

Input to the WSIS +20 Review Process from Jutta Croll, Digital Opportunities Foundation, Germany, child rights activist and co-facilitator of the Dynamic Coalitions Coordination Group of the IGF

For a start, let me say thank you to the co-facilitators and to the colleagues organising this effort and also to those who have already given their input in the meeting on Dec. 8th, 2025. As a child rights advocate I am speaking firstly on behalf of children in the sense of the UNCRC, i.e. all human beings under the age of 18, and secondly as the co-facilitator of the Dynamic Coalitions Coordination Group (DCCG) on behalf of the Dynamic Coalitions as important players in IGF intersessional activities and capacity building.

First, we explicitly welcome that children, their rights and their needs are addressed much better in the WSIS +20, rev2.

Para 12

We appreciate the commitment to address the challenges children are facing in regard of access and specific information and technology in para 12. Nonetheless, we think that the several groups also mentioned in this para do face different challenges which therefore need to be addressed in individually appropriate ways.

Para 36

We welcome the commitment to ensure every school is connected to the Internet by 2030. But, as children start having access to digital technologies at an ever younger age, also digital literacy education must start earlier, therefore in addition to every school also early childhood education institutions like pre-school and kindergarten need to be connected to the Internet worldwide.

Para 54 tre

Most important, we welcome the amendment of para 54 tre in regard of countering and addressing all forms of violence, esp. child sexual exploitation and abuse, although the wording could be more precise in order to ensure mitigation addresses these issues appropriately. In addition to the commitment to "establish and maintain robust risk mitigation and redress measures that also protect privacy and freedom of expression", we suggest to **oblige** industry to implement risk mitigation and redress mechanisms as a pre-cautionary measure and to react immediately once such practices are detected in their services.

Para 77

We appreciate the recognition of children being among the most active users of the Internet and online services. In this regard we recommend to amend para 77 with an obligation for industry – digital services and digital devices providers – to carry out child rights impact assessments on a regular basis and act responsibly on the outcomes of such processes.

Para 96

We welcome the mentioning of Dynamic Coalitions as one of the IGF's main intersessional activities of the IGF. In the regard we suggest to also commit to leverage the potential of the Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) through a better and permanent integration of the DCs' work into the WSIS process and IGF mainstream, building on DCs' substantive input to the IGF programme.