

**Position on WSIS+20 and Internet governance beyond 2025**  
***By 177 National, Regional, Sub-Regional, and Youth IGF Initiatives (NRIs), developed and endorsed through multiple consultations amongst NRIs***

***Input to the WSIS+20 consultations***

*23 July 2025*

---

**I. Multistakeholder governance approach to the Internet**

- To be maintained as the only approach that can underpin Internet governance.
- To be improved by:
  - Describing the multidisciplinary nature of this approach and the nuanced background of the multistakeholder concept;
  - Better and clearer stakeholder group descriptions and their participation on equal footing;
  - Comparison of stakeholder roles and ways they could be more involved in Internet governance ecosystem;
  - Better support for the weak and marginalized voices and un(der)represented categories;
  - Enhancing inclusivity and equality at all levels by ensuring that all stakeholders have the same rights and means to undertake their respective roles;
  - Maintaining open and transparent bottom-up decision-making processes, with clear reporting mechanisms outlined.
- Maximise support, engagement and inclusion of all stakeholder groups and disciplines in the IGF processes at all levels.

**II. IGF - Global, Regional, Subregional, National, Youth**

- Extend the mandate of the IGF beyond 2025 as a primary multistakeholder platform for discussion of the development of digital policies related to the Internet and digital technologies, including new and emerging digital technologies.
- Produce recommendations and/or policy briefs that are not binding but informing the overall discourse and considered as such by the UN and member states in their decision-making processes.
- Member states and other stakeholders should recognise national, regional, youth, and other capacity-development IGF initiatives as open, transparent, inclusive, multistakeholder, bottom-up platforms for discussion and cooperation on governance of digital technologies of their respective communities' priorities.

- Recognize the need for the multistakeholder Internet governance ecosystem to inform regulatory and legislative work before final decisions are made. In this context, the NRIs could be a natural sounding board for the regulators and national parliaments to discuss before deciding.
- Clarify that digital governance and Internet governance are synonymous, relating to the governance of the Internet and digital technologies, including new and emerging technologies, and including:
  - Development of public policies and best practices on digital and emerging technologies related to the Internet;
  - Collaboration, cooperation, and partnership on the governance of digital technologies, sustainable funding models to support the participation of underrepresented groups from the underserved regions, including civil society, youth, low-income countries etc.
- Highlight NRIs' potential in driving renewed focus on capacity development, education, knowledge-sharing, and regulatory practice, as well as promoting multistakeholder cooperation at all levels and raising awareness among users of digital technologies, particularly amongst underserved and most vulnerable communities.
- Stakeholders to recognize the NRIs as meaningful mechanisms to support the implementation of the WSIS+20 resolutions, GDC implementation, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- NRIs to consider establishing a follow-up mechanism for the IGF messages as one of the forums' key outputs.

### **III. WSIS Follow up and WSIS Forum**

- WSIS Forum to continue as a multistakeholder dialogue on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.
- Make recommendations to the CSTD regarding the necessary adjustments (if any) of the Action Lines of the Geneva Plan of Action and articles of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.
- NRIs to be reflected through their organic input to the regular practice of the IGF's annual reporting on WSIS outcomes to the UN General Assembly through CSTD and ECOSOC.
- NRIs could participate in the WSIS Forum and follow CSTD deliberations and commit to informing their respective communities of the outcomes of the annual WSIS reporting, inspiring action to bridge the identified gaps.

### **IV. WSIS +20 review**

- Discuss how the WSIS framework could be improved to fill existing gaps.
- The review is an opportunity to enhance the processes of Internet governance, including global digital policy and cooperation, by using the São Paulo Guidelines as an inspiration for making processes more inclusive, transparent, and accountable.
- Showcase how the NRIs have contributed to the WSIS implementation and the value of the IGF.

## **V. WSIS-SDG-GDC Matrix**

- Support the complementarity between the WSIS processes, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Global Digital Compact to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs), ensuring harmony and avoiding overlapping.
- Support understanding of how the WSIS action lines complement GDC objectives and the SDGs' new tasks, as well as the emerging new technologies, and vice versa.