

WEBVTT

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00:00:20.850 --> 00:00:27.249

UN DESA DPIDG: Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening, colleagues. We will start the session shortly.

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00:01:42.930 --> 00:01:52.830

UN DESA DPIDG: We have close to 50 people now, let's just wait, 2 more minutes, and then we start just after 8 AM EST.

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00:03:10.950 --> 00:03:14.560

UN DESA DPIDG: Okay, I give the floor to the co-facilitators.

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00:03:17.490 --> 00:03:18.600

UN DESA DPIDG: We can start.

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00:03:18.780 --> 00:03:35.610

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Dennis. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to all colleagues and stakeholders joining us from across different time zones. Tony and I are pleased to welcome you to this virtual consultation as part of the WSIS Plus 20 review process, which once again brings together all stakeholders for shared and constructive dialogue.

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00:03:36.200 --> 00:03:41.100

Enian Lamce: Today's session follows the release of the first revision of the WSIS plus 20 outcome document.

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00:03:41.320 --> 00:03:54.290

Enian Lamce: This updated text reflects consideration of all inputs submitted to the zero draft, including written contributions, the open consultations and briefings, as well as the informal negotiations held over the past weeks.

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00:03:54.560 --> 00:04:01.179

Enian Lamce: We sincerely thank all delegations and stakeholders for the depth, clarity, and thoughtful substance of your submissions.

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00:04:01.670 --> 00:04:10.750

Enian Lamce: This consultation offers an important opportunity to present concrete textual proposals and express support for specific elements of the first revision.

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00:04:11.200 --> 00:04:17.850

Enian Lamce: Your perspectives will contribute to shaping the next stage of negotiations, and we look forward to engaging with your ideas.

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00:04:18.100 --> 00:04:25.380

Enian Lamce: With that, I'm pleased to invite my co-facilitator, Tony, to offer brief remarks before we open the floor. Tony, the floor is yours.

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00:04:26.100 --> 00:04:37.479

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, and Ian. I join in warmly welcoming all participants today, and in expressing our appreciation for your prompt engagement, particularly given the short period available to review the first revision.

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00:04:37.650 --> 00:04:50.680

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Similar to previous stakeholder consultations, this session provides an important opportunity for member states, civil society, the private sector, and technical community, and all other stakeholders to exchange perspectives.

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00:04:50.800 --> 00:04:55.570

Tony Oweke (Kenya): And surface concrete suggestions before the next round of informal consultations.

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00:04:55.940 --> 00:05:03.659

Tony Oweke (Kenya): This dialogue is essential to ensuring that the process remains inclusive, and that the next draft continues to reflect collective priorities.

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00:05:04.290 --> 00:05:13.469

Tony Oweke (Kenya): We kindly ask speakers to keep their interventions concise and to focus, wherever possible, on concrete text proposals or specific amendments to Revision 1.

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00:05:13.660 --> 00:05:19.200

Tony Oweke (Kenya): So that feedback can be incorporated as effectively as possible into the next draft.

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00:05:19.510 --> 00:05:23.369

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Which the co-facilitators aimed to circulate in early December.

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00:05:23.780 --> 00:05:31.170

Tony Oweke (Kenya): With these introductory remarks, I will now hand over to the Secretariat to outline The modalities for today's session.

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00:05:31.470 --> 00:05:32.640

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Dennis, please.

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00:05:33.970 --> 00:05:36.109

UN DESA DPIDG: Yeah, thank you, Tony.

22

00:05:37.380 --> 00:05:49.740

UN DESA DPIDG: So today, each speaker in the queue will have a maximum of 3 minutes for their intervention. Should any speaker be unable to complete their remarks within this time, they may, if necessary.

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00:05:50.010 --> 00:05:59.499

UN DESA DPIDG: share their inputs with the Secretariat at ungasisreview@un.org. We will put the email address again in the chat.

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00:05:59.900 --> 00:06:09.279

UN DESA DPIDG: We will be, promoting, participants to speaker role, as, as their, time, gets closer.

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00:06:09.740 --> 00:06:23.589

UN DESA DPIDG: And a timer will appear on screen to assess managing time. And if you're... finally, if your name is not on the speaker list and time permits, you may raise your hand to request the floor at the end of the session.

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00:06:23.980 --> 00:06:26.049

UN DESA DPIDG: So, over to you.

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00:06:26.340 --> 00:06:26.950

UN DESA DPIDG: Onion.

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00:06:26.950 --> 00:06:38.509

Enian Lamce: Thank you. Thank you very much, Denis, and thank you very much, Tony. And with that, I open the floor. We start with Syed Muntasir Mamun from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh. Please, sir, the floor is yours.

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00:06:39.470 --> 00:06:53.129

Syed Muntasir Mamun: Thank you very much, Chair and co-facilitators. It's fascinating to be here, and particularly I see the number of participants who are there. It really creates a sense of hope, admiration, and also great expectations.

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00:06:53.220 --> 00:07:09.230

Syed Muntasir Mamun: See, we work with something known as the TMO framework, the Oxford Advantage Framework, so I'll be... I'll cut my words to the very specific points possible. So we work with connecting tech, markets, and organizations. The way that we see to the WSIS process.

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00:07:09.230 --> 00:07:14.540

Syed Muntasir Mamun: Particularly for the last many decades, two decades. More than two decades, in fact, starting with the preliminary

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00:07:14.540 --> 00:07:22.740

Syed Muntasir Mamun: efforts. We have come to a stage when we need to have a thorough introspection about where we had been, where we are, and where we are going.

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00:07:22.940 --> 00:07:37.479

Syed Muntasir Mamun: So, I'll not burden the August congregation with very specific sets of text suggestions, but I'll refer to the very specific sets of paragraphs, which will probably be important for our discussions forward.

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00:07:37.480 --> 00:07:50.569

Syed Muntasir Mamun: First of all, I must congratulate the Secretariat and also the co-facilitators for bringing up the Revision 1. However, there has been some omissions and some inclusions, both of which are important for us.

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00:07:50.760 --> 00:07:51.890

Syed Muntasir Mamun: First of all.

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00:07:51.990 --> 00:08:11.959

Syed Muntasir Mamun: the, the design one, how we design WSIS ahead in the situation ahead in the years ahead. Paragraph 4, 6, and 8 requires a little bit of introspection, probably. Would... would like to reinstate some of the earlier, texts which... which we had dropped, probably, from the zero draft.

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00:08:11.960 --> 00:08:31.429

Syed Muntasir Mamun: And like to see how we can grow and proceed forward. We'll give you the specific set of recommendations from our end, but that's for later. Second,

particularly for the financial packages, we'd like to see more commitment than best endeavor clauses. We'd like to see that if we commit to a future where we can co-create.

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00:08:31.520 --> 00:08:32.330

Syed Muntasir Mamun: See.

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00:08:32.510 --> 00:08:49.950

Syed Muntasir Mamun: I am a firm believer in artificial intelligence. I'm not an AI doomsayer, nor is my country, nor is my government. We believe that the developing world, where the BOP markets are, base of pyramid markets are, contributes 80% of world's population, 80% of world's population, 80% of world's markets live there.

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00:08:50.570 --> 00:09:08.209

Syed Muntasir Mamun: they have a reasonable role to play in this whole domain, in the whole era of artificial intelligence. It's not a recipient area, it's not a recipient zone. It is an area where we can have productive contribution from individuals, but that individual productivity, that individual

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00:09:08.240 --> 00:09:23.010

Syed Muntasir Mamun: Creativity needs to be supported, not only with finance, not only with hard cash, but also with financial structures, so that these entrepreneurial and innovative activities, innovative spirit can be supported with structures.

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00:09:23.260 --> 00:09:26.829

Syed Muntasir Mamun: So I'd like to, see that paragraph 64.

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00:09:27.000 --> 00:09:31.769

Syed Muntasir Mamun: Paragraph 52, paragraph 32, and paragraph 25 are strengthened.

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00:09:31.910 --> 00:09:51.790

Syed Muntasir Mamun: And we'd like to see that artificial intelligence governance, particularly paragraph 81, 82, 83, and 95 IGF, are restructured to represent the entrepreneurial speed of the human beings. So that's our short presentation from our end. We'll provide the Secretariat with a written submission very soon. Thank you.

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00:09:53.270 --> 00:09:58.640

Enian Lamce: Thank you very much, Mr. Mamun, and I'll give the floor to Ms. Fiona Alexander from the American University.

