒ Recommend that member states should adopt national regulations making it compulsory for scientists whose research is funded by public agencies or by private foundations to publish in Open Access journals.
- ⇒ Recommend that databases built with the help of freely available scientific content should be also freely available to all the authors that contributed to its content.
- ⇒ Databases built with the help of freely available scientific content should be accessible with a reasonable fee proportionate to the average income in the customer's country.
- ⇒ Use of Peer to Peer technology shall be promoted to share personal scientific knowledge and pre-prints and reprints written by scientific authors who have waived their right to payment.
- ⇒ International co-operation and exchange of knowledge -- North-South, South-South, and North-North -- should be encouraged through the use of ICTs.
- ⇒ Promote the use of ICT as an effective tool in distributing information about, and advocating against, gender-based violence.

- ⇒ Prepare and disseminate accessible information that strengthens prevention programs that promotes women's health such as education and information on sexual and reproductive health issues and on sexually transmitted disease and HIV/AIDS.
- ⇒ Extending the rights of workers and their trade-unions to the use of the internet and intranet of companies for the purpose of communication and solidarity
- ⇒ Civil society is encouraged to use low-cost means (CD-ROMs, radio etc) to deliver information widely.
- ⇒ Development of an interactive knowledge-sharing platform on the WSIS must be encouraged
- ⇒ Large-scale translation of information essential for human development must be promoted.

3) The role of governments, the business sector and civil society in the promotion of ICTs for development

Civil Society

- ⇒ Civil society, in particular NGOs, must work closely with communities in innovating, developing and strengthening ICT-related initiatives.
- ⇒ Civil society acknowledges its role as a major content provider in the information society and should, therefore, be active in the promotion of public awareness on the quality of content of information circulated.
- ⇒ Researchers and civil society organisations should be fully involved in the formulation and implementation of ICTs and sustainable development strategies
- ⇒ Civil society must develop projects to disseminate digital culture among all social categories, with a priority focus on the handicapped.
- ⇒ Civil society must develop projects that promote dialogue within and between civilisations via electronic networks.
- ⇒ Civil society organisations and scholars should help to develop programmes to address global information ethics problems and to inform the members of civil society, governments, and the private sector about these issues.
- ⇒ Civil society should help to establish associative networks and linkages between NGOs.
- ⇒ Civil society should help to develop distance-learning programmes.
- ⇒ Civil society should establish a continuous process of consultation among the NGOs interested in participating in the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

National Government and local authorities

- ⇒ Public authorities must ensure that market competition is fair and that monopolies are not perpetuated in the communication sector.
- ⇒ While public authorities should promote and facilitate infrastructure building, provide training, and create an enabling environment for ICT to be accessible for all, they should not play the role of regulators of information flow and content.
- ⇒ Public authorities should prioritise and promote local ICT initiatives to service local, national and regional communities.

- ⇒ Governments should take account of their social responsibility and commitments to international conventions, agreements and action plans and carrying out their responsibilities.
- ⇒ Reaffirm the role of a more transparent, participatory, and effective democratic UN system as a truly legitimate forum for global governance.
- ⇒ Promote corporate or employee volunteering initiatives on ICTs for development to facilitate for the private sector to share skills, expertise and resources, in order to apply them in a constructive way in ICT for development initiatives
- ⇒ Developing appropriate global and regional technical standards to foster the deployment and use of ICTs by ensuring the participation of all stakeholders and raising a broad awareness of the societal and ethical implications of the introduction of such standards.
- ⇒ Recommit to principles of open, transparent, decentralised and accountable governance mechanisms at all levels, from the local to global, and in all spheres of society, including those related to the governance of information and communication systems.
- ⇒ Promote further research programs on issues related to the goals approved by the United Nations Millennium Assembly especially in the developing countries.

Private Sector

International institutions

- ⇒ Awareness of Open source/Free Software should be created, especially in the developing countries. Capacity in Open Source/Free software development should be built through the development of incubator funding, a knowledge warehouse of expertise in developing countries, development of regional and national Open Source/Free Software portals, and by ensuring that technical experts in developing countries have full opportunity to participate in the development of Open Source/Free software. These should be achieved by: urging key organs such as Africa Union, UNECA, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank, Agence la Francophonie and NEPAD among others to support Open Source/Free Software development in Africa; leveraging various free and open source capacities and resources in Africa; urging donor governments and other institutions to consider funding open source software in their developmental activities; urging African governments to adopt Free and Open Source Software; and promoting Open Source/Free Software capacity and skill development in Africa through education with emphasis on women and youth.
- ⇒ International community's commitments to ICT developments assistance should not be monitored through indicators alone but should also be evaluated by civil society, governments and the private sector.
- ⇒ Catalyse the volunteer network built during the International Year of Volunteers 2001 (IYV 2001), with nodes in over 100 countries, to support the plan of action of the Summit

