

Statement by Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran
2nd Second Preparatory Meeting for the General Assembly's
overall review of the Implementation of the outcomes of the
WSIS

(20 October 2015)

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“In the Name of God, the Most compassionate, the Most Merciful”

Distinguished Co-facilitators,

The Islamic Republic of Iran would like to thank you for your able leadership of this important process, including in providing us with the Zero-draft. I wish to assure you of our continued support and constructive engagement in the process towards the High level meeting on December.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, aligns itself to the statement delivered by representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Co-facilitators,

As it was indicated in Modalities Resolution 68/302, the overall review by the General Assembly shall take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS and address potential information and communications technology gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as addressing challenges, including bridging the digital divide, and harnessing information and communications technologies for development.

~~While we recognize the remarkable achievements in ICTs for the people around the world, we should also pay attention to the fact~~

~~that the growth in this field has been uneven. Just yesterday, during the informal interactive stakeholder consultation meeting, we heard from the panel that more than 3 billion people are still unconnected.~~

As to the zero-draft, I would like to make the following comments:

It is obvious that in the current zero-draft, many issues and challenges have been addressed. However, further work needs to be done, in our collective endeavors towards the High-level meeting, to produce a comprehensive and balanced outcome document, wherein main concerns of all countries, in particular of developing countries' will be highlighted.

The crucial role of Information and communications technologies (ICTs) as an effective tool and an enabling factor for inclusive, social and economic development cannot be overemphasized. Therefore, it is important to be more focused on how the ICTs may contribute to the implementation of the Agenda 2030. In this context, and in addition to the pivotal role of the governments, the United Nations development system should continue its efforts to promote the use of ICTs as a catalyst for the achievement of SDGs.

~~*Iran has consistently advocated the establishment of a multilateral, democratic and transparent international Internet governance system to ensure equal participation of all parties of Internet governance, a reasonable allocation of network infrastructure resources, co-management of critical network infrastructure.*~~

We believe that Internet governance is an important component of the information society, and should be accomplished according to the Geneva principles, that all governments should have an equal

footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities in the international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.

The issue of Enhanced Cooperation remains yet unfulfilled and needs particular attention. It is unfortunate that little attempt has been made towards this important element of Tunis Agenda. It is imperative this outstanding issue be resolved, so that all nations have an equal say in the public policies affecting the Internet. Thus, we are of the view that a balanced language is required in addressing the existing realities about the Enhanced Cooperation and without giving preference to Internet Governance Forum, as the only successful platform for discussion of internet governance issues.

we are also of the view that in building the information society, all States, should avoid and refrain from taking any unilateral measure that is not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. Such measures impede the full achievement of economic and social development and hinder the well-being of other countries.

As to the section on Building Confidence and security in the use of ICTs, the language should be improved. My delegation is of the opinion that the absence of international regulations on cyber-security including cyber-attacks causes adverse effects to ensure the use of ICTs for development. In this regards, we call for the consideration of specific, effective and urgent international measures to counteract and tackle illegal use of cyberspace to harm other countries. We should work to prevent the use of ICT for undermining the political, social and cultural institutions of other nations.

I thank you Co-facilitators!

