

**Statement by Ambassador Hahn Choong-hee
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea
to the United Nations
Second preparatory Meeting for the General Assembly's overall
review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World
Summit on the Information Society
20 October 2015, New York**

Thank you, Mr. Co-Facilitator.

(Introduction)

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to the Co-Facilitators for their efforts in preparing the zero draft.

Since the World Summit of Information Society (WSIS) was held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005), significant progress has been made at national, regional and global level in attaining the vision of the people-centered, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society.

The Republic of Korea has supported the vision of the WSIS, in its written comments on the Non-paper. We believe that the zero draft reflects the discussion among Member States and their positions thus far, and, especially, commends its comprehensiveness in including the progress and remaining challenges for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) as detailed statistics.

In this regard, the Republic of Korea looks forward to the successful completion of our process in December, and would like to briefly share the following comments on the zero draft.

(Bridging the Digital Divide)

First, we welcome the recognition of the necessity for local content and services to promote accessibility. Additionally, we believe that the importance of the support by international organizations and development banks to achieve this goal should be further emphasized (para 18).

My delegation agrees with the importance of capacity building to overcome the digital divide, and, in this connection, feels that the inclusion of specific means of capacity building, such as sharing experiences and supporting training in developing countries, would be useful moving forward in order to promote further progress of the Geneva Action Plan (para 21).

(Enabling Environment)

Second, while we share the view that international dialogues on internet governance are necessary, the need for an international legal framework warrants further discussion among Member States (para 36).

Nevertheless, we welcome the five-year extension of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which, as a multi-stakeholder platform, has been drawing meaningful progress in

addressing numerous challenges in the sphere of the internet (para 37).

(Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs)

Third, we take note of the initiatives to strengthen cyber-security, but rather than the selective indication of initiatives, we would prefer to include all initiatives such as UNGGE, or delete them all together. Also, we wish to reiterate that all stakeholders need to participate in the process of discussion in order to realize the vision of WSIS (para 46).

In addition, while terrorism and cyber crime threatening national security is a deep concern for Korea, we question the suitability of WSIS as the appropriate forum to discuss the need of a convention on international cyber crimes (para 49, 50).

(Implementation and Follow-up)

Lastly, as we approach the High-level meeting in December, it is critical for us to focus on the current discussion. As the review of the implementation of the outcomes is still ongoing, we should focus on elaborating on the agenda for this year's meeting and spare no efforts to ensure a successful outcome, rather than discuss matters pertaining to future High-level meetings (para 57, 58).

Thank you.

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