4) Capacity building: human resources development, education, and training

- ⇒ Integrate into science curricula the social analysis of the role and use of science and technology as well as the social-cultural and economic perspectives and demands in science and technology research and development.
- ⇒ Develop tools and programmes that promote lifelong learning
- ⇒ Create awareness on the necessity of privacy protection through educational programmes conducted by governments, international organisations and civil society.
- ⇒ Include in formal and informal education programmes the development of skills to access and produce knowledge, as a contribution to empowerment and participation of citizens.
- ⇒ Governments, inter-governmental organisations, civil society actors and other stakeholders in partnership with global, regional and national open source forums should spearhead initiatives that build skills through education and empowerment of women and youth.
- ⇒ Governments should work with all stakeholders to ensure that Open Source is available as a platform to engineer solutions that meet the needs of the people at affordable prices.
- ⇒ Build capacity for the creation of locally produced audience sensitive content that responds to local needs. Strengthening relevant and diverse programmes focused on gender-sensitive curricula in formal and non-formal education for all and enhancing communication and media literacy for women.
- ⇒ Develop and provide resources for ICT skills enhancement programmes in technical colleges and in particular professional academies with full involvement of the teaching staff and directors. This action should replace commercially-based joint ventures programmes with multinational corporations that provide narrow training focussed on their company products.
- ⇒ Integrate into curricula at all levels of formal and informal training and educational programmes education in media and information literacy and human rights.
- ⇒ Develop and improve the capacities of local teacher and researchers organisations by providing ICT training facilities in teachers training and research institutions, with particular emphasis to developing countries.
- ⇒ Develop affordable solutions in terms of hardware and software tailored to the needs of educational levels and to local conditions while promoting the combination of various media, both traditional and new.
- ⇒ Raise awareness on the issue of copyright exemptions and knowledge ownership through the education and training sectors.
- ⇒ Support training initiatives in information management and production skills for grass roots organisations in developing countries.
- ⇒ Develop training programmes that enable all people, and in particular marginalised communities, to be able to utilise new models of content creation, production and dissemination through the use of ICTs.
- ⇒ Develop alternative incentive and rewards schemes that encourage the creation and dissemination of culturally and linguistically diverse content.
- ⇒ Provide children, parents and teachers with appropriate training for the use of ICTs and with access to new learning models, including distance learning, on-line textbooks, and reference materials.

- ⇒ Increase the resource allocation of governments to programmes targeting the elimination of illiteracy, innumeracy and other learning challenges that impede the ability of marginalised sectors of society from fully accessing information necessary for their well being.
- ⇒ Extend ICT services in developing countries, with particular attention to Least Developed Countries (LDC), small island nations and remote parts of all countries. These services need to prioritise the needs of traditionally marginalised groups such as women, the disabled, poor young people, Dalits, linguistics and ethnic minorities, and also people who are forcibly isolated and confined, such as prisoners and prisoners of war.
- ⇒ Develop programmes in close consultation with Indigenous Peoples such that they are enabled in the information society and can utilise new tools, if desired, in their cultural production and community development.
- ⇒ Ensure that the production of international E-learning programs incorporates contents, context and visions from developing countries so as to contribute to cultural diversity.
- ⇒ Develop early interventions programmes in science and technology that target young girls to provide access to fair and equitable participation in ICT careers.
- ⇒ Promote engineering knowledge transfer towards domestic capacity building in developing countries, as well as local engineering capacities to develop local knowledge and needs.

5) Security

Assessing ICT impact on privacy and other civil liberties

- ⇒ All international treaties and agreements should include an assessment of the implications on civil liberties and human rights such as privacy and freedom of expression.
- ⇒ Adoption of any security-related policy should be the result of prior multi-stakeholder consultations, including civil society and users/consumers as well as business and government.
- ⇒ A global investigation on the impact of ICT security policies on civil liberties and human rights should be initiated under the supervision of the UN. The assessment would cover threats to privacy, freedom of expression, freedom from surveillance, etc. A public benchmarking on the evolution of this impact would be provided by a dedicated mechanism.
- ⇒ An independent mechanism such as a "Privacy Protection Committee" is necessary to supervise, monitor and arbitrate privacy infringement in the Global Information Society.
- ⇒ Privacy security studies should be carried on for all main new technologies emerging, such as IPV6 (Internet Protocol version 6). Their potential impact on privacy and freedom of expression for the citizen and businesses should be evaluated and monitored, including their possible misuse for the restriction of civil liberties and human rights.

Prevention of surveillance and censorship

- ⇒ International cooperation should be developed to fight all forms of the surveillance and monitoring system infringing upon the values of human rights and democracy.
- ⇒ (Guarantee and take appropriate action to protect the right to privacy, including freedom from surveillance and censorship by utilising ICTs at all levels of the information society)
- ⇒ Workers' privacy in the workplace where ICTs are being abused for the purpose of surveillance and monitoring such as CCTV, IC Card, and Network-monitoring system, should be protected. In the case of introducing new technology or policies which might infringe the worker's privacy, agreement with workers or labour unions should be made in advance in an open and transparent manner.
- ⇒ No implicit or explicit delegation of judicial power should be given or imposed on Internet Services Providers ISPs (Connection, site hosting) to the effect that they have to reach a conclusion on the nature and content of any information, wherever said information is stored, however the said information is transmitted. No exemption to this rule shall be allowed, even in the case of an alleged obviousness.
- ⇒ The right to 'anonymity' should be protected.
- ⇒ Technical experts to protect against illegal monitoring of private information held by CS must be secured.

Electronic ID or health cards, government databases

- ⇒ National compulsory projects using ICTs, such as electronic national ID card initiatives and electronic health care card initiatives, should be prudently assessed with the consideration of privacy issues and risks of government surveillance issues before the implementation.
- ⇒ Databases of individual information, which have been established by the governments, such as the databases of residence, health insurance, education, administration related information as well as driver's license information should be reviewed on the basis of securing human rights and democracy.
- ⇒ These databases should not be combined and should be managed only for its respective purpose. In particular, unique ID number of residents, which could be used to link the different databases of individuals, should not be used.

