UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

Contribution to the guiding questions agreed during first meeting of the WGEC

Submitted by

Switzerland

Contribution from Switzerland

Dear CSTD-WGEC Secretariat

Please find below our contribution to the two guiding questions:

(1) What are the high level characteristics of enhanced cooperation?

The high-level principles of enhanced cooperation in the Internet Governance realm would in our view need to be guided by the following:

•   They should aim at a people-centered Internet, based on principles of
    o   transparency,
    o   inclusiveness,
    o   democratic participation and
    o   accountability.

•   They should be responsive to the needs of all stakeholders in the world, in particular those from developing countries.

•   They should foster freedoms and innovation online, and at the same time be built on mutual respect and shared responsibilities of all stakeholders on national, regional and global levels.

•   They should foster respect for the rule of law and human rights; freedom and self-determination coupled with responsibility, solidarity and respect for cultural and political diversity.

•   They should promote good governance and checks and balances in all IG processes, which would need to be transparent in their work and accountable to all stakeholders of the world, taking into account their different needs and cultures and building on the respective roles and responsibilities of all stakeholder – governments, business, civil society and the technical and academic communities. All IG processes should act in the global public interest(s) and not just in the interest(s) of those few who have the means to be at the forefront of the technical and economic development

(2) Taking into consideration the work of the previous WGEC and the Tunis Agenda, particularly paragraphs 69-71, what kind of recommendations should we consider?

WGEC recommendations should be sufficiently broad as to be capable of implementation by diverse organizations and stakeholders according to their different mandates, roles and responsibilities.
To that end recommendations should be technologically neutral to the extent feasible and be sufficiently flexible and "future-proof" to withstand technological change and development. Recommendations should also ensure that inclusive and sustainable development goals are incorporated.

With kind regards

Jorge Cancio