WSIS follow-up, including WSIS+10 and preparations for the 17th session of the CSTD

Mr. Jānis Kārkliņš, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information of UNESCO

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

CSTD 2013–2014 Inter-sessional Panel
State Department
Loy Henderson Conference Center, Washington D.C., U.S.A.
Outline

1. WSIS Review process
2. News from UNESCO’s General Conference
   - WSIS+10
   - Freedom of Expression, Ethics, Privacy

☑ UNESCO 2013 WSIS+10 review event
  ▪ 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 (2012-2013)
    ▪ UNGA Second Committee’s Consultations on *ICTs for development* resolution extended until 6 December (all committee resolutions must be adopted by the Plenary by 20 December).
First WSIS+10 Review Event

Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development:

First WSIS+10 review meeting

25-27 February 2013, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

Hosted by:

Co-organized with:
First WSIS+10 Review Event: Outcomes report

Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development

First WSIS+10 Review Event


INTRODUCTORY SECTION

Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development was the first international multistakeholder event in the WSIS+10 review – the ten-year review of outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which was held in Geneva, Switzerland in December 2005 and in Tunis, Tunisia in November 2003.

Organized by UNESCO in Paris from 25 to 27 February 2013, in partnership with the UN, ITU, and OHCHR, the event brought together some 450 participants from governments, the private sector, civil society, and international organizations to review the progress towards information and knowledge societies which has been achieved since WSIS, consider ways of addressing continuing challenges in access and use of ICTs for development, and build new partnerships to ensure that present and future generations benefit fully from the transformative potential of new technologies.

The review meeting fulfilled a mandate set out in resolution 56/269 adopted by UN General Conference at its 56th session in November 2011, which requested the Director-General to implement a high-level WSIS event in the lead-up to the tenth review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes in 2015. This resolution built upon the commitment to knowledge societies, in which people have the capacities not just to access information but to transform it into knowledge and understanding, which empowers them to enhance their harmonies and contributes to the socio-economic development of their societies.
195 Member States endorsed
First WSIS+10 Review Event Final Statement

- Final Statement: A multi-stakeholder agreed outcome

- Now endorsed at UNESCO’s 37th session of the General Conference by 195 Member States
UNGIS proposes:

- “The Post-2015 Development Agenda reflects lessons learned during the past decade in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.”

- “Interaction between the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the WSIS+10 Review processes be established to create synergies.”
Privacy and ethics: The initial item

General Conference
37th Session, Paris, 2013

Item 5.22 of the provisional agenda

INTERNET RELATED ISSUES: INCLUDING ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE, FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, PRIVACY AND ETHICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

DISCUSSION PAPER
Privacy and ethics: Member States’ resolution

- Essential role of UNESCO’s mandate in the area of the ethical dimensions of the information society
- Refers to the Final Statement (first UNESCO-hosted WSIS+10 review event) which invites all stakeholders to protect privacy and foster dignity to which everyone is entitled in cyberspace
Privacy and ethics: Member States’ resolution

Requests:

- To prepare a comprehensive study of the Internet-related issues within the mandate of UNESCO
- Possible options for future actions through convening an inclusive multi-stakeholder process, explicitly open to all Member States
- Calls for extrabudgetary contributions
1) WSIS Process

2) Endorsed Final Statement

3) Post-2015

4) Privacy & ethics work