Security of governmental networks

- ⇒ Governments should take steps to ensure that their own ICT networks are well protected against invasion through the use of free and open source software.

6) Enabling environment

- ⇒ Competition is only one out of many ways to drive down prices and to ensure the ongoing modernisation of networks and services.

Promoting Media Diversity

- ⇒ As ICT and media diversity is a vital factor of the information society, and a key condition for freedom of expression, there should be a variety of media sources. Therefore, concentration of media ownership has to be avoided and a

legal basis as well as public funding for community and non-profit media must be provided.

- ⇒ The radio-electric spectrum has to be managed in the public and general interest and by independent and transparent regulatory frameworks for the equitable allocation of frequencies to a plurality of media including community media.
- ⇒ Public financial support, training, preferred access to licenses, frequencies and technologies to promote community-based media, including facilitating links between traditional media and new ones, and to bridge the digital divide between the have and the have-nots.
- ⇒ Legal frameworks for allocation of broadcast frequencies should be made fully transparent where this is not already the case.

Restoring the balance in Intellectual Property

- ⇒ Considering the change brought by the development of the digital network on the creation and dissemination of knowledge the Intellectual Property regime should be reviewed to restore the balance between the protection and retribution of authors or creators and the widest possible dissemination of knowledge (right to participate in, enjoy and share cultural life of community, the arts and knowledge).
- ⇒ Exemptions for fair use of information should be harmonised and the extension of the public domain guaranteed as a mean to ensure access for all to information.

Promotion of Open Source/Free Software

- ⇒ The development of Open Source/Free Software technologies and free/open software should be promoted as an alternative that favours innovation and the development of appropriate technologies and content.
- ⇒ A "Programmers Without Frontiers" initiative, focused on Open Source/Free Software as applied to development needs, should be launched and coordinated under the auspices of the UN.

Internet Governance (IG)

- ⇒ To widen the participation of all stakeholders in the global bottom up policy development and decision making processes Task Forces on related public policy and technical issues (Root Server, Multilingual Domain Names, Internet Security, Ipv6, ENUM, Domain Name Disputes etc.) could be established. Such IG Task Forces should promote awareness, distribute knowledge and produce reports which would help all stakeholders to get a better understanding of the issues and to cooperate with the relevant bodies like ICANN, IETF, RIRs, ccTLDs and others.
- ⇒ The process of the formation of global and regional At Large Organisations for individual Internet Users should be promoted
- ⇒ Provide resources for civil society organisations, including women's organisations to enhance grassroots participation in the ICT policy processes.

Marginalised groups

- ⇒ Special attention shall be given in the information society to traditionally marginalised groups, such as indigenous peoples, women, people with disabilities,

older people, refugees, migrants and those who lack access to formal education and higher technical training.

- ⇒ Public investment in capacity building focused on the creation of locally produced, audience sensitive content that responds to local needs, and marginalised communities.
- ⇒ Online media workers should have the same contractual rights and protections as other media workers.
- ⇒ Establish global accounting standards for intangible assets, in order to make annual company reports more comparable and prevent fraudulent accounting practices.

7) Promotion of development-oriented ICT applications for all

- ⇒ Public participation in the information society shall be enabled through affordable and appropriate ICT applications allowing for local content creation, such as community media, non-profit media, and interactive Web applications.
- ⇒ The process of transformation into information societies requires the development and deployment of Open Source/Free Software as a means to improve productivity and quality of life in developing countries.
- ⇒ There is a need to prioritise and develop uses of ICTs for development e.g. health in relation to pandemic diseases, agriculture e.g. early warning systems and education.
- ⇒ Facilitate exchange mechanisms for volunteers to share experiences across sectors and projects related to plan of action of the Summit, e.g. bridging the digital divide.
- ⇒ ICT tools should be developed for e-government, with a priority to promoting greater civil participation in governance decision making.
- ⇒ To create an enabling environment, ICT policy processes must integrate gender analysis at all stages of their development, from the initial design to implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This requires analysis of the current status of women and men's participation in and use of ICT, including a comprehensive analysis of sex-disaggregated statistics and indicators and policy responses that target gender-based differences and inequalities. In addition, the policy process itself needs to be inclusive and consultative through the participation of stakeholders groups representative of the full spectrum of society, including gender advocates
- ⇒ Allocate adequate resources for policy development to integrate gender equality in ICT policies including funds for research and analysis that demonstrates the impact of ICT policies on gender equality as well as the human resource capacity to ensure that gender analysis is fully integrated in the ICT policy process.
- ⇒ Strengthen national machineries for the advancement of women, particularly through increased financial resources and technical expertise that can facilitate their advocacy role and collaborative action amongst government bodies
- ⇒ Develop gender-sensitive technical and regulatory instruments when addressing ICT policy issues such as universal access, regulatory frameworks,

licensing, setting tariffs, spectrum allocation, infrastructure, ICT industry development and labour policies.