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00:10:05.550 --> 00:10:17.470

Fiona Alexander: Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide comments in today's session. I would like to once again thank the co-facilitators and UNDESA for going to great lengths to engage all stakeholders and provide a platform for engagement.

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00:10:17.660 --> 00:10:29.670

Fiona Alexander: An analysis of Rev 1 reveals that you have truly listened to stakeholder feedback and incorporated many of the suggestions offered. In terms of Rev1, I'd like to offer the following three specific observations.

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00:10:29.830 --> 00:10:45.530

Fiona Alexander: On internet governance, the text provided continues to offer a solid basis for moving the issue set forward. I was pleased to see the decision to make the IGF permanent was retained, and that the larger IGF ecosystem is specifically mentioned in terms of the IGF's 20-year evolution.

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00:10:45.680 --> 00:10:55.700

Fiona Alexander: The clear acknowledgement of the IGF as a forum for internet governance and emerging issues is also a welcome development in terms of recognizing the breadth of the existing IGF agenda.

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00:10:55.970 --> 00:11:10.550

Fiona Alexander: Appropriately resourcing the IGF is a real challenge, and I would strongly recommend that if the Secretary General is going to make this issue and come back with proposals, those proposals should be done in a manner that meaningfully involves stakeholders, including existing donors.

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00:11:11.080 --> 00:11:22.960

Fiona Alexander: On enhanced cooperation, the zero draft seems to rely on the text from the original WSIS, but it's important to acknowledge that there's been progress in achieving enhanced cooperation over the last two decades.

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00:11:23.210 --> 00:11:39.130

Fiona Alexander: In addition to the INA stewardship transition, which addressed one of the primary issues on the table at the time, since 2005, we have seen improvements in cooperation among government and among stakeholders. There is enhanced cooperation both inside and outside the WSIS process.

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00:11:39.240 --> 00:11:53.770

Fiona Alexander: If there is to be more work on enhanced cooperation, clarity is needed on the scope of those discussions, including, is it specific to the issues of internet governance, or is it about something else? And I say this because the text continues to remain inside the internet governance chapter.

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00:11:54.150 --> 00:12:09.479

Fiona Alexander: And finally, on follow-up and implementation, the WSIS plus 20 review offers yet another opportunity to provide linkages between the SDGs, GDCs, and anchor them clearly in the pre-existing WSIS framework. I was pleased to see in Rev1 that that began to be addressed.

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00:12:09.690 --> 00:12:19.830

Fiona Alexander: Not only does this avoid duplication, a critical consideration in our current era of limited resources, it also allows us to take advantage of existing expert technical agencies.

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00:12:19.920 --> 00:12:37.420

Fiona Alexander: With that in mind, I'm concerned about the proposal to have the Secretary General, in a top-down manner, make adjustments to UNGIS. This looks like yet another attempt to centralize digital coordination in an office in New York, something that was rejected as part of the GDC negotiations. A better approach

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00:12:37.690 --> 00:12:50.969

Fiona Alexander: could be to ask Ungus members themselves to propose adjustments and process improvements, including how that group might develop some meaningful stakeholder engagement. Thank you again for the opportunity to share my views, and I look forward to further discussions.

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00:12:52.190 --> 00:12:53.870

Enian Lamce: Thank you very much, Fiona.

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00:12:54.440 --> 00:13:01.260

Enian Lamce: I now invite Ms. Marina Mira from Global Digital Justice Forum to take the floor. Floor is yours.

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00:13:02.560 --> 00:13:14.830

Marina Meira: Thank you, Chair. So, I speak on behalf of the Global Digital Justice Forum, which is an advocacy network that represents civil society stakeholders from the Global South, envisioning a democratic digital society.

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00:13:15.010 --> 00:13:28.680

Marina Meira: We must express our strong concern that Revision 1 represents a regression from the zero draft in critical areas related to human rights, equity, and global digital justice. Several paragraphs that previously anchored with this

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00:13:28.790 --> 00:13:45.309

Marina Meira: firmly in international human rights law have been weakened or removed, and the overall tone remains uncritically techno-optimistic, failing to acknowledge the structural imbalances that define the digital landscape and geopolitics, particularly for Global South countries.

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00:13:45.530 --> 00:13:55.430

Marina Meira: Several essential protections must be restored from the zero draft and further strengthened, in line with previous submissions presented by our coalition in the following areas.

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00:13:55.710 --> 00:14:07.240

Marina Meira: The deletion of paragraph 82 that highlights the obligation of states as duty bearers in promoting a digital technology environment that is in accordance with human... with international law is concerning.

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00:14:07.340 --> 00:14:24.289

Marina Meira: The deletion of crucial language from former paragraphs 89 and 90, including safeguards against mass surveillance and commitments to ensure that targeted surveillance complies with legality, necessity, and proportionality, is an erosion of internationally agreed safeguards.

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00:14:24.290 --> 00:14:33.580

Marina Meira: The deletion of paragraph 64, which addressed online violence, hate speech, disinformation, and child protection, is also a major setback.

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00:14:33.580 --> 00:14:45.359

Marina Meira: Restoring and strengthening this paragraph with explicit mentions to risk assessment, public accountability mechanisms, and a platform duty of care throughout the technology lifecycle is vital.

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00:14:45.700 --> 00:14:58.349

Marina Meira: Former paragraph 97, which acknowledged systemic risks, including labor impacts, environmental burdens, and threatens to human rights in AI adoption, must be restored and be strengthened.

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00:14:58.650 --> 00:15:08.030

Marina Meira: The omission of paragraph 52 on the zero draft that calls for compliance with the Basel Convention in e-waste management is also worrisome.

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00:15:08.300 --> 00:15:19.470

Marina Meira: As Global South Civil Society, we insist that AI governance reflects the full life cycle of technology, data extraction, model training, deployment, and impact.

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00:15:19.520 --> 00:15:31.130

Marina Meira: We are worried that civil society demands on the need to emphasize a precautionary approach across the entire life cycle of digital technologies, particularly AI, have not been taken on board.

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00:15:31.410 --> 00:15:38.300

Marina Meira: Communities in our regions are disproportionately affected by extractive data practices and precautionary data labor.

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00:15:38.610 --> 00:15:41.939

Marina Meira: Yet these realities are absent in Review 1.

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00:15:42.210 --> 00:16:00.559

Marina Meira: So finally, Revision 1 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 and the public financing deficits in relation to digital infrastructure development in the South.

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00:16:00.780 --> 00:16:13.510

Marina Meira: We will send written contributions with text suggestions further detailing our concerns. But in conclusion, we urge Member States to ensure that the Wizzes Plus 20 outcome does not move us backwards. Thank you.

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00:16:16.100 --> 00:16:22.689

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Mira. I now invite Misty Maya Suto from the International Chamber of Commerce. Floor is yours.

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00:16:23.580 --> 00:16:38.720

Timea Suto: Thank you very much. I'm pleased to speak on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce, the institutional representative of over 45 million companies in more than 170 countries, and share some of our first impressions on the first draft of the OASIS Plus 20 outcome document.

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00:16:38.970 --> 00:16:51.769

Timea Suto: Let me begin first by thanking you for your continued commitment to engage the multi-stakeholder community and your work on this first draft. At the outset, we want to acknowledge that the draft places the right elements at the core of this review.

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00:16:51.950 --> 00:17:08.379

Timea Suto: Closing digital device, fostering partnerships and meaningful collaborative action, including on financing, reaffirming human rights, ensuring alignment with other UN processes, and fully leveraging the WSIS architecture, especially its multi-stakeholder foundations in their implementation.

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00:17:08.560 --> 00:17:21.620

Timea Suto: These pillars remain essential to carrying the WSIS vision forward. Allow me now to focus on three teams that are particularly important from a business perspective. Connectivity, enabling environments, and the multi-stakeholder model.

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00:17:21.829 --> 00:17:38.110

Timea Suto: First, connectivity. Rev1 makes welcome progress in clarifying that universal and meaningful connectivity is not only about access, but also about usage, skills, affordability, relevance, and the ability of individuals and businesses to fully benefit from digital technologies.

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00:17:38.450 --> 00:17:48.090

Timea Suto: We also appreciate the strength and recognition that bridging digital divides requires addressing financial constraints and creating incentives that mobilize sustainable investment.

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00:17:48.240 --> 00:17:57.900

Timea Suto: As this language evolves, it will be important to ensure that financing approaches support the long-term resilient investment needed for future-ready digital ecosystems.

