

1. What are the most important **achievements** arising from WSIS that should be highlighted in the Zero Draft? *

Key Achievements of WSIS

- A. WSIS has significantly advanced global digital inclusion through:
- B. Expanded connectivity and ICT access in underserved regions
- C. Establishment of the multistakeholder model via IGF
- D. Integration of ICTs into UN development agendas
- E. Implementation of WSIS Action Lines as national ICT roadmaps
- F. Strengthened global focus on cybersecurity and data protection
- G. Scaled-up digital capacity building efforts

For CSN, WSIS has enabled a global shift toward risk-based digital development, standards adoption (e.g, ISO), and cyber resilience.

2. What are the most important **challenges** to the achievement of WSIS outcomes to date and in the future that need to be addressed in the Zero Draft? *

Ongoing challenges include:

- A. Persistent digital divides and low digital literacy
- B. Weak cybersecurity and resilience in developing nations
- C. Limited digital integration in national policies
- D. Inadequate financing for ICT infrastructure
- E. Regulatory gaps for emerging tech (e.g., AI)
- F. Environmental impact of ICTs (e-waste, energy use)
- G. Fragmented global internet governance

CSN emphasizes the need for stronger local capacity, ethical tech governance, and certification systems to ensure secure and inclusive digital futures.

3. What are the most important **priorities** for action to achieve the WSIS vision of a 'people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society' in the future, taking into account emerging trends? *

Key priorities include:

- A. Mainstreaming cybersecurity and digital risk management into national digital strategies to ensure safe and trusted ecosystems;
- B. Institutionalizing capacity building and certification frameworks, such as ISO/IEC standards, to promote global best practices and resilience;
- C. Investing in local digital infrastructure and indigenous innovation, especially for low-income and rural communities;
- D. Strengthening data governance frameworks that promote interoperability, privacy, and ethical AI usage;
- E. Enabling women, youth, and marginalized communities through targeted digital inclusion programs;
- F. Promoting environmentally responsible digital policies, including green ICT standards, circular economy models, and e-waste management;
- G. Enhancing multilateral cooperation to prevent internet fragmentation and ensure consistent participation of developing countries in shaping global digital norms.

As a consulting firm, CSN supports the creation of globally aligned but locally adaptive policy frameworks, bolstered by compliance, capacity building, and institutional strengthening.

4. What **additional themes/issues**, if any, should be included in the Elements Paper? *

CSN recommends the inclusion of:

- A. Digital risk assessment and disaster recovery planning for national and regional ICT infrastructures;
- B. Standardization and certification frameworks as enablers of digital trust (e.g., ISO 27001, ISO 22301, ISO 37301);
- C. Cyber hygiene awareness as a public policy issue, positioning it alongside digital literacy;
- D. Digital entrepreneurship and ecosystem resilience, particularly for startups and MSMEs;
- E. Regulatory agility for emerging technologies, to foster innovation without sacrificing rights or security;
- F. Integration of cyber-resilience into ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) metrics, which can guide ethical digital transformation.

5. Do you wish to comment on **particular themes/issues/paragraphs** in the Elements Paper? *

Yes. CSN welcomes the comprehensive coverage of themes but highlights the following:

- A. Paragraphs 25-27 (Environmental Impact): Should explicitly recommend digital sustainability certifications and climate-aligned digital infrastructure guidelines.
- B. Paragraphs 51-56 (Confidence and Security in ICTs): Should underscore the need for widespread cybersecurity standards adoption, particularly in developing countries where policy gaps are still prevalent.
- C. Paragraph 72 (AI and Digital Divide): The role of ISO standards for AI governance should be highlighted to prevent unethical or biased AI deployment.
- D. Paragraph 78 (Capacity Building): Emphasis should be placed on national digital governance training for civil servants, including modules on compliance, risk, and resilience.
- E. Paragraph 68 (Data Governance): Global convergence on data protection frameworks is essential to create cross-border trust and unlock global digital trade.

6. What suggestions do you have to support the development of the **WSIS framework** (WSIS Action Lines, IGF, WSIS Forum, UNGIS etc.)? *

To advance the WSIS framework:

- A. Strengthen alignment between WSIS Action Lines and Global Digital Compact objectives, with clear timelines and measurable indicators;
- B. Promote localized implementation of Action Lines through regional WSIS hubs and dedicated funding for community-driven digital initiatives;
- C. Expand capacity building tracks within the IGF and WSIS Forum, specifically targeting cybersecurity, data protection, and compliance for public and private institutions;
- D. Create an ISO-aligned policy repository under UNGIS, featuring toolkits and frameworks to support developing countries;
- E. Facilitate continuous engagement of SMEs and certification providers in shaping WSIS-related discussions, recognizing their role in practical implementation;
- F. Establish South-South knowledge exchange platforms within the WSIS process to promote peer learning and scalable solutions.

7. Do you have any **other** comments? *

CSN appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the WSIS+20 process and reiterates the importance of creating an equitable and secure digital future. As the digital landscape becomes increasingly complex, with cyber threats, AI governance gaps, and environmental concerns, the WSIS+20 outcome must prioritize practical, risk-informed, and inclusive strategies.

We emphasize the importance of trust, standardization, and responsible innovation as building blocks for achieving the WSIS vision. CSN is committed to supporting stakeholders, governments, enterprises, and civil society, in navigating the evolving digital terrain through its expertise in audit, certification, training, and governance advisory.

8. Who is **submitting** this input? *

Kindly provide the name of the person submitting this input, as well as the associated country, organization, stakeholder type, and relevant contact information

Name: Mr. Taiwo Peter Akinremi: Nigeria, Organization: Compssoftnet Technologies Limited (CSN) Stakeholder Type: Private Sector (ICT Consulting, Certification & Advisory)

9. Please provide your **e-mail** address: *

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