- ⇒ Develop, promote and support gender sensitive educational programmes and appropriate learning environments including e-learning to increase women's access to education.
- ⇒ Implementation of measures to ensure women's equal access to ICT education, training and literacy by:
 - Integrating ICT education in school curricula based on gender equality;
 - Realising girls' full participation in science and technology education;
 - Developing relevant distance ICT education and training programmes, especially for rural women and girls;
- ⇒ Governments and other actors, including trade unions, business and professional associations, and international organisations such as the ILO and UNCTAD, should:
 - Develop ICT-based information systems with relevant content for women to increase their economic opportunities and entrepreneurship skills, including information about national economic and trade policies and programmes;
 - Use ICT to increase women's economic literacy and their economic empowerment and participation;
 - Ensure that women gain access to new employment opportunities in the ICT area, including increasing women's access to ICT literacy and skills at all levels, and also ensure that women are not disproportionately disadvantaged by the working conditions and organisational climate common within the global ICT industry, such as "flexible" employment practices
- ⇒ Databases of best practices of donor and Civil society projects must be developed and linked.
- ⇒ A collaborative network of Open Source and Free Software technology tools for civil society must be promoted.
- ⇒ National and regional online volunteering services should be established.

8) Cultural identity and linguistic diversity, local content and media development

- ⇒ Software companies and relevant national and international bodies should prioritise software development and transmission protocols in local languages.
- ⇒ Recognition and support will be given to media based in local communities, thus contributing to creating local content and preserving and developing cultural and linguistic diversity.
- ⇒ Recognition and support will be given to non profit media which give a voice to many marginalised or other ways underrepresented groups and thus represent a vital force to preserve and develop media diversity and media pluralism.
- ⇒ The development of policy, procedure and tools to ensure multi-lingualism in cyberspace, and in all other forms of media and communication systems, must respect the different language communities in the development of international standards.

- ⇒ There should be support for local creativity in any country, especially through promotion of local content contents to respond to local particularity and needs.
- ⇒ The creation and preservation of traditional and indigenous knowledge should be promoted.
- ⇒ There should be protection against unfair exploitation of indigenous knowledge and intellectual property
- ⇒ Develop, consistent with freedom of expression, regulatory mechanisms that promote balanced and diverse portrayals of women by the media and international communication systems and that promote increased participation by women and men in production and decision making.
- ⇒ Include content about women and gender issues in all official Government web sites in addition to those web sites that specifically cover gender equality issues.

9) Identifying and overcoming barriers to the achievement of the information society with a human perspective

- ⇒ International organisations, national and local governments should commit to giving online information on all public policies, public money uses, as well as benchmarking of the results of their policies.
- ⇒ Public service values in the Information Society should be encouraged, including genuine public service broadcasting.
- ⇒ Community and non-profit media should be promoted and developed as a major platform to enable public participation in the information society. They serve as essential factors of empowering marginalised communities, particularly youth, women, indigenous peoples, children and minority groups.
- ⇒ Community projects that can contribute to the democratic process, such as self-publication web sites on matters of local interest and affairs, should benefit from public support.
- ⇒ Support and encourage research programs to design, develop and adapt ICT infrastructure, tools and application that are responsive to the needs of the poor, especially non-literate women
- ⇒ Develop, promote and implement research programmes that permit ongoing and comprehensive analysis of the impact of ICT on gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly by development of appropriate indicators, conceptual frameworks and qualitative assessment methodologies and case studies.
- ⇒ Safeguarding environmental resources is central to achieving a healthy networked community for all. Southern countries are not the ICT garbage dump of the North: an active recycling policy should be established. Life cycle management in the production flow of ICT related goods must be promoted and implemented by the global ICT sector. Also, technologies should be mobilised in order to meet the specific of small islands under the endangered environment by hazards or global warming.
- ⇒ Tools should be developed to evaluate the social impact of ICTs and contribute to the eradication of poverty. This should be done with the involvement of all stakeholders, including the poor themselves, both in Northern and southern countries.

- ⇒ Develop reporting mechanisms to monitor progress towards gender equality in the ICT area

Appendix

The following input arrive too late for integration in the document above, but we feel that it is of critical importance, so we include it below in its unedited form.

**World Summit On The Information Society
PrepCom 2, Geneva, February 2003**



Global Unions Action Points¹

The Declaration and Action Plan of the World Summit must adopt principles that ensure the information society is based on social inclusivity, equality of opportunity, and cultural diversity. The future cannot be left simply to market forces to shape. The questions of social development and poverty eradication must be among the core objectives of the Summit.

In particular, the international trade union movement calls for:

1. Safe and healthy, secure and fair working conditions, built on principles of social justice and gender equality, to be enjoyed by all workers in the information society.
2. Recognition and application of fundamental rights and core labour standards of all workers in the information society, the right to privacy and to free access to the intranet of the enterprises for workers, workers' representatives and trade unions.
3. The reinforcement of dialogue between trade unions, employers and government to facilitate change in response to economic developments associated with the spread of the information society. The forging of social partnership is also vital in effectively mobilising information and communication technologies (ICTs) as development tools.

¹ This statement has been drafted by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), Union Network International (UNI) and Education International (EI), on behalf of the Global Unions group, which includes the ICFTU, the Global Union Federations (GUFs) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) to the OECD; The Global Union Federations comprise UNI, IFBWW, IUF, IMF, PSI, EI, ITGLWF, IFJ, ITF, -ICEM and IAEA.

