

**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

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Contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC)

Q1. What are the high-level characteristics of enhanced cooperation

Based on Tunis Agenda, the following serves as high-level characteristics of enhanced cooperation:

- Art. 34, developed a working definition of Internet governance as "the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet".
- Art. 35-36, defined the roles of the stakeholders which recognized policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States as they have rights and responsibilities for international Internet- related public policy issues.
- Art. 60-61, recognized that there are many cross-cutting international public policy issues that require attention and are not adequately addressed by current mechanisms. These articles recognize also that there is a need to initiate a transparent, democratic, and multilateral process with the participation of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations, in their respective roles, and that this process could envisage creation of a suitable framework or mechanisms, where justified, thus spurring the ongoing and active evolution of the current arrangements in order to synergize efforts.
- Art. 68, all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet. It also recognized the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders.
- Art. 69, there is a need for enhanced cooperation to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet. The Tunis Agenda recognized in Art. 35 that policy authority for Internet-related public policy is the sovereign right of States and that they have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.
- Art. 70, enhanced cooperation should include the development of globally-applicable principles on public policy issues associated with the coordination and management of critical Internet resources. Relevant international organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet were called upon to contribute to creating an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles.
- Art. 71, the process towards enhanced cooperation involves all stakeholders in their respective roles. The UN Secretary-General was to have started the process by 1Q2006 involving all relevant organizations who would involve all stakeholders and provide annual performance reports.

Q2. Taking into consideration the work of the previous Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, particularly paragraphs 69-71, what kind of recommendations should be considered?

Since there is no framework or mechanisms which enables all governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities regarding policy authority for international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and to develop international public policy in consultation with all stakeholders; therefore WGEC should concentrate on developing recommendations aiming to operationalizing enhanced cooperation with the creation of the necessary framework and mechanisms in order to enable all governments on an equal footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities.