

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

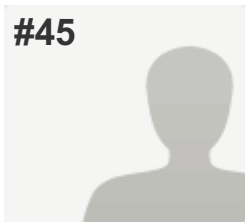
**Contribution to the CSTD ten-year review of the implementation of WSIS
outcomes**

Submitted by

THE PHILIPPINES

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Q1: Salutation:

Mr.

Q2: First Name, Surname:

Louis Napoleon C. Casambre

Q3: Organisation:Information and Communications Technology
Office-DOST**Q4: Country:**

Philippines

Q6: Which stakeholder category do you belong to?

Government

Q7: To what extent, in your experience, has the "people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society", envisaged in the opening paragraph of the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles, developed in the ten years since WSIS?

Our organization, the Information and Communications Technology Office, Department of Science and Technology has already sustained our existing ICT projects and still in the process of developing more high-end ICT projects. It is our commitment to develop and improve our Information Society where everyone can access, create, utilize and share information and achieve their full potential in eradication of poverty, improve primary education. It is also our goal to promote Information Society in which everyone has access to the information that they need and to the skills required to turn that information into knowledge that is of practical use.

Q8: How far do you consider the implementation of specific WSIS outcomes to have been achieved?

As far as the growth and development occurring on the internet is so fast that its changing the way we all live, work and interact. The rapid changes had transformed governments to be closer to the people providing transparency and accountability in the delivery of government services. The pervasive use of ICT by the citizenry necessitates higher expectations and demands on government.

Accordingly, government play a positive role in planning new ways of interacting, and improving service delivery by optimizing its systems and processes and revitalizing democracy by taking full advantage on the use of ICT.

Q9: How has the implementation of WSIS outcomes contributed towards the development of a "people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society"?

There is a request of participants of WSIS to evaluate and reward stakeholders for the success of their efforts in implementing development-oriented strategies that leverage the power of information and communications technologies. The prizes provide a recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. It harness the potential of information and communication technology to promote the development goals of the Millednium Declaration. There is a sustainable development of the Information Society and enhancement of national capability in ICT research and development. Partnerships, in particular between and among developed and developing countries including countries in transition, technology transfer, in research and development and utilization of ICT products are crucial for promoting global participation in the Information Society.

Q10: What are the challenges to the implementation of WSIS outcomes? What are the challenges that have inhibited the emergence of a "people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society"?

The challenges usually are extreme poverty, education, contagious diseases such as malaria,HIV/AIDS and other diseases, environmental sustainability. Development of global partnerships for development for the attainment of a more peaceful, just and prosperous world.

Q11: How are these challenges being addressed? What approaches have proved to be effective in your experience?

This challenges can be addressed by a Digital divide which is according to categories of persons in a given population in their access to, use of, or knowledge of information and communication technologies. This is used to describe a gap between those who have ready access to information and communication technology and the skills to make use of those technology and those who do not have the access or skills to use those same technologies within a geographic area, It is an economic and social inequality between groups of persons. It may exist for a number of reasons as one tells that "as income rises so does Internet use". Most commonly, a digital divide stems from poverty. There are at least three factors at play: information accessibility, information utilization and information receptiveness. Information professionals have the ability to help bridge the gap by providing reference and information services to help individuals learn and utilize the technologies to which they do have access. We are also fully aware that the benefits of the information technology revolution are today unevenly distributed between the developed and developing countries and within societies. We are fully committed to turning this digital divide into a digital opportunity for all, particularly for those who risk being left behind and being further marginalized. We have to empower the poor, particularly those living in remote, rural and marginalized urban areas, to access information and to use ICTs as a tool to support their efforts to lift themselves out of poverty.

Q12: What do you consider the most important emerging trends in technology and other aspects of ICTs which have affected implementation of WSIS outcomes since the Summit? What has been their impact?

The most important emerging trends in technology are the following: (1) Area Networks (2) Cellular Phones, Wireless Communications (3) Client/Server Systems (4) Data Extraction/Analysis (5) Desktop Publishing (6) Electronic Data Interchange (7) Electronic Funds Transfer (8) Intranet, Extranet (9) Mail Technologies (10) Telecommuting (11) Teleconferencing and (12) Cloud Computing.

The impact are new technology changes everything. It impacts almost everything. First, when there is new technology that will help your business, you will want to buy it. If you buy it right when it comes out, then it will be a lot more expensive than waiting a few months or a year. Your company will have to budget more money for the more expensive things. It will take money from your other business expenses. The newer you buy a product and the more advanced it is the more you will have to spend on it. Make sure that you don't budget the same amount each year unless you expect to be getting less each year. New programs and new software come out all the time. Your business will probably want to buy new programs that help with accounting or billing. There are many new programs or upgrades that come out each year. Finding one that works great for your company can be hard so research the different ones and figure out which will work the best for your company. The new programs are designed to make your business run smoother. They are also designed to make things go faster. There are new versions of programs that come out each year. They have better features and allow you to do more.

Q13: What should be the priorities for stakeholders seeking to achieve WSIS outcomes and progress towards the Information Society, taking into account emerging trends?

The priorities for stakeholders seeking to achieve WSIS outcomes are:

- 1) The transition to mobility in access to basic telecommunications
- 2) The transition to broadband at the core of network and future service provision
- 3) The emergence of value-added mobile services, mobile transactions and mobile internet
- 4) The datafication of business and government organisation and practice
- 5) Big data analysis and related developments including social media analytics, open data, crowd sourcing citizen science.
- 6) The rapid development of cloud computing and emergence of the cloud economy.
- 7) The development of smart systems

Q14: What role should information and communications play in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?

Access to information, freedom of expression and an independent media are important for a sustainable future. They should be explicitly included in a future framework describing UN development goals for the years beyond 2015. We discuss two options: firstly, integration of "information access and freedom of expression" as one of the new Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). And secondly, "good governance" as a new goal in which transparency, accountability and free media are considered.

These stand for three different functions of the media:

1. Information provider: data, knowledge, orientation, ideas and education
2. Platform for cultural expression: strengthening of identity, values and cultural cohesion
3. Platform for empowerment: giving a voice to individuals as well as underprivileged groups and minorities

Questionnaire for the CSTD's ten year review of WSIS implementation

Q15: Please add any other comments that you wish to make on the subject of the review that you believe would be helpful.

NO OTHER COMMENTS. THANK YOU . . .

Q16: We would also welcome any documents, reports, etc. that you can forward which you think will provide useful evidence for the review. Please send these to cstd-wsis10@unctad.org. It would be helpful if you could list these in this box, together with any URL which enables access to them on the World Wide Web.

NO OTHER COMMENTS. THANK YOU . . .