4. Actions to confront the digital and social divide to combat the negative social effects of the implementation of new information technologies: only through the creation of decent jobs, the provision of primary education and lifelong learning, the improvement of health services and the tackling of gender inequalities poverty can be eradicated. In order to achieve the UN millennium goals the adoption of employment-friendly, inclusive and productive information technology strategies is required.
5. Computer literacy and education for all are vital elements of the information society. Access to information can only be meaningful if illiteracy is eradicated. At the same time the information society must enhance the provision of quality education through lifelong learning (primary, secondary, tertiary education, in-service education and other forms of education) which provides for the ability to critically assess and evaluate information.
6. Guaranteeing people's right of access to information through freedom of information laws in all member states of the United Nations. Laws to guarantee access to basic information and communication services must be adopted by all states. Moreover, by taking advantage of ICTs, all levels and all sectors of government should actively pursue policies to achieve greater transparency for citizens.
7. Promoting policies to build up the infrastructure of the information society by ensuring the responsible re-investment of telecommunications profits made in developing countries to benefit those countries, whether that re-investment comes from the public or the private sector.
8. Promoting the value of partnership with representatives of the trade union movement at all levels (international, regional, national, local, and enterprise level) in working to bridge the digital divide. Trade unions are both an important sector of civil society, and a core element of global industry. Labour, together with civil society, business and governments have to create a common movement to overcome the social and the digital divide.
9. The introduction of information technology must strengthen, and not undermine, democracy, public infrastructure and public service. Public services should increasingly take advantage of ICTs to provide effective public services, and for this process they are increasingly reliant on information technology. The core data, infrastructure and systems supporting these services should not be transferred out of the hands of democratically accountable agencies into the hands of an unaccountable private sector. Open technical standards, including through the open-source software movement, can help ensure that this does not happen.
10. Uniform legal protection of communications privacy is needed to avoid interference and monitoring of Internet traffic and personal communications. For exceptional cases at the workplace regulations and collectively negotiated agreements are required to determine who can carry out the monitoring and under which conditions. Where information services are subject to content rules they must not be intrusive, nor go beyond existing laws. Editorial independence of media professionals and creators must be protected.

11. Actions to promote pluralism, minority culture and diversity of opinion, through respect for freedom of expression, respect for public service values in information services, regulations to avoid monopolistic positions and development programmes to promote local content services as well as access to basic communications technologies.
12. Commitment to universal service principles in broadband connectivity and adequate regulatory structures for the information society that defend creators' rights and oppose legal barriers to access and copying of information, strengthen democracy, promote quality and tolerance and provide for the regulated development of electronic business with the aim of generating long-term employment and improved living standards.

27 March 2003

WSIS- Civil Society Subcommittee on Content and Themes (WSIS-SCT)

Final Report on Prepcom-2 Activities of the Civil Society on Content and Themes

Background and Prehistory

The Civil Society Subcommittee on Content and Themes (WSIS-SCT) was initiated with the approval of the Civil Society Plenary (CSP) at Prepcom-1 to perform a function parallel to that of the Inter-Governmental Subcommittee 2 on Content and Themes.

Sally Burch and William McIver volunteered at Prepcom-1 to serve as coordinators of WSIS-SCT.

WSIS-SCT maintains an e-mail list for its work. This list is open. Any CS participant can ask to subscribe (at mciver@albany.edu).

WSIS-SCT has always been open to Civil Society (CS) participants. It has always attempted to operate in a transparent way, through publication, wide dissemination, and reflection on documents; open meetings at the Prepcoms; and discussion of proposed activities and work on its e-mail list.

During the intersessional period, the working group produced two content proposals, one for the September 16 informal meeting, entitled STATEMENT ON WSIS CONTENT, THEMES and OUTCOMES:

Input to the Informal Meeting on Content & Themes 16 – 18 September 2002 and a more complete proposal, entitled "Civil Society Statement to Prepcom 2 on Vision, Principles, Themes and Process for WSIS", following on a broad consultation with civil society organizations, that was sent to the secretariat and bureau chair, before the December 25 deadline.

Chronology of Prepcom-2 Activities

Meetings of the WSIS-SCT and/or its drafting group were held daily during Prepcom-2, as of the 4th day.

20 February 2003

The WSIS-SCT organized itself into drafting, monitoring, and lobbying groups. One group also volunteered to facilitate the posting of the WSIS-SCT documents on the Web. A contact was also designated for the submission of input via e-mail. We discussed the role of the committee and there was general consensus that the group should facilitate the drafting of substance provided by the CS entities (e.g. Caucuses).

The drafting group also focused on the question of which document would be the basis for the Inter-governmental drafting of the WSIS declaration. In particular, the idea of responding to the Samasekou non paper or the regional compilation document, taking into account the CS statement to Prepcom-1.

Caucuses were asked by the drafting group to provide input documents by 21 February in the morning, which would be used to draft a position statement. The drafting group discussed the structure for the CS document. It was decided that we must wait for the structure to be defined by the Inter-Governmental drafting group.

WSIS-SCT was also involved with the CS Plenary and the CS Secretariat in requesting opportunities for more direct and official input into the Inter-governmental drafting process and speaking slots.

21 February 2003

WSIS-SCT produced a one page document: "Vision and Principles of Information and Communication Societies," which represented a summary of the document produced in December plus some of the inputs requested the day before. It presented a set of visions, principles, and key themes. This document was also distributed physically, by e-mail, and posted on the Web.

It was decided that the WSIS-SCT would meet every morning at 10:00 in room 16 of the CIGG.

24 February 2003

At the WSIS-SCT meeting, it was agreed to give priority speaking slots to content groups addressing issues identified as CS priorities and those whose issues have been excluded from the Inter-governmental drafts.

Work on this day was focused on producing a document by the end of the day. Endorsements of the document were also to be sought. The drafting group convened at 15:00 to organize the themes and produce a document.

