



Statement delivered by: AHM Bazlur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, **Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)** at the Informal Interactive WSIS Stakeholder Consultation on the review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+20), organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, 14 November 2025,

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,

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.**

Your Excellencies,

The revision of the WSIS+20 Outcome Document demonstrates substantial progress in integrating diverse stakeholder perspectives and addressing concerns constructively raised during earlier rounds of consultation. We welcome this advancement and wish to extend our sincere appreciation and congratulations on the diligent efforts reflected in the preparation of Revision 01.

We are proud to be a part of **the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), the Global Digital Justice Forum, and the Global Digital Rights Coalition for WSIS.** We fully support their valuable insights on Revision 1, particularly in relation to human rights, and we will focus on building upon their contributions rather than reiterating their points.

We would like to recognise that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has played a key role in the World Summit on the Information Society process and the establishment of the WSIS Prizes.

The Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication has been an active and longstanding contributor to the WSIS process since 2000, through the preparatory phase. We are honoured that our program has been recognised through the WSIS Prize Winner and eight subsequent WSIS Champion awards, reflecting our continued commitment to advancing media development, digital inclusion, and information integrity in Bangladesh.

We believe it is important to acknowledge in Revision 1 that fragmentation could hinder the Internet's role as a key global resource for fostering inclusive and equitable digital transformation. Emphasising this point will help us work towards a more unified and accessible digital future for all.

Your Excellencies,

To enhance the effectiveness of our initiatives, we should focus more on the WSIS action lines outlined in this document and consider revising them to align with the WSIS+20 process. These action lines are vital to the WSIS implementation framework at the country level and have strong connections to the Sustainable Development Goals. By highlighting their significance, we can reinforce our strategy and improve our overall impact.

Strengthening the further localisation of WSIS and IGF implementation at the national level, ensuring that global commitments are translated into concrete and measurable national outcomes, and promoting meaningful engagement of the UN Resident Coordinator office, relevant UN entities, and all stakeholders within a strengthened multistakeholder framework.

Your Excellencies,

We are dedicated to promoting universal and affordable access to digital technologies, which will help create inclusive and resilient digital ecosystems. By embracing the multistakeholder model, we lay a solid foundation for effective Internet governance and the WSIS process.

Furthermore, we believe in fostering a human-centric and rights-based approach to digital transformation. This approach is crucial for fostering a just, equitable, and knowledge-driven society that benefits all.

It is vital to actively promote the principles of digital sovereignty, equity, and the right to development as we navigate the digital era. The WSIS+20 review presents an excellent opportunity to thoughtfully examine the unique circumstances faced by developing countries. By doing so, we can ensure that digital transformation fosters inclusive and people-centred development for everyone. **This endeavour should align with the national digital inclusion strategy, which reflects the WSIS Action Lines and specifically acknowledges the diverse groups we often discuss, such as women and girls, older persons, Indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees, and persons with disabilities.**

Together, we have the power to shape a more equitable digital future for all, guided by the principles of Digital Good Governance.

Your Excellencies, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your thoughtful consideration and kind attention, as well as the opportunity to speak today.

I thank you.

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