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00:17:58.330 --> 00:18:10.970

Timea Suto: Second, are enabling environments. We welcome the reinforced emphasis on the importance of regulatory and policy environments that attract investment and foster innovation. This is foundational to achieving the WIS's outcomes.

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00:18:10.970 --> 00:18:25.989

Timea Suto: As discussions on future financing models continue, we encourage consideration of approaches that draw on existing expertise, convene a wide range of stakeholders, and take place within forums capable of addressing the interconnected dimensions of digital development.

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00:18:25.990 --> 00:18:33.319

Timea Suto: From infrastructure to governance to emerging technologies. Such a setting would enable financing needs to be examined holistically.

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00:18:33.450 --> 00:18:36.640

Timea Suto: With contributions grounded in real-world experience.

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00:18:36.900 --> 00:18:55.529

Timea Suto: Third and lastly, the multi-stakeholder model. We are encouraged that REV1 strongly reaffirms multi-stakeholder cooperation as central to ISIS. The inclusion of the Netman DL plus 10 guidelines, the recognition of the IGF's evolution, including its intercessional activities, and its growing engagement with emerging technologies.

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00:18:55.530 --> 00:19:01.580

Timea Suto: And the proposed decision to establish the IGF as a permanent UN structure are all very meaningful steps.

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00:19:01.810 --> 00:19:20.929

Timea Suto: Importantly, the IGF continues to demonstrate that it is the place where meaningful conversation can take place on the central questions raised in this review, conversations grounded in evidence, expertise, and the diverse perspective of all stakeholders. It is uniquely positioned to support coherent implementation across the UN digital ecosystem.

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00:19:20.980 --> 00:19:29.099

Timea Suto: Precisely because it brings together the full range of actors capable of addressing complex issues in an open, informed, and collaborative manner.

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00:19:29.300 --> 00:19:45.760

Timea Suto: In closing, Rev1 reflects substantive progress. With further refinement, particularly to reinforce investment-friendly conditions and to ensure cooperation remains inclusive and evidence-based, the outcome document can provide a clearer and more actionable framework for the next phase of WISS.

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00:19:45.830 --> 00:19:56.209

Timea Suto: The global business community stands ready to contribute constructively and, to this endeavor, and we will provide specific comments and proposed language in the text for, in written form.

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00:19:56.610 --> 00:19:57.809

Timea Suto: Thank you very much.

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00:19:59.050 --> 00:20:06.559

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Suto, and now I invite Ms. Henriette Tester Hewson from Association for Progressive Communications. The floor is yours.

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00:20:07.210 --> 00:20:30.490

APC - Veronica Ferrari: Thank you. I speak on behalf of the Association for Progressive Communications, APC, a global network working for digital justice. We are part of the Global Digital Justice Forum and the Global Digital Rights Coalition for WSIS, and we support their remarks, particularly concerning human rights. We thank Condessa and the co-facilitators and their teams for their hard work on what we see as a strong draft outcome document.

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00:20:30.620 --> 00:20:32.599

APC - Veronica Ferrari: We particularly value.

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00:20:32.720 --> 00:20:44.190

APC - Veronica Ferrari: The prioritization of digital inequality, though we caution that paragraph 19's use of grant average, in progress in access, risks hiding the true extent of exclusion.

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00:20:44.190 --> 00:21:06.890

APC - Veronica Ferrari: And this is even more concerning, given that we feel that draft one weakens reference in the pseudrafts to states' existing obligation under international human rights law. In particular, we are concerned about the lack of reference to the risk posed by human rights, to human rights by digitalization. So, and we believe it's key to strengthen texts on the contributability of corporations for respecting human rights.

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00:21:07.000 --> 00:21:20.969

APC - Veronica Ferrari: We also value the invitation to the UN Secretary General to consider establishing a multi-stakeholder task force on financial mechanisms. However, we would prefer this to be a call to actually establish such a group, not just to consider doing so.

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00:21:21.310 --> 00:21:23.829

APC - Veronica Ferrari: and the extension of the IGF mandate.

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00:21:23.940 --> 00:21:34.849

APC - Veronica Ferrari: And we value the reaffirmation of the multi-stakeholder model as central to WSIS, the recognition of the Net Mundial Plus 10 guidelines, and the emphasis on the links between WSIS and the GDC

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00:21:35.010 --> 00:21:37.469

APC - Veronica Ferrari: on the GDC. However, we would like to see

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00:21:37.520 --> 00:21:44.620

APC - Veronica Ferrari: More on how the existing WSIS architecture can be integrated with and support GDC follow-up and implementation.

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00:21:44.620 --> 00:21:57.540

APC - Veronica Ferrari: We propose the following be strengthened in the text. One, greater emphasis on the WSI's action lines, and revisiting them as needed. They are the core of WISI's implementation framework. Two, a culture strengthened community networks.

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00:21:57.540 --> 00:22:14.219

APC - Veronica Ferrari: as a means to achieve affordable broadband connectivity. They are mentioned in paragraphs 26 and 61, and we are pleased to see this, as we know from our own experience, that they help diversify and grow access markets as first and last mile level, but they need more support.

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00:22:14.220 --> 00:22:24.220

APC - Veronica Ferrari: We also encourage to have stronger commitments to integrate gender equality throughout all aspects and stages of policy formulation and implementation.

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00:22:24.220 --> 00:22:40.019

APC - Veronica Ferrari: Finally, a call for environmental risk assessments and global reporting standards for companies. Sustainable people-centered development would not be achieved if digitalization keeps accelerating the damage to our planet and its natural resources. Thank you very much for your attention.

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00:22:40.810 --> 00:22:50.910

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Esther Hearsen. I now invite Ms. Rosalia Morales from NIC Costa Rica on behalf of Technical Community Coalition for multi-stakeholder reason. Floor is yours.

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00:22:51.550 --> 00:23:01.679

Rosalía Morales: Thank you. Good morning. My name is Rosalia Morales. I'm speaking today on behalf of the Technical Community Coalition for Multi-Stakeholderism, TCCM.

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00:23:01.680 --> 00:23:12.889

Rosalía Morales: TCCM is made up of members of the internet's technical community, the companies, organizations, and groups that operate the critical infrastructure and services at the heart of the internet.

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00:23:12.890 --> 00:23:18.500

Rosalía Morales: Our members come from all regions of the world to ensure a global technical community perspective.

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00:23:18.500 --> 00:23:33.280

Rosalía Morales: TCCN considers that Revision 1 is a practical and constructive document that balances a range of different interests, and that the drafting process is in a promising trajectory. However, we wish to highlight a number of specific points as follows.

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00:23:33.280 --> 00:23:41.419

Rosalía Morales: First, we commend the inclusion of the reference of Net Mundial Plus 10 Guideline for multi-stakeholder collaboration and consensus Building.

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00:23:41.420 --> 00:23:54.039

Rosalía Morales: Secondly, we support the language in Revision 1 that will make the Internet Governance Forum permanent, the call to strengthen the IGF Secretariat, and the invitation to begin work on future funding for the IGF.

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00:23:54.040 --> 00:24:09.620

Rosalía Morales: We consider that any future funding must be stable and diverse, and it is to support the permanent IGF, and call for Revision 1 to specify the Secretary General should undertake the future funding work in meaningful consultation with all stakeholders.

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00:24:09.960 --> 00:24:26.620

Rosalía Morales: Thirdly, we strongly support the provisions in Revision 1 that commit to better cooperation and coordination in the internet governance ecosystem. We consider that the IGF is the ideal focal point for cooperation and coordination, and as the primary multi-stakeholder

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00:24:26.620 --> 00:24:42.390

Rosalía Morales: platform for discussion of internet governance issues. We call for Revision 1 to be clear in recognizing and enhancing supporting the IGF's role in setting the agenda and fostering coherence across the internet governance ecosystem.

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00:24:42.440 --> 00:24:54.350

Rosalía Morales: Finally, we strongly support the recognition in Revision 1 that fragmentation would undermine the internet as critical global facility for inclusive and equitable digital transformation.

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00:24:54.350 --> 00:25:09.870

Rosalía Morales: We call for continued commitment in Revision 1 to recognizing that the internet must remain open, global, interoperable, and it is to remain the global facility that benefits us all, and ask for this not to be diluted further.

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00:25:09.960 --> 00:25:19.479

Rosalía Morales: Our full statement on Revision 1 will be sent to the Secretariat in writing, and will be available at tccn.global. Thank you for this opportunity.