A number of individuals played critical roles in relaying information about the Inter-governmental process and giving suggestions about how to prioritize the work of WSIS-SCT.

The WSIS-SCT coordinated the production of the document "Contribution on Common Vision, Key Principles, and List of Issues for the Declaration and the Action Plan Version 1. (Draft)," based on input by CS entities over the weekend and on Monday. This document was a response to the Inter-governmental draft current at that time covering the same issues. This document was also distributed physically, by e-mail, and posted on the Web.

At this time the drafting group decided that its document in progress should be split into separate major sections for release, mirroring the Inter-governmental process.

The group agreed to propose to the CS Bureau that a representative of the Content and Themes group should have a permanent presence at bureau meetings, with a voice on content-related matters.

25 February 2003

The WSIS-SCT continued to discuss and prioritize its work around the Inter-governmental drafts that were released or expected soon. The next document expected at this time was the themes section in the Action Plan part of the declaration.

For lobbying purposes, the WSIS-SCT produced and released a one-page document "Seven Musts": Priority Principles Proposed by Civil Society." It was also distributed physically and electronically.

The WSIS-SCT also released an initial version of the document "Contribution on Common Vision and Key Principles for the Declaration." This document reflected further elaboration on inputs given by CS entities. It was also distributed physically and electronically.

One of the Content and Themes group's coordinators summarized the proposals produced to date on the vision and principles at the Inter-governmental Subcommittee 2 session.

26 February 2003

The WSIS-SCT also released a new version of the document "Contribution on Common Vision and Key Principles for the Declaration." This document reflected corrections to the previous document, in particular it attempted to reconcile differences with CS entities over the right to communicate. This was distributed physically and electronically.

Five Civil Society caucuses were scheduled to speak at the Inter-governmental morning plenary within a ten minute period. The collection of names for this input was coordinated by the WSIS-SCT on behalf of CS. A representative of the WSIS-SCT read the document "Seven Musts": Priority Principles Proposed by Civil Society" at the Inter-governmental morning plenary in which the Inter-governmental

drafting group gave its report. In addition, representatives from the Internet Governance and Gender Caucuses spoke at the Inter-governmental morning plenary. Two of the five caucuses were not able to speak because the allotted time had expired.

Once the Inter-governmental draft Declaration had been received, the group worked on a response to that document with precise proposal for modifications and additions to the language of the document. This document was released under the title: "Comments of civil society on the draft declaration" (provisional version).

27 February 2003

The Inter-governmental draft Action Plan was received in the morning. The process of drafting was distributed to caucuses and other CS entities to propose specific language for the CS response to the Action Plan. The ultimate drafting process was the development of a document that did not comment directly on the Inter-governmental document, but which generally followed its structure and included only CS inputs to the Action Plan. This approach it was decided will allow the Inter-governmental drafting group to align the CS input with the structure of its document. Given time constraints, the resulting document is a compilation of proposals, which were not discussed by the whole group.

WSIS-SCT again coordinated with CS entities to select four speakers for this day in the Inter-governmental plenaries. Only two were given speaking slots, in the morning report back from the Inter-governmental drafting group. These were the environmental and the media caucuses.

WSIS-SCT representatives also met with the chair of the Inter-governmental drafting group to: explain the work of Civil Society in general and that of the WSIS-SCT, request adequate time to give input to the Action Plan, and to seek clarification on the intersession drafting process. The representatives felt that they were well received. Clarification on the intersession process, however, was not available at the time. It was indicated the government's bureau were to take up the issue that evening.

28 February 2003

The document "Plan of Action: Civil Society's Proposals", compiled the day before, was circulated to delegates and on-line. The proposal from the trade union group was annexed to the document, having been received too late to include. The trade union proposal was also read at the Plenary session. This document, together with corrected versions of some of the previous documents, were presented to the secretariat and chair of the Inter-governmental drafting committee, for inclusion as civil society contributions to the draft Declaration and Action Plan

The Content and Themes group presented a report to the Civil Society Plenary. It was agreed that the group would continue to function on-line during the next intersessional period and would work on a Declaration and Action Plan from a civil society perspective. A provisional list of regional, sector and thematic caucuses and their respective focal points was circulated. Each group was invited to name one or two delegates to the Content and Themes group, which is to set up a new list.

There were serious complaints concerning the precarious conditions in which the civil society content and themes group and drafting committee had to work: usually in English only, thus excluding the participation of delegates who do not speak that language; no permanent room or equipment to work with, despite having requested it two months earlier; last minute information as to what documents we would be reacting to and how our content would (or not) be received and whether it would be treated with any official status. Considering these difficulties, the results (5 documents, plus the numerous caucus proposals) are a significant achievement.

The Trade Unions Caucus spoke in the Inter-governmental plenary session.

PostScript

Given the new May 30 deadline for comments on the next version of the draft declaration and action plan, this will no doubt be the first priority of the Content and Themes group over the coming two months.

A virtual Civil Society Plenary group has been established at plenary@wsis-cs.org following on the proposal submitted by Seán Ó Siochrú to the final Civil Society Plenary meeting of PrepCom-2. Under

this plan, the WSIS-SCT will continue in its role to facilitate the formulation of Civil Society content for input into the Inter-governmental drafting process.

