WSIS + 10 review

WSIS+10 review event
at UNESCO

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CSTD
4 June 2013
- UNESCO 2013 WSIS+10 review conference
  - 25-27 February 2013, Paris, UNESCO HQ
- ITU 2014 WSIS+10 review conference
  - 14-18 April 2014, Egypt
- UNGA 2015 WSIS review meeting
  - Modalities to be adopted by UNGA (2013)

2) Decision of the UNESCO 36th General Conference in 2011
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Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development:

First WSIS+10 review meeting

25-27 February 2013, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France
Event in figures:
• 1400+ participants from all stakeholder groups
• 130 countries represented
• 800+ participants joined remotely
• 83 sessions in total
Participants
Geographical distribution

- Africa: 21%
- Arab States: 7%
- Asia and the Pacific: 6%
- Europe and North America: 9%
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 16%
- N/A: 41%
Aim of the event:

- Analyse and learn from the past, but concentrate on the present and the future;
- Emphasize the human impact rather than just technological advancement;
- Focus on assessing the diverse players’ action and their impact
7 working papers were prepared to inform the debate.

WSIS+10 Final Statement was developed by a multistakeholder open-ended drafting group, and was adopted by consensus (E/CN/16/2013/CRP.2).

A compilation of recommendations from all workshops is available online.
Review outcomes of the Paris meeting will be fed into:
• the WSIS review process (CSTD, ITU, ECOSOC, GA)
• UNESCO’s General Conference
Main conclusions:

• The same principles of freedom of expression should apply online and off-line
• Freedom of, as well as on, the Internet should be preserved
• Multi-stakeholder process has proven its efficiency
• Knowledge societies concept introduced in 2003 is very valid today
Main conclusions (cont.):

• Digital divide still exists but has changed in character

• ICTs as enabler of development should find a suitable place in post 2015 sustainable development agenda

• Accessibility and affordability of broadband are important for development
Main conclusions (cont):

• Ethical challenges of emerging technologies require further international and interdisciplinary reflection and debates

• Media and information literacy are important skills to develop

• IGF has become an important platform for multistakeholder engagement
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• Tunis Agenda intended to link WSIS and MDG review outcomes
  – to ensure that ICTs as enabler of development should find a suitable place in post 2015 sustainable development agenda

• UNGA will decide on the modalities of the WSIS review at its 2013 session

• Calendar issue – WSIS review should precede the MDG review formal outcome
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Thank you

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