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00:25:20.350 --> 00:25:28.390

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Morales. I now invite Ms. Gitanjali Sa from International Communication Union. Geetanjali, the floor is yours.

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00:25:36.380 --> 00:25:37.330

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Can you hear me?

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00:25:39.110 --> 00:25:41.430

Enian Lamce: Yes. Yes, we can hear you.

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00:25:41.430 --> 00:25:58.299

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Thank you, Enyin. Good afternoon to you and Tony. ITU thanks the co-facilitators for their steady stewardship for this important Business Plus 20 process. Thank you for the opportunity to present our observations with the hope that they will be included in the next iteration.

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00:25:58.340 --> 00:26:13.200

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): In the preamble, we would like to recall that ITU member states resolved at its Plenty Potentially conference in Minneapolis in 1998, Resolution 73, to hold a WSIS and to place it on the agenda of the United Nations.

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00:26:13.420 --> 00:26:37.979

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): As the United Nations Specialized Agency for Digital Technologies, over the past 20 years, ITU has been at the forefront of global digital cooperation with the UN and all stakeholders, enabling partnerships, strengthening capabilities, capacities, and fostering digital transformation in alignment with the WSIS outcomes and the 2030 Agenda, and now, of course, integrating the GDC.

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00:26:38.400 --> 00:26:48.830

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): ITU remains committed to its responsibilities as the WSIS Action Line Facilitator for several WSIS action lines, and so do the other UN agencies involved.

129

00:26:48.990 --> 00:26:59.199

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): We wish to acknowledge the contribution of all facilitators across all UN entities, too, in a sustaining and dynamic, inclusive WSIS ecosystem.

130

00:26:59.300 --> 00:27:14.509

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): We would like to invite you to use, as much as possible, the agreed language from ECOSOC Resolution 20... E slash RES slash 25 slash 18, particularly its recognition of the importance of integrating

131

00:27:14.510 --> 00:27:24.540

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): the implementation of the Global Digital Compact commitments into the WSIS architecture to avoid duplication and ensure coherence in digital cooperation.

132

00:27:24.580 --> 00:27:34.160

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): On para 119 on UNGIS, we underline its current effective functioning as an autonomous interagency mechanism.

133

00:27:34.160 --> 00:27:48.780

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Built on mutual respect and trust amongst the UN agency, with ITU serving as its permanent secretariat, we have served as such since its inception, and have a dedicated WSIS team in place backed by ITU resolutions.

134

00:27:49.480 --> 00:28:07.449

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Para IT5, we also would like you to acknowledge that the global... the dialogue on AI governance will take place in the margins of existing relevant United Nations conference and meetings, and in 2026, such as the ITU AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva.

135

00:28:08.310 --> 00:28:18.250

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Highlighting the key role played by the interagency working group on AI and interagency coordination, on AI across

136

00:28:18.250 --> 00:28:30.520

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): 50 UN entities, and that it stands ready to support the implementation of AI proposals, AI research, capacity building, leveraging existing capacities and resources.

137

00:28:30.550 --> 00:28:45.910

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): On para 107 on GDC, specifically, it is the Working Group on Digital Technologies, co-chaired by ITO and ODET, with vice chairs relevant to all objectives, that has been coordinating the implementation of GDC action points.

138

00:28:45.980 --> 00:28:57.660

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): And the para is not consistent with the Global Digital Compact. Largely, lastly, very editorial, we note instances where WSIS is replaced by World Summit.

139

00:28:57.660 --> 00:29:11.670

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): which may introduce some inconsistencies. For example, paragraphs para 3, 6, etc. We see it all across the document, so if World Summit could be replaced by WISS, it would be more coherent.

140

00:29:11.800 --> 00:29:24.749

Gitanjali Sah (ITU): Co-facilitators, ITU remains committed to supporting an ambitious, coherent, and future-ready versus plus 20 document, and we continue to support you in doing so. Thank you very much, Anyin. Back to you.

141

00:29:25.440 --> 00:29:34.670

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Gideon Jali. I now invite Mr. Stefan Weiber from International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions to take the floor. Floor is yours.

142

00:29:35.530 --> 00:29:48.720

Stephen Wyber: Thank you, co-facilitators, for the floor. IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations Institutions, has for almost 100 years now acted as a space for libraries globally to explore how best to meet the needs of communities.

143

00:29:48.720 --> 00:29:56.220

Stephen Wyber: And to ensure that their potential is recognised and mobilized to achieve wider policy goals, not least a people-centered internet.

144

00:29:56.470 --> 00:30:14.070

Stephen Wyber: We thank the co-facilitators for the revised draft. We are particularly happy to see the reference to the role of schools, post offices and libraries in paragraph 26, and encourage all present to consult the recent UNESCO IFAP brief on empowering libraries for an inclusive digital future.

145

00:30:14.670 --> 00:30:18.809

Stephen Wyber: We nonetheless see further ways in which we can improve on the good work already done.

146

00:30:19.090 --> 00:30:37.320

Stephen Wyber: A notable area for improvement would be to recognise the need for the development of local strategies working hand-in-hand with local governments. This could build on the references already included in paragraph 56 concerning the empowerment of local communities. References could also feature in paragraph 25.

147

00:30:37.610 --> 00:30:53.490

Stephen Wyber: In reference to paragraph 45, we would hope that the next draft will look to ensure consistency with the Global Digital Compact and the Pact for the Future alike, and highlight the potential of open science as a way of realizing the potential of the internet to advance progress.

148

00:30:53.620 --> 00:31:02.130

Stephen Wyber: The declaration could usefully refer to the outcome document from the recent UN Open Science Conference organized by the UN Dag Hammerschold Library.

149

00:31:02.640 --> 00:31:17.720

Stephen Wyber: Paragraph 17, in its reference to digital public goods and infrastructures, should recognize that these also include not just content, but also public interest and community-owned infrastructures, such as Wikimedia and the collections and repositories run by libraries.

150

00:31:17.750 --> 00:31:28.149

Stephen Wyber: In this context, we also recommend that paragraph 38 does not limit itself to access to heritage, but reverts to the text around access to knowledge and information more broadly.

151

00:31:28.640 --> 00:31:29.500

Stephen Wyber: Next.

152

00:31:29.630 --> 00:31:46.160

Stephen Wyber: References to regulation in paragraph 13 and elsewhere should highlight that decision-making should take care to take account of the specific needs of non-profit and other public bodies. Too often, we see internet regulation treat all actors as if they were multi-billion dollar companies.

153

00:31:46.330 --> 00:31:58.640

Stephen Wyber: Finally, we thank the co-facilitators for inclusion of language around the IDF, and in particular about the contribution of dynamic coalitions. We will submit more detailed suggestions in writing. Thank you very much.

154

00:31:59.740 --> 00:32:05.960

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Mr. Weber. I now invite Ms. Adhanas Sanjay from IT4Change to take the floor.

155

00:32:08.870 --> 00:32:19.649

Sadhana Sanjay: Thank you, Chair, and thank you, co-facilitators. My name is Sadhana Sanjay, and I speak today on behalf of IT for Change. In my intervention, I wish to emphasize four points.

156

00:32:19.990 --> 00:32:36.700

Sadhana Sanjay: First, we underscore that fiscal justice in the digital economy must be treated as a core policy priority. Digital taxation regimes are essential sources of revenue for developing countries to invest in infrastructure, public services, and human development.

157

00:32:36.700 --> 00:32:45.440

Sadhana Sanjay: On this note, we welcome the recognition for the need to invest in financing mechanisms and incentives for closing the digital divides in Para 21.

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00:32:45.590 --> 00:32:53.840

Sadhana Sanjay: However, it is important to also include an explicit reference to public financing mechanisms, which FARA 21 currently lacks.

159

00:32:54.290 --> 00:33:16.769

Sadhana Sanjay: Second, we expressed deep concern regarding the omission of language on end-user capacity and digital literacy, which had found a place in Para 31 of the Xero Draft. Digital, media, and information literacy are not optional add-ons. They are fundamental to an empowered digital society and essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

160

00:33:16.770 --> 00:33:26.599

Sadhana Sanjay: Capacity development, participation, and inclusion must remain visible priorities, and we therefore call for this language to be restored in Revision 1.

161

00:33:27.000 --> 00:33:27.880

Sadhana Sanjay: Third.