Appendix:

The documents produced to date by the Civil Society Content and Themes group can be found at the following locations:

<http://www.worldsummit2003.de>
<http://www.wsis.info>
<http://Article19.net/WSIS/SCT>
<http://www.itu.int/wsis>
<http://www.geneva2003.org>

The contacts for the Content and Themes group are:

Sally Burch / sburch@alainet.org

Bill McIver / mciver@albany.edu

**Civil Society Caucuses /Groups
who have expressed desire to develop Content
Listing (ver 1.5/ March 17 2003)**

The following Civil Society caucuses and groups have been formed to work on content. Each caucus or group is to confirm the designation of one or two delegates to the Civil Society Content and Themes Working Group. The provisional contact persons identified are named below.

I. REGIONAL CAUCUSES

- **African Region:** Emmanuel Njenga <njenga@apc.org>
- **Asian Region:** _____
- **Latin American Region:** Paulo Lima <plima@rits.org.br> _____
- **European/North American Region:** _____
- **Arab Countries Region: (African sub-group)** Mustapha Masmoudi <masmoudi@mdcplus.com> _____
- **Middle East & West Asian:** Amir Barmaki <ahbarmaki@hotmail.com>

II. SECTOR-BASED GROUPS

- **NGO Gender strategies working group:** <gswg-coord@genderit.org>
- **Youth:** Nick Moriatis <nick@takingitglobal.org> _____
- **Persons with Disabilities:** Hiroshi Kawamura <hkawa@attglobal.net>
- **Indigenous Peoples:** Katelin Gillis <katelin@metisnation.ca>
- **Academia and Education:** Divina Frau-Meigs <meigs@wanadoo.fr>
- **Science & Technology Community:** Leszlek Bialy <l.bialy@unesco.org>
- **Media:** Ronald Koven <rkoven@compuserve.com>/Jacques Briquemont <briquemont@ebu.ch>/ Tracey Naughton <broadcasting@misa.org.na>
- **Trade Unions:** _____
- **Creators and Active Promoters of Culture:** Alex Byrne <alex.byrne@uts.edu.au> /Alexis Krikovian <krikovian@ipa-uie.org>
- **Think Tanks:** John Gagain <j.gagain@funglode.org>

III. THEMATIC CAUCUSES

- **Environment and ICT:** Thomas Rudd <ruddyconsult@imailbox.com>
- **Volunteering and New Technologies:** Gail Hurley <gail.hurley@cev.be>/Viola Krebs <viola@icvolunteers.org>
- **Values and Ethics:** Franco Mazza <mazzafranco@hotmail.com>
- **E Governance/ E Democracy:** Rik Panganiban <rikomatic@yahoo.com>

<josep.xercavins@ubuntu.upc.es>

- **Health:** Ken Dobruskin <ken@prepcom.net>
- **Language & Culture:** Adel El Zaim <elzaim@canti.com>
- **Information Security (+ CyberCrime):** Karen Banks <karenb@gn.apc.org>; Veni Markovski <veni@veni.com>
- **Human Rights:** Meryem Marzouki/Rikke Frank Jorgensen <rfj@humanrights.dk>
- **Communication Rights:** Bruce Girard <bgirard@comunica.org>/Myriam Holmgren <mh@wacc.org.uk>
- **Internet Governance:** YJ Park <yjpark@myepark.com>/ Wolfgang Kleinwachter <wolfgang@imv.au.de>
- **Intellectual Property Rights/Public Sphere:** Francis Muguet, <muguet@ensta.fr>
- **Applications - Global Concerns:** Myrna Lachenal-Merit <m.lachenal@geneva-link.ch>
- **Scientific Information:** Francis Muguet, <muguet@ensta.fr>
- **Girl Child:** T.O. Happy Aziah <cadef@caramail.com>

COORDINATORS OF THE CONTENT AND THEMES WORKING GROUP

Sally Burch <sburch@alainet.org>
Bill Mclver <mciver@albany.edu>

The Civil Society Content and Themes Documents from Prepcom II Are on the following Website:

German WSIS Civil Society Coordinating Group
Contact: Ral Bendrath/Olga Drossou/Arne Hintz
Wsis@boell.de
www.worldsummit2003.de

CONTENT AND THEMES WG MAILING LIST

Contact: Bill Mclver <mciver@albany.edu>

Civil Society Bureau / Bureau de la Société Civile

Family	Contact Organizations	e-mails	Tel.	Pigeon hole No.
1 Academia and education	Centro de Teletrabajo y Teleinformacion - Universidad de Buenos Aires (Beatriz Busaniche) International Association of Universities (Eva Egron-Polack); Education International (Monique Fouihoux)	beatriz@maxmedia.com.ar eegron-iaui@unesco.org ; monique.fouihoux@ei-ie.org	022 959 8854	
2 The science and technology community	World Federation of Engineering Organization - WFEO (Kamel Ayadi) International Council of Science - ICSU (Carthage Smith)	cic@coi.tn.org ; lbiaty@unesco.org carthage@icsu.org	216 98 330 166	

	World Press Freedom Committee (Ronald Koven)	rkoven@compuserve.com		
3 The media	Media Institute for Southern Africa MISA (Tracey Naughton) European Broadcasting Union (Jacques Briquemont)	broadcasting@misa.org.na briquemont@ebu.ch		
4 The creators and active promoters of culture	International Publishers Association - IPA & International Federation of Library Association - IFLA (Scollo Lavizzari Carlo ;Alexis Krikorian)	csi@ipa-uie.org ; krikorian@ipa-uie.org	33 6 20 44 56 44 ; 022 346 30 38 ; 079 358 01 09	
5 Cities and Local Authorities	World Summit of Local Authorities on the IS (Veronique Kleck) ; City of Lyon (Pierre-Alain Muet)	vkleck@cities-lyon.org ; pierre-alain.muet@mairie-lyon.fr		
6 Trade Unions	ICFTU - Trade Unions (Bellamy Mith.) Union Network International (Alke Boessiger)	mth.bellamy@geneva.icftu.org alke.boessiger@union-network.org		
7 NGOs	Conference of NGOs - CONGO (Renate Bloem ; Cyril Ritchie ; Bineta Diop)	rbloem@ngocongo.org ; congo.gva@congo.org	076 346 2310 ; 022 733 6717 ; 079 358 3653	

