

STATEMENT BY GLOBAL DIGITAL JUSTICE FORUM AND IT FOR CHANGE ON REV 2, WSIS+2 OUTCOME DOCUMENT

The Global Digital Justice Forum and IT for Change wish to emphasize the following para-specific suggestions:

1. Internet governance

We urge that Rev 2 of Para 89 should be replaced by Para 104 of the Zero draft. This would ensure alignment with the agreed language in Paragraph 29 of the Tunis Agenda, which affirms that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent, and democratic, with the full involvement of stakeholders in their respective roles and responsibilities.

2. In relation to strengthening human rights:

- We urge that para 17 of the Rev 2, which recognizes digital public goods and digital public infrastructure as critical drivers of inclusive digital transformation and innovation, should also underscore the importance of transparency, safety, and security in the design of society-wide digital systems to promote public trust, along with safeguards to protect human rights. We also like to highlight the importance of 'do no harm' safeguards in the design and development of digital public goods.
- We note that para 52 of the Zero draft, which referred to the rapidly growing quantities of electronic waste and toxic waste, has been restored as para 44 in Rev 2. However, we are concerned that this has not been accompanied by restoration of the reference to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
- In the human rights and ethical dimensions of the Information Society section, the omission of Para 82 of the Zero Draft has resulted in a dilution of the language pertaining to the obligations of the States as duty bearers. It is crucial to restore this paragraph.
- We also urge the restoration of reference to 'safeguarding employment rights and welfare' in para 33 of Rev 2, as foundational labour guarantees should be safeguarded in the platform economy

3. In relation to digital inequality:

Rev 2 has not addressed our concern about the absence of an explicit commitment to address the governance deficit in the digital economy that has led to market concentration and monopolies. We urge the introduction of a new paragraph 83a, which recognizes digital sovereignty and the right to development as central to global AI governance.