162

00:33:27.880 --> 00:33:52.779

Sadhana Sanjay: Paragraph 68 of the Zero Draft, which speaks to the importance of human rights in the technology lifecycle and adherence to the UN guiding principles, remains unchanged in Revision 1. We reiterate our commitment... our comments on the Zero Draft, and emphasize the need for stronger language on human rights obligations to be incorporated in this document. The private sector must mandatorily comply

163

00:33:52.780 --> 00:34:00.490

Sadhana Sanjay: With human rights and environmental due diligence obligations, without dilution, exception, or selective application.

164

00:34:00.490 --> 00:34:19.310

Sadhana Sanjay: We therefore highlight the urgency of addressing the role of powerful digital corporations, especially those that have transnational power, whose actions may contribute to or enable grave human rights violations, including participation in economies that sustain atrocity crimes such as genocide.

165

00:34:19.449 --> 00:34:44.340

Sadhana Sanjay: Last, we note with concern the omission of para 52 of the zero draft, which referred to the rapidly growing quantities of electronic and toxic waste, a burden which is disproportionately shouldered by developing countries. This poses serious risks to human health and safety, and also has adverse effects on ecological well-being. We urgently call for this language to be reinstated in this document.

166

00:34:44.340 --> 00:35:01.479

Sadhana Sanjay: With stronger commitments for public consultations, environmental impact assessments, and free prior and informed consent from local and Indigenous communities for any disruptive digital activity, such as the building of data centers. Thank you for your attention and for the opportunity to speak today.

167

00:35:02.570 --> 00:35:10.090

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Anjay. I now invite Mr. Derek Munene from World Health Organization to take the floor. Floor is yours.

168

00:35:24.470 --> 00:35:26.440

Enian Lamce: Do we have Derek here?

169

00:35:32.980 --> 00:35:34.919

UN DESA DPIDG: Annie and Vika, I'll move to the next speaker.

170

00:35:34.920 --> 00:35:42.729

Enian Lamce: Okay, great. I now invite Ms. Josie Chen from Asia Pacific Network Information Center to take the floor. Floor is yours.

171

00:35:43.830 --> 00:35:56.850

Joyce Chen (APNIC): Distinguished Excellencies, colleagues, and represents Asia Pacific Network Information Center to thank the UNCO facilitators for the opportunity to provide views on Revision 1 of the WISIS Plus 20 outcome document.

172

00:35:56.910 --> 00:36:06.750

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We also thank the pen holders for their excellent work in consolidating all the comments received and refining the input further from the zero draft to Revision 1.

173

00:36:07.100 --> 00:36:25.450

Joyce Chen (APNIC): In the next revision of the outcome document, we would like to see the informal multi-stakeholder sounding board, IMSB, recognized for their efforts to provide guidance and advice during the review process, and ensure multi-stakeholder input is heard from all regions, in particular the Asia-Pacific region.

174

00:36:25.450 --> 00:36:31.299

Joyce Chen (APNIC): Thank you to the IMSB members who have spent countless days and nights doing this work voluntarily.

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00:36:31.530 --> 00:36:36.260

Joyce Chen (APNIC): Focusing on the internet governance section of Revision 1, we would like to highlight the following.

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00:36:36.260 --> 00:36:53.510

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We agree and support recognition of all actors in paragraph 87, governments, the private sector, civil society, technical and academic communities, international organizations, and all other relevant stakeholders to maintain and uphold the global and multi-stakeholder nature of internet governance.

177

00:36:54.250 --> 00:37:05.960

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We are committed to enabling greater participation and engagement of all stakeholders, particularly those from developing and least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states.

178

00:37:06.040 --> 00:37:22.180

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We must protect the open, interoperable nature of the internet, because only when it is global, interoperable, stable, and secure can it fully benefit all. To this end, Revision 1 rightly affirms the need to promote international cooperation among all stakeholders.

179

00:37:22.480 --> 00:37:31.850

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We commend the inclusion of the Net Mondial Plus 10 guidelines in paragraph 93. It is an excellent resource for multi-stakeholder collaboration and consensus building.

180

00:37:32.040 --> 00:37:49.379

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We welcome the continued language that supports permanency of the IGF, recognition of the NRI's and intercessional work, and the need to strengthen the Secretariat. In this regard, the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group, MAG, should also be recognized for their work to shape and evolve the IGF throughout the years.

181

00:37:49.590 --> 00:38:01.819

Joyce Chen (APNIC): On the future funding for the IGF, we encourage the UN Secretary General to consider mechanisms that enable the full participation of the multi-stakeholder internet community to support the foreign sustainability.

182

00:38:02.100 --> 00:38:08.440

Joyce Chen (APNIC): We look forward to Revision 2, and wish you the very best in the upcoming informal negotiations. Thank you.

183

00:38:09.150 --> 00:38:16.839

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Chen. I now invite... invite Mr. Gabriel del Sol from Computer and Communications Industry Association.

184

00:38:17.330 --> 00:38:18.490

Enian Lamce: So is yours.

185

00:38:21.840 --> 00:38:31.850

UN DESA DPIDG: Hi, Annie, and, Mr. Gabriel is not here, so we'll move on to the next speaker, which will be, Rinalani Dayal.

186

00:38:32.550 --> 00:38:38.149

Enian Lamce: Oh, thank you, thank you very much. So, I now invite Mayor Nani Doyal from Equality now to take the floor.

187

00:38:45.950 --> 00:39:03.929

Mrinalini Dayal: Good morning, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. My name is Bernal Nidayal, and I'm the Global Coordinator for the Alliance for Universal Digital Rights, a network of CSOs advocating for digital rights focused on gender equality. And as part of the Gender and Digital Coalition, we recently submitted inputs to both the Zero Draft and the Elements paper.

188

00:39:06.000 --> 00:39:21.360

Mrinalini Dayal: We applaud and support the new revision's commitments to support gender equality in paragraph 11 and 110. However, we note that most of our suggestions and recommendations from the zero draft have not been incorporated, and many mentions of gender from the zero draft have been omitted in this new version.

189

00:39:21.360 --> 00:39:36.799

Mrinalini Dayal: Our concerns that gender is still not fully mainstreamed across the document remain, and gender references remain inconsistent and weakly defined, often treated as an afterthought instead of structured part of the framework. Our specific recommendations are, in paragraph 13, adding in.

190

00:39:36.850 --> 00:39:51.490

Mrinalini Dayal: Including the promotion of gender equality, the protection of women, girls, and other marginalized groups from TFGBV harm, and the use of mandatory gender impact assessments and the accountability of the private sector for discriminatory or harmful practices.

191

00:39:51.880 --> 00:39:58.090

Mrinalini Dayal: In paragraph 21, we suggest adding, bridging the gender digital divide includes ensuring

192

00:39:58.170 --> 00:40:15.130

Mrinalini Dayal: universal and meaningful access to, and the use of internet development of digital skills, and the use of digital tools, participation in STEM, as well as leadership in public decision-making spaces. Closing these digital divides sustainably requires public financing and accountability mechanisms.

193

00:40:15.130 --> 00:40:18.609

Mrinalini Dayal: To ensure resources reach those who are the most affected.

194

00:40:18.970 --> 00:40:29.020

Mrinalini Dayal: In the previous version, in the zero draft, in paragraph 64, mentioned sexual and gender-based violence online, along with other harms, and this has been removed.

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00:40:29.020 --> 00:40:40.179

Mrinalini Dayal: We ask for this paragraph to be returned, and for language to be added around recognizing the differentiated impacts and risks of ICT threats faced by persons in vulnerable situations.

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00:40:40.230 --> 00:40:48.449

Mrinalini Dayal: Establishing and maintaining not just robust, but proportionate survivor-centered access to justice and psychosocial support.

197

00:40:48.920 --> 00:40:59.379

Mrinalini Dayal: And addressing combining different legal and policy protective approaches informed by intersectional understanding of context at the local, national, regional, and international levels.

198

00:41:00.230 --> 00:41:08.439

Mrinalini Dayal: This Revision 1 also fails to explicitly acknowledge that AI systems are not neutral and often reproduce structural gender inequalities.

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00:41:08.440 --> 00:41:24.089

Mrinalini Dayal: Women represent a small portion of the AI industry, and at the same time, algorithmic systems have been shown to perpetuate and amplify existing biases and disproportionately expose women, girls, and gender-diverse people to online harms, such as tech-facilitated gender-based violence.

200

00:41:24.090 --> 00:41:25.899

Mrinalini Dayal: So we request the...

