WSIS+20 Five-Point Plan Follow-up: Eight Practical Recommendations

This document builds on the <u>Five-Point Plan</u>—endorsed by 114 organisations and 57 individual experts—to offer practical recommendations to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and meaningful stakeholder engagement in the WSIS+20 review process.

- Appoint a non-governmental stakeholder liaison within UN DESA to support the cofacilitators and the President of the General Assembly to facilitate stakeholder engagement.
- 2. Ensure the **dedicated online platform** centralising all relevant information **is set up immediately and maintained regularly** throughout the process.
- 3. Use the dedicated online platform to **streamline resources and opportunities** to broaden and diversify participation, including information about capacity building resources; national or regional consultations; visa assistance and supporting documentation; financial support for travel and broadband access to participate virtually.
- 4. Collect input on each iteration of the draft Outcome Document, including via:
 - a. **Written submissions** (with at least 7 working day notice and submission period), using multilingual submission templates with reasonable word limits;
 - b. **Consultations**, as outlined in points 5(a)–(e).
- 5. Design **consultations** to enable **full and equal participation of stakeholders** through:
 - a. Providing **timely notice** and sharing background documents and guiding questions at least 7 working days in advance;
 - b. Selecting accessible locations, supporting hybrid participation and offering synchronised meetings at multiple locations;
 - c. Accommodating diverse time zones, non-standard working days, and offering low-bandwidth participation options;
 - d. Applying equitable speaking arrangements, such as alternating or rotating speaking slots and ensuring balanced time allocation;
 - e. Structuring **interactive dialogue** formats that allow non-governmental and governmental stakeholders to respond to each other **in real time**.
- 6. Publish **synthesis reports** of inputs on each iteration of the draft Outcome Document, summarising written and verbal input, explaining how contributions were addressed and clearly indicating areas of consensus, disagreement, or ongoing discussion.¹
- 7. Ensure opportunities for meaningful non-governmental stakeholder participation in the intergovernmental negotiations by:
 - a. Enabling stakeholders to, at a minimum, **observe all meetings** –preparatory or otherwise– in-person and via live-stream on UN Web TV.
 - b. Providing opportunities for **stakeholder interventions** through dedicated speaking slots.²
- 8. Ensure non-governmental stakeholders have a meaningful role in the High Level

¹ See, e.g., the consultation process for the UNESCO Guidelines for the Governance of Digital Platforms.

² See, e.g., the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, the ITU and the Ad Hoc Committee on Cybercrime.

Meeting by:

- a. Publishing accreditation procedures at least three months in advance;
- b. Broadening **eligibility criteria** beyond WSIS+10 to include participants of national, regional, and global IGFs.
- c. Allocating speaking opportunities, side events, and space for engagement with delegates.

List of endorsing organisations:

- 1. Access Now
- 2. ARTICLE 19
- 3. Association for Progressive Communications (APC)
- 4. Association of Freelance Journalists (AFJ)
- 5. au Domain Administration Ltd (auDA)
- 6. Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)
- 7. BlueLink.net
- 8. Body & Data
- 9. CENTR Council of European National Top-Level Domain Registries
- 10. Cooperativa Sulá Batsú (CR)
- 11. CyberPeace Institute
- 12. Data Privacy Brasil
- 13. DENIC eG
- 14. Derechos Digitales
- 15. Digital Empowerment Foundation
- 16. DotAsia Organisation
- 17. European Center for Not-For-Profit Law (ECNL)
- 18. Eurovisioni
- 19. Fantsuam Foundation
- 20. Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD)
- 21. Global Network Initiative (GNI)
- 22. Global Partners Digital (GPD)
- 23. Globe TechnoPolitics Forum (GTPF)
- 24. International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)
- 25. Internet Society (ISOC)
- 26. Internet Society, Nigeria Chapter (ISOC-NG)
- 27. Jokkolabs Banjul
- 28. Paradigm Initiative (PIN)
- 29. Pollicy
- 30. Public Interest Registry (PIR)
- 31. Tech Global Institute (TGI)
- 32. Telecommunities Canada (tc.ca)
- 33. Uganda Network (WOUGNET)
- 34. World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)

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