



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

Official Form for Comments on the Non-paper

A. Your Information

Title: *President*

First name: *Richard* **Last name:** *Hill*

Name of Organization: *Association for Proper Internet Governance Stakeholder Type¹: Civil Society, accredited for the 2014 and 2015 WSIS Forums*

Country: *Switzerland* **Email:** *info@apig.ch*

B. Formal Input

Please input your comments below:

1. Overall comments

We refer to the non-paper published at:

<http://unpan3.un.org/wsis10/Portals/5/WSIS%2010%20GA/WSIS%20nonpaper%20draft%20-%20final.pdf>

This paper does not adequately incorporate the wide range of submissions to this review process, and it is too bland. The WSIS+10 review should address open issues. Indeed, we cite a passage from the submission published at:

<http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN95007.pdf>

“[The Outcome Document] should avoid seeking to resolve ICT policy issues which are being addressed in other, more appropriate fora or re-opening issues concluded elsewhere.”

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

This does not imply that the WSIS+10 Review should not address ICT policy issues which are not being addressed, nor that it should not address open issues.

The open issues that the WSIS+10 Review should address include, *inter alia*, the three priority items identified by the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG):

1. Unilateral control by the one government of administration of the root zone file and systems.
2. Uneven distribution of Internet interconnection costs.
3. Internet stability, security and cybercrime, including lack of multilateral mechanisms to ensure the network stability and security of Internet infrastructure services and applications; and including lack of a unified, coordinated approach to combating spam.

See paragraphs 15-18 of <http://www.wgig.org/docs/WGIGREPORT.pdf>

None of those issues have been resolved. The issue of uneven distribution of Internet interconnection costs has been addressed in ITU, so the WSIS+10 Review outcome document should recognize that and urge Member States to implement the measures that have been agreed in ITU to ameliorate that particular issue.

The WSIS+10 Review outcome document should also address the other two unresolved issues mentioned above and it should also address other issues raised in several of the submissions from civil society.

Therefore, we propose the following modifications to the current version of the non-paper. The elements of the non-paper, with the proposed modifications, should appear in the zero draft.

2. Specific Text Proposals

In paragraph 7, modify the bit “in their various roles and responsibilities” to read “in their respective roles and responsibilities” so that the text is aligned with the text of the WSIS outcomes.

In paragraph 8, replace the current last sentence with the following: “We endorse both the WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015, which were unanimously agreed at the cited multi-stakeholder WSIS+10 High Level Event.”

In paragraph 14, add at the end: “, in particular by implementing the provisions of Recommendation ITU-T D.50 and its Supplements.”

After paragraph 17, add a new paragraph 17A reading: “However the benefits promised for all have not been adequately realized. On the contrary we have seen mass surveillance, abusive use of personal data and their use as a means of social and political control; the monopolization, commodification and monetisation of information and knowledge; inequitable flows of finances between poor and rich countries; and erosion of cultural diversity. Many technical, and thus purportedly ‘neutral’, decisions have in reality led to social injustice as technology architectures, often developed to promote vested interests, increasingly determine social, economic, cultural and political relationships and processes.”

After paragraph 19, add a new paragraph 19A reading: “We recognize that tax rules at the international and national levels should be adapted to address the taxation challenges posed by the digital economy.”

At the end of paragraph 20, add the following new sentences: “Any violations of privacy, any restrictions on the protection of personal data, and any restrictions on freedom of expression must be held to be necessary and

proportionate by an independent and impartial judge. No attempts will be made to weaken or compromise encryption standards.”

After paragraph 21, add a new paragraph 21A reading: “We recognize that access to much of the information society is limited by illiteracy, lack of access to electricity, and excessively stringent intellectual property laws, in particular copyright. Indeed, the current copyright regime might run counter to human rights. Therefore it is urgent to reform intellectual property law at both the international and national levels to better to balance the interests of creators, implementers and users, by drastically reducing the length of copyright, by legalizing non-commercial downloads of copyright material, and by restricting what can be patented.”

After paragraph 26, add a new paragraph 26A reading: “We recognize that the management and administration of Internet domain names and addresses must be truly international, not subject to the laws of any single country, and not dominated by any single country. In particular, the operation of the root zone file must not be subject to the jurisdiction of any single country.”

At the end of paragraph 29, add the following sentence: “In particular, we invite all states to accede to the 2014 International Telecommunication Regulations.”

After paragraph 29, add a new paragraph 29A reading: “It is urgent to reform cyberspace governance so that it is fully and pervasively underpinned by values of democracy, human rights and social justice; so that it will stand for participatory policy-making and promote people's control of social technologies; and so that it will result in truly decentralised architectures based on people's full rights to and control over data, information, knowledge and other ‘commons’ that ICTs must enable the world community to generate and share.”