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00:41:25.980 --> 00:41:41.110

Mrinalini Dayal: the paragraph around AI to be added in, and the addition of language around affirming that gender equality must be embedded as a core principle of artificial intelligence governance. This requires promoting participatory approaches and algorithmic design.

202

00:41:41.110 --> 00:41:55.089

Mrinalini Dayal: ensuring gender-disaggregated and inclusive data practices, and addressing data gaps and biases that particularly affect women and other vulnerable groups. We note that algorithmic impact assessments conducted through the AI lifecycle are key tools

203

00:41:55.090 --> 00:42:05.930

Mrinalini Dayal: to evaluate potential gender and intersectional harms. There are other mentions of gender disaggregated data that have been removed from this new revision, and we ask them to be retained again.

204

00:42:06.680 --> 00:42:10.759

Mrinalini Dayal: In the monitoring and measurements in paragraph 112, we ask

205

00:42:10.920 --> 00:42:28.400

Mrinalini Dayal: the addition of underlying the importance of ensuring that ICT data and statistics employ gender analysis, disaggregate by gender, age, disability, and other relevant characteristics, and are used to inform prevention, accountability, and enforcement mechanisms, including to address TFGBV.

206

00:42:29.140 --> 00:42:33.410

Mrinalini Dayal: We also suggest the addition of a paragraph,

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00:42:33.940 --> 00:42:43.000

Mrinalini Dayal: when we call member states to ensure that monitoring frameworks assess the effectiveness of law enforcement and judicial responses to online harms, including TFGBB.

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00:42:43.000 --> 00:42:55.599

Mrinalini Dayal: National data systems should track the availability and outcomes of survivor-centered remediation, including prosecution rates, protection orders, and other enforcement to strengthen accountability and build trust in digital governance.

209

00:42:56.070 --> 00:43:13.159

Mrinalini Dayal: Finally, in the follow-up and review section, we ask for the inclusion of language around requesting UNGYS to systemically integrate gender equality and women's rights into its monitoring, review, and accountability functions, including evaluation of state and private sector enforcement practices.

210

00:43:13.160 --> 00:43:25.029

Mrinalini Dayal: And finally, in paragraph 122, we asked the inclusion of text around progress and enforcing commitments to prevent and respond to gender-based discrimination and TFGBV.

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00:43:25.140 --> 00:43:26.299

Mrinalini Dayal: Thank you so much.

212

00:43:27.480 --> 00:43:33.939

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Dayal. I now invite Mr. Cedric Boholz from UNESCO. Cedric, floor is yours.

213

00:43:34.640 --> 00:43:48.149

Cédric Wachholz: Thank you so much, Excellencies, co-facilitator representatives, Tony and Anion, and that's our colleague, Dennis. Thank you so much for the opportunity to contribute today.

214

00:43:48.150 --> 00:44:11.059

Cédric Wachholz: I'm pleased to share good WISS news. This week at UNESCO's 43rd General Conference, member states reaffirmed their strong commitment to WSIS implementation and to system-wide coherence. A resolution based on the Director General's report on WSIS outcomes was adopted by consensus, and Member States requested its transmission

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00:44:11.060 --> 00:44:18.279

Cédric Wachholz: to the President of the UN General Assembly, and it will be shared with the co-facilitators and all stakeholders very soon.

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00:44:18.530 --> 00:44:27.190

Cédric Wachholz: UNESCO welcomes that Rev. 1 explicitly acknowledges our 25th June Weses Plus 20 contribution and the preamble.

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00:44:27.790 --> 00:44:36.960

Cédric Wachholz: The support expressed for Angus is also welcome in service of both the Wizards Outcomes and the Global Digital Compact.

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00:44:36.960 --> 00:44:56.479

Cédric Wachholz: ITU did an excellent job, both as UNGIS Secretariat and Co-Chair with UNCTAT, UNDP, Regional Commissions, and UNESCO, and the call in the current draft to enhance agility, efficiency, and effectiveness risks implying a critique that does not reflect the strong co-leadership record.

219

00:44:56.710 --> 00:45:11.619

Cédric Wachholz: UNESCO stands ready to work with Angus co-leads and members on a roadmap aligning with this implementation and GDC goals, ensuring coherence, efficiency, and avoidance of duplication across the UN system.

220

00:45:12.040 --> 00:45:19.010

Cédric Wachholz: One proposal to strengthen the draft further is to explicitly reference knowledge societies.

221

00:45:19.030 --> 00:45:38.169

Cédric Wachholz: This core with this concept sits at the heart of today's challenges, and is also the only concept used in the 2030 agenda. Data, information, and knowledge are not the same. One can hold all information, for example, for an appendix operation in a book, yet lack the knowledge to perform it.

222

00:45:38.170 --> 00:45:44.299

Cédric Wachholz: In an AI-shaped world, knowledge underpins education, culture, scientific cooperation.

223

00:45:44.660 --> 00:45:55.540

Cédric Wachholz: and the realization of human rights. The next draft should restore the reference to knowledge societies even more, as it refers to the 2030 development agenda.

224

00:45:55.830 --> 00:46:01.249

Cédric Wachholz: Finally, a caution as lead facilitator for many action lines.

225

00:46:01.250 --> 00:46:19.369

Cédric Wachholz: that the detailed roadmaps and KPIs in a multi-stakeholder context with constrained resources may create false expectation and blur with its mandates and roles where governments, private sector, and civil society are diverse and key actors.

226

00:46:19.450 --> 00:46:37.000

Cédric Wachholz: I conclude by highlighting three anchors. An Angus-channeled implementation of the GDC through WSIS mechanisms to uphold knowledge societies over mere information and adopt measures, roadmaps, and KPIs instruction that honor WSIS mandates and resources.

227

00:46:37.000 --> 00:46:48.050

Cédric Wachholz: We will share proposals on how to translate these and a few more ideas into agreeable language per email soon, and I thank you again, Inia Antoni, and Dennis, for this opportunity.

228

00:46:48.990 --> 00:46:55.149

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Cedric. I now invite Ms. Samua Sharma from the Center for Global Digital Justice. Floor is yours.

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00:46:55.860 --> 00:47:16.330

Amoha Sharma: Thank you. I speak on behalf of the Center for Global Digital Justice, a digital policy resource center that aims at furthering Global South visions of governance and tech innovation. We urge the WSIS review to factor in the following priorities to ensure that a people's vision of digital tech innovation for social good is centered. Our first recommendation is on bridging digital divides.

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00:47:16.330 --> 00:47:37.429

Amoha Sharma: Removal of PARA 28 of the Zero Draft, which had a strong emphasis on equity and explicitly underscored the achievement of universal, meaningful, and affordable access to the internet and digital services, as essential to realization of WIS's vision, is disappointing. There is a need to restore this PARA, particularly to emphasize the multidimensional nature of digital resources rights.

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00:47:37.580 --> 00:47:44.500

Amoha Sharma: And the need to plug capacities in line with needs, and in cognizance of local context, with a commitment to leaving no one behind.

232

00:47:44.500 --> 00:48:06.670

Amoha Sharma: Our second recommendation is on the enabling environment for digital development. Data park consolidation among select countries and corporations, and disparity in access to crucial digital infra, and digital skills gap is a huge barrier for many developing countries to reap the dividend of digital transformation. There's thus a need under para 47 to call for measures to address the unequal distribution of digital infra and human capabilities in the global digital economy.

233

00:48:06.670 --> 00:48:21.039

Amoha Sharma: Third, on financial mechanisms, it is important for the outcome document to underscore the essential role of public financing for digital infra-development. In blended financing mechanisms for DPGs and DPIs, guardrails are essential to protect citizen rights and the public interest.

234

00:48:21.580 --> 00:48:33.840

Amoha Sharma: PARA 62 must underscore this. Fourth, on human rights and ethical dimensions of the information society, through omission of Para 82 of the Zero Draft, there's a dilution of the language pertaining to the obligations of states as duty-bearers.

235

00:48:33.840 --> 00:48:48.609

Amoha Sharma: It is crucial to restore this para. Finally, on AI, we submit that digital sovereignty and the right to development should be recognized as the cornerstone principles of any global AI governance regime, in accordance with the BRICS leader's declaration. We recommend the addition of the following new PARA 81.

236

00:48:48.610 --> 00:49:02.979

Amoha Sharma: 81A. We recognize that digital sovereignty and the right to development are central to global AI governance. We firmly support the right of all countries to harness the benefits of the digital economy and emerging technologies, particularly AI, while upholding fundamental rights.

