



Statement delivered by: AHM Bazlur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC) at the Informal Multistakeholder Sounding Board (IMSB) on the review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+20) on Rev2 - 8 December 2025 organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, on Monday, 8 December 2025 at 07:00 EST / 12:00 UTC

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Co-Facilitators,
H.E. Ms. Suela Janina, Permanent Representative of Albania, H.E. Mr. Ekitela Lokaale,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication, the Bangladesh Internet Governance Forum, and the Pact for the Future – Bangladesh CSOs Initiative.

We commend the efforts reflected in the second revision of the WSIS+20 Outcome Document. We warmly welcome the progress achieved and congratulate the co-facilitators and all delegations on the diligent work that has gone into preparing Revision 2.

We are also honoured to be associated with the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), the Global Digital Justice Forum, the Global Digital Rights Coalition for the WSIS, and the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APRIGF) Working Group for WSIS+20. We highly value their contributions to this process.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the pivotal role played by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in stewarding the WSIS process and in establishing the WSIS Prizes, which have helped to showcase concrete and innovative practices from around the world.

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication has been engaged in the WSIS process since 2000, including throughout the preparatory phases. We are humbled that these efforts have been recognised through a WSIS Prize and eight subsequent WSIS Champion awards. This recognition further strengthens our commitment to advancing people-centred, rights-based, and development-oriented Digital Transformation.

Your Excellencies,

To further strengthen implementation, we believe that WSIS Action Lines C1– C11 should be revisited in light of the current context, explicitly linked to the WSIS+20 process, and updated accordingly.

In particular, we underscore the importance of:

- Further strengthening the localisation of WSIS and IGF implementation at the national level, including through the establishment of a **national observatory mechanism**.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh is thoughtfully considering establishing a Bangladesh Observatory focused on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the Global Digital Compact (GDC), and the Pact for the Future. This initiative aims to enhance our engagement in these important global dialogues.

- Ensuring that global commitments are translated into concrete, measurable national outcomes;
- Promoting meaningful engagement by UN Resident Coordinator offices at the country level and relevant UN entities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and the IGF process.
- Ensuring adequate and predictable budget allocations to support the implementation of WSIS Action Lines and IGF-related initiatives by civil society organisations (CSOs).

Excellencies,

It is our collective responsibility and our shared privilege to work together toward a more inclusive, just, and sustainable digital future for all, anchored in the principles of digital good governance, human rights, and sustainable development.

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your thoughtful consideration and kind attention, as well as the opportunity to speak today.

I thank you.

AHM. Bazlur Rahman | Specialist in Advancing Digital Democracy | Chief Executive Officer
Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC), & Ambassador for Responsible
Artificial Intelligence for Bangladesh
Policy Research Fellow, Shaping the Future of Media, Information Integrity & Society in the Era of
the Fourth Industrial Revolution. ceo@bnnrc.net | +8801711881647