

## **CCAOI Statement to the UN Informal Interactive WSIS Stakeholder on the Review of Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+20)**

9 June 2025 8pm EST

Thank you for this opportunity. My comments are based on inputs we received from a [stakeholder consultation](#) we organised in India on 16 May 2025.

The WSIS process has significantly advanced global digital inclusion and contributed to bridging the digital divide. The WSIS process and forums like the IGF have played a critical role in advancing these efforts and have established structures of accountability, facilitated international cooperation in a truly multistakeholder bottom-up model where developing countries can actively participate in an equitable manner, and supported tangible progress in digital inclusion.

Needless to say, much more needs to be done and the WSIS+20 Review marks a pivotal moment in global digital governance offering an opportunity to recalibrate global commitments, strengthen multi stakeholder cooperation, and reinforce WSIS as a cornerstone of inclusive, rights-based digital development.

This is a crucial time to ensure that emerging economies and developing countries get to play a decisive role in shaping the future of global digital norms.

The WSIS mandate needs to be renewed with a broader scope, in order to adapt to address evolving challenges while upholding its foundational values of inclusion, equity, and multistakeholder collaboration. This includes expanding its scope to cover emerging technologies and present-day concerns while promoting inclusive and accessible digital systems.

The IGF needs to be renewed with a permanent mandate and stable funding.

To enhance the effectiveness and coherence of global digital governance, greater efforts should be made to reduce duplication across initiatives and create stronger linkages between existing processes such as the WSIS, the IGF, and emerging frameworks like the GDC. Establishing structured coordination among these platforms can improve efficiency, optimize stakeholder participation, and ensure that shared goals such as equity, inclusion, and accountability are pursued in a complementary manner rather than in silos.

Also, there is a need to

- Promote inclusive and accessible digital systems;
- Promote equitable digital governance and rights-based frame works;
- Promote equitable development for digital empowerment of the marginalized;
- Address challenges posed by emerging technologies
- Address climate change and sustainability and integrate climate justice principles into digital policy;
- Ensure the Internet remains open, secure, interoperable, and globally accessible.

Thank You.

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