237

00:49:02.980 --> 00:49:13.189

Amoha Sharma: and to establish their own regulatory frameworks within the jurisdictions for protecting the fundamental rights of their citizens and maximizing public value innovation. Thank you.

238

00:49:14.510 --> 00:49:23.200

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Ms. Sharma. I now invite Mr. Alexei Treppialin from Internet Corporation for assigned names and numbers. I can. Alexei, floor is yours.

239

00:49:23.930 --> 00:49:28.380

Alexey Trepykhalin: Thank you, Chair, Excellencies and esteemed colleagues.

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00:49:28.550 --> 00:49:35.799

Alexey Trepykhalin: ICANN considers Revision 1 a well-crafted text that continues to provide the basis for the final draft.

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00:49:36.090 --> 00:49:37.820

Alexey Trepikhlin: on internet governance.

242

00:49:37.960 --> 00:49:49.639

Alexey Trepikhlin: I can strongly support the continued affirmation of the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation as reflected in paragraphs 3, 87, and 88.

243

00:49:49.960 --> 00:50:02.109

Alexey Trepikhlin: We also strongly support the need for an internet that is open, global, interoperable, stable, and secure, as reflected in some paragraphs in the text, including in paragraph 89.

244

00:50:02.620 --> 00:50:15.280

Alexey Trepikhlin: ICANN is pleased to see the continued recognition of the unique role of the technical community as a distinct member of the stakeholder community. While ICANN shares the reformation of the need

245

00:50:15.280 --> 00:50:23.379

Alexey Trepikhlin: To promote international cooperation, to prevent, identify, and address the risk of fragmentation of the internet.

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00:50:23.410 --> 00:50:36.899

Alexey Trepikhlin: We suggest reverting to the term fragmentation of the internet architecture, as protecting the architecture is particularly fundamental to the internet's continued smooth operation.

247

00:50:37.190 --> 00:50:48.700

Alexey Trepikhlin: Regarding the Internet Governance Forum, ICANN is encouraged to see REV1's continuation of support to the IGF's permanence, enhancement, and future funding.

248

00:50:49.080 --> 00:51:04.660

Alexey Trepikhlin: I can also welcome the emphasis on linguistic diversity, including how initiatives like internationalized domain names and universal acceptance contribute to making the internet and digital services become fully accessible to all.

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00:51:04.660 --> 00:51:13.569

Alexey Trepikhlin: We appreciate REV's one text that seeks to provide further detail on how the Global Digital Compact and WESA's integration

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00:51:13.600 --> 00:51:20.839

Alexey Trepikhlin: could be operationalized. For example, in paragraphs 111, 120, and 121.

251

00:51:20.970 --> 00:51:39.110

Alexey Trepykhalin: and the future work on future financial mechanisms for digital development in paragraph 64. We caution on the introduction of new terms into WSIS, such as critical internet infrastructure, in paragraph 53, especially if it could affect ongoing discussions at other UN processes.

252

00:51:39.610 --> 00:51:52.419

Alexey Trepykhalin: We're grateful to the WSIST Plus 20 co-facilitators for their tireless efforts to proactively engage with the various internet stakeholder groups and remaining open to the view of the technical community.

253

00:51:52.700 --> 00:52:11.119

Alexey Trepykhalin: ICANN and our community thank Ambassador Locali, Ambassador Yinina, and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs team at the ICANN 84 meeting in Dublin last month. We thank Ambassadors Locali's participation in the geopolitical session. The link to the session's recording will appear in the chat window.

254

00:52:11.400 --> 00:52:14.379

Alexey Trepykhalin: And this concludes our short remarks. Thank you.

255

00:52:15.530 --> 00:52:22.219

Enian Lamce: Thank you, Alexei. I now invite Ellie McDonald from Global Partners Digital to take the floor. Floor is yours.

256

00:52:27.410 --> 00:52:29.320

UN DESA DPIDG: We can... we can skip Eric.

257

00:52:31.710 --> 00:52:32.260

Enian Lamce: Cape.

258

00:52:32.410 --> 00:52:35.330

Enian Lamce: And now I... Hand it over.

259

00:52:35.490 --> 00:52:37.340

Enian Lamce: to my colleague, Tony.

260

00:52:38.930 --> 00:52:47.079

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Yes, thank you very much, Anion. So we'll start with Conchettina Casa from Agency for Digital Italy. Conchettina, please.

261

00:52:47.600 --> 00:52:48.680

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Okay.

262

00:52:48.680 --> 00:53:12.010

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Thank you. My name is Conchettina Casa, representing the Agency for Digital Italy. First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to

Andresa and the co-facilitator of the VUSIS Plus 20 review process for their tireless support, their inclusive approach, and the transparent consultation that have led to this excellent and forward-looking revised one document.

263

00:53:12.010 --> 00:53:21.520

Concettina Cassa (Italy): I would like also to thank the co-facilitator for the attention devoted to the internet governance section, which now reflects several key elements that many stakeholders

264

00:53:21.520 --> 00:53:23.880

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Had strongly advocated for.

265

00:53:23.880 --> 00:53:48.869

Concettina Cassa (Italy): I particularly welcome the strength and recognition of the IGF as a broad and dynamic ecosystem, extending far, far beyond the annual meeting, and encompassing intersectional activities such as the NRI, the Dalamic Coalition, the BPF, the Leadership Panel, and the MAG. I also appreciate the emphasis placed on establishing IGF as a permanent and adequate

266

00:53:48.870 --> 00:53:50.349

Concettina Cassa (Italy): funded forum.

267

00:53:50.490 --> 00:54:14.469

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Sustainable and predictable resources, usually through a blended funding model that goes beyond the UN regular budget, are essential to ensure that the IGF can deliver meaningful impact both at global and national levels. And in this regard, I welcome the reference to the need to reinforce the IGF Secretariat so that it can continue to evolve

268

00:54:14.470 --> 00:54:22.579

Concettina Cassa (Italy): implement further improvements, and effectively support the NRI and the wider international activities.

269

00:54:22.580 --> 00:54:35.409

Concettina Cassa (Italy): I'm also pleased to see the inclusion of the Net MundR Plus 10 guidelines, which remain a valuable reference for multi-stakeholder collaboration, transparency, and consensus building.

270

00:54:35.410 --> 00:54:42.870

Concettina Cassa (Italy): But now, let me highlight a few areas where, in my view, the current revision 1 version could be further strengthened.

271

00:54:42.870 --> 00:54:58.190

Concettina Cassa (Italy): First of all, in relation to the internet governance definition, while the text reaffirms the Tunisi agenda definition, I think it should be explicitly acknowledged the full scope of the internet governance.

272

00:54:58.190 --> 00:55:08.880

Concettina Cassa (Italy): which covers infrastructure, data governance, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and emerging technology. I'm referring to paragraph 95, revision 1.

273

00:55:08.880 --> 00:55:33.480

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Second, I would encourage the reinstatement of language, clearly rejecting models of state control of fragmented internet architecture. Presenting an open global interporal internet is foundational to the VUSI's vision and should be reaffirmed in the strongest possible terms, as it was before in paragraph 104 of draft zero.

274

00:55:33.740 --> 00:55:50.399

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Third, regarding the data governance artificial intelligence paragraph, my impression is that these sections are still treated as separate silos, yet their policy challenges are deeply interconnected, and both are closely linked to the work of the IGF.

275

00:55:50.400 --> 00:56:05.119

Concettina Cassa (Italy): So I believe that strengthening the articulation and the coherence among these three domains, data, artificial intelligence, and internet governance, would significantly enhance a document's policy relevance and implementation potential.

276

00:56:05.120 --> 00:56:17.479

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Fourth, I think it's important to restate... the restatement of the article on mass surveillance and censorship through digital technology. I'm referring to the zero draft paragraph 88 and 89.

277

00:56:17.480 --> 00:56:33.649

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Privacy, freedom of expression, and protection against arbitrary monitoring must be self-guarded. Surveillance technology should be used only in line with human rights principle, and remedies should be available for victims of violation.

278

00:56:33.800 --> 00:56:51.710

Concettina Cassa (Italy): On the monitoring and the measurement paragraph, I wish to highlight the potential of an rise in the annual RGF event to collect data and assess the status of implementation of the VUSI SWAT outcomes and the Global Digital Cooperation Initiative. Leveraging this opportunity will strengthen evidence-based

279

00:56:51.710 --> 00:57:01.420

Concettina Cassa (Italy): policymaking, and facilitator monitoring of processes across multi-stakeholder ecosystems. In conclusion, I want to thank the facilitator for their extended work.