8	Youth	Youth Caucus / TakingITGlobal (Nick Moraitis ; Robert Sagun)	nick@takingitglobal.org ; yvvd@asia.com	
9	Gender	Gender Caucus (Gillian Marcelle)	secretariat- wsisgendercaucus@wougnnet.org ; gswg-coord@genderit.org	
10	Volunteers	International Conference of Volunteers (Viola Krebs)	viola@icvolunteers.org	079 679 1693
11	Indigenous People	Metis National Council - Canada (Katelin Gillis- informal capacity)	katelin@metisnation.ca (katelin@metisnation.org during Prepcom2)	
12	Social movements	CRIS Campaign (Séan 'O Siochrú)	sean@nexus.ie	
13	Multi-stakeholders Partnerships	UN ICT Task Force (Sergei Kambalov)	kambalov@un.org	
14	Philanthropic Institutions	Global Contract Foundation (Frithjof Finkbeiner)	frithjof.finkbeiner@t-online.de	49 171 748 81 08
		Global Society Dialogue (Wolfgang Kleinwaechter)	wolfgang@imv.au.dk	

15	Think Tanks	Global Foundation for Democracy & Development (John Gagain)	j.gagain@funglode.org	
		Centre for Global Communications - GLOCOM (Adam Peake)	ajp@glocom.ac.jp	
16	Africa Region	Africa Civil Society Bureau (Oliver Nana Nzepa) ; FEMNET (Alice Munyua)	anals_ac@yahoo.fr ; femnet@africaonline.co.ke ; admin@femnet.or.ke ; wanjiraalice@yahoo.co.uk	022 919 3939 (Geneva Prepcom2)
17	Latin America and the Caribbean	La Neta / Association for Progressive Communications (Olinca Marino)	info@laneta.apc.org	022 710 2752 (Geneva Prepcom2)
18	Asia Region	Foundation for Media Alternatives (Alan Alegre) ; APC-WNSP (Angela M. Kugathas)	alalegre@fma.ph ; amkt@apcwomen.org	63 2 435 6684 / 63 918 919 5020 / 61 12 307 7091
19	Europe Region and North America	Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility - CPSR (Hans Klein)	hklein@cpsr.org	022 732 4423 (Geneva Prepcom2)
		ISOC Bulgaria / Global Internet Policy Initiative (Veni Markovski)	veni@veni.com	41 78 612 1093 (Geneva Prepcom2) ; 359 88 51 63 59 (Bulgaria)
20	Middle East and Western Asia Region	Iranian Civil Society Organization Resource Center - ICSORC (Amir Barmaki)	ahbarmaki@icsorc.org	

21	People with Disabilities	The DAISY Consortium (Hiroshi Kawamura)	hkawa@attglobal.net	
22	Parliamentarians	Alain Clerc, Louise Lassonde, Liliane Ursache	alain.clerc@ties.itu.int ; louise.lassonde@ties.itu.int ; liliane.ursache@ties.itu.int	079 4567 456
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Report to CPSR on PrepCom-1 of the World Summit on the Information Society, July 1 - 5, 2002, Geneva.

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October 13, 2002

1. 1. Introduction

This note provides our perspective on the proceedings of PrepCom-1 of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Its intent is to provide a high level overview of the proceedings and to identify opportunities for CPSR to contribute in the ongoing process of preparing for the WSIS.

Official WSIS documents refer to both non-governmental and civil society organizations, which are referred to collectively in most places including this report as "civil society." This category is, of course, not monolithic in its viewpoints and there is not a formal and binding mechanism within the Civil Society Division of the WSIS Secretariat for representatives of NGOs and civil society to declare consensus or majority positions. Thus, viewpoints ascribed to representatives from or constituencies within civil society in this note cannot be taken to mean consensus positions for the entire NGO community involved in the WSIS. This note will refer only to "representatives from civil society" in discussing significant constituencies involved in responses to the Inter-governmental Division.

1. 1. CPSR Involvement in PrepCom-1

Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR) was represented at the PrepCom-1 of the World Summit of the Information Society by an accredited delegation of three: Robert Guerra (Canada), Rufo, Guerreschi (Italy) and William McIver (USA). Several other CPSR members were also present, including Lisa Koonts.

CPSR members participated in committee work, the preparation of statements and deliberations in plenary sessions of the Civil Society Division. Our work and alliances involved a fairly broad cross section of organizations accredited to the Civil Society Division. These organizations were generally concerned with communication rights; community or citizen participation in ICTs; and regional, social or cultural issues pertaining to ICTs. A list of organizations with whom CPSR participated in terms of committee work and endorsements of statements is given in an appendix below.

CPSR members also participated in formal and informal meetings with government delegations. Robert Guerra, in particular, participated in several meetings with members of the Canada delegation. These meetings have opened opportunities to participate in country level discussions and consultations.