280

00:57:01.600 --> 00:57:23.359

Concettina Cassa (Italy): And my just suggestion aim to reinforce the IGF role within the UN digital cooperation architecture, ensuring coherence among related governance processes, and preserve the multi-stakeholder spirit that is crucial for building a truly open, inclusive, and human-centered digital future.

281

00:57:25.480 --> 00:57:26.400

Concettina Cassa (Italy): Thank you.

282

00:57:26.620 --> 00:57:33.879

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Conchertina. And next, we have Shumaila Hussein Shahani from the Tech Global Institute. Shumaila, please.

283

00:57:35.180 --> 00:57:43.320

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Thank you, Chair. My name is Shamayana Shahani, and I represent the Tech Global Institute, where we are dedicated to advancing equitable technology governance.

284

00:57:43.340 --> 00:57:54.949

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: We at the Tech Global Institute engaged constructively with Revision 1, welcoming its positive elements, such as a new task force on financial mechanisms and establishment of the IGF as a permanent forum.

285

00:57:54.950 --> 00:58:04.599

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: However, we must express concern over the dilution and omission of critical commitments from the zero draft. We focus on the following priorities, in this statement.

286

00:58:04.630 --> 00:58:23.910

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: First, the revision weakens the commitment to inclusion by removing specific means of implementation, like capacity building and technology transfer. Most concerning, it reduces the vision of a people-centered society by deleting the right of people to create, access, and use technology, relegating them to passive consumers rather than active innovators.

287

00:58:23.910 --> 00:58:27.380

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: We must reinstate this language to ensure digital equity.

288

00:58:27.510 --> 00:58:43.439

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Second, the document does not adequately address the highly concentrated nature of the global digital marketplace. For a truly inclusive global digital economy, we must have explicit policy commitments that ensure a level playing field and empower small and medium-sized enterprises from the developing countries.

289

00:58:43.480 --> 00:58:55.249

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Furthermore, while new financing is welcome, it is crucial to recognize that public investment plays an indispensable role in bridging divides and building foundational digital public goods that the market alone cannot provide.

290

00:58:55.250 --> 00:59:06.220

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Third, we propose operationalizing commitments by integrating fundamental rights impact assessments to systemically evaluate risks before and during the deployment of emerging technologies.

291

00:59:06.220 --> 00:59:16.030

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: And by applying the precautionary principle, which guides us to exercise caution to prevent serious harm to human rights and sustainable development, even in the face of scientific uncertainty.

292

00:59:16.030 --> 00:59:35.610

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: We are also concerned about the removal of any reference to social media. Given its influence on public discourse and digital participation, leaving it out overlooks one of the most transformative and contentious developments since the original summit. This omission risks signaling reduced expectations for responsibility and accountability from these platforms.

293

00:59:36.040 --> 00:59:54.769

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Finally, the deletion of the call... the deletion of the call for close alignment between the WSIS process and the SDGs is a step backward. Our digital cooperation must be explicitly framed as a means to achieve the broader development goals, including by updating our approach to address the challenges and opportunities of the data and AI transition.

294

00:59:54.770 --> 01:00:03.200

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: Addressing these areas will help ensure that the outcome is a practical and principled framework that delivers on the promise of a truly inclusive information society.

295

01:00:03.200 --> 01:00:16.659

Shumaila Hussain Shahani: We also have concerns regarding surveillance and sovereignty, and we will submit detailed written comments on these and other points. We remain committed to working with all the stakeholders to strengthen the text and support an equitable digital future for all. Thank you.

296

01:00:18.080 --> 01:00:26.860

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Shamela, and I would now pass the floor to Christian Casanova from AI for Good Young AI Leaders. Christian, please.

297

01:00:27.730 --> 01:00:41.860

Cristian A Casanova: Thank you so much, distinguished co-facilitators and colleagues. It is appreciated to address to you on behalf of the Young AI Leaders community, who is a community of young, professionals across the world working under the UNITU.

298

01:00:42.060 --> 01:00:58.989

Cristian A Casanova: AI for Good initiative. We represent the generation navigating two converging forces, a changing environment that friends our planet, and a technological revolution driven by AI that's reshaping our world. Between the zero draft and the Revision 1, we're thankful to the co-facilitators with the direction of the language.

299

01:00:58.990 --> 01:01:04.030

Cristian A Casanova: Of youth that shifts from treating young people chiefly as beneficiaries.

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01:01:04.030 --> 01:01:10.650

Cristian A Casanova: of access, protection, and skill. However, we still believe that there is a need for explicitly recognizing

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01:01:10.650 --> 01:01:30.249

Cristian A Casanova: youth stakeholders and participants in the WEC's implementations and governance. We'll recommend the following three points in the upcoming draft. As reflected in paragraph 12 and 56 and 58, the WEC's outcome recognizes the importance of capacity development and the specific challenges facing

302

01:01:30.270 --> 01:01:55.009

Cristian A Casanova: youth and marginalized groups in accessing digital technologies. However, the implementation framework still positions youth primarily as recipients of capacity building rather than active implementers of the WSIS commitments. From the perspective of the young AI leaders, we recommend language in... to provide a structured mechanism under WESIS forums to link the youth IGF, the national digital strategies, and the action

303

01:01:55.010 --> 01:02:00.350

Cristian A Casanova: line facilitators in an established network across the WCC Forum, as one example.

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01:02:00.360 --> 01:02:13.099

Cristian A Casanova: This would ensure that youth are directly engaged in piloting digital public goods, tracking the WEASIS progress, and localizing digital inclusion targets. In reference to paragraph 82 through 84,

305

01:02:13.100 --> 01:02:22.530

Cristian A Casanova: The Lisa's documents calls for an AI research program and AI capability building fellowship, presents a major opportunity to embed intergenerational

306

01:02:22.530 --> 01:02:39.279

Cristian A Casanova: participation. We propose expanding the initiatives to include youth researchers, social innovators, and community technologists from developing countries. This will ensure that AI governance reflects the diversity, creativity, and lived experience of the generation that's most affected by its future impacts.

307

01:02:39.290 --> 01:02:56.080

Cristian A Casanova: In reference to paragraphs 103 through 111, in line with the affirmation of the multi-state cooperation in paragraph 103, and the alignment of the 2030 Agenda and Global Digital Compact outlined

308

01:02:56.080 --> 01:03:15.260

Cristian A Casanova: through 104 for 111. We suggest embedding youth participation metrics into the WSIS monitoring framework. Specifically, the next WSIS action line implementation roadmap could include measurable indicators on youth-led digital projects, youth participation in the governance process, and youth inclusion in the national

309

01:03:15.260 --> 01:03:27.120

Cristian A Casanova: digital policies. This would optimize the principle that participation is not just symbolic, it is structural, and it would transform you from observers into co-authors of the WESIS implementation.

310

01:03:27.120 --> 01:03:38.900

Cristian A Casanova: In short, the WISE's vision will only be realized when youth are not spoken for, but empowered to speak and act on the implementation framework. We thank the co-facilitators for their work, and we will submit our recommendations in detail. Thank you.

311

01:03:39.460 --> 01:03:47.910

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Christian. And next, we have Joachim Pinto from the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations here in New York. Joachim?

312

01:03:52.320 --> 01:03:56.120

UN DESA DPIDG: Hi, Tony, we can move to Mona as the next speaker.

313

01:03:56.120 --> 01:03:59.920

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Okay, okay, so, Mona Gabala from the Internet Society, please.

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01:04:01.430 --> 01:04:02.599

Mona Gaballa: Thank you, Tony.

315

01:04:03.220 --> 01:04:14.559

Mona Gaballa: On behalf of the Internet Society, I would like to begin by thanking you, Jessa, and the co-facilitators for keeping the WISS process as open and transparent as possible, and for welcoming stakeholder views on the first revision of the zero draft.

316

01:04:14.610 --> 01:04:31.490

Mona Gaballa: The Internet Society is committed to bridging the digital divide by supporting connectivity and sustainable infrastructure into ensuring the internet remains open, secure, and trusted global resource for everyone. On this occasion, noting that time is running short, we would like to offer some general remarks and recommendations to provide the

317

01:04:31.490 --> 01:04:35.129

Mona Gaballa: To keep the text crisp, concise, and action-focused.

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01:04:35.130 --> 01:04:58.879

Mona Gaballa: The internet is empowering more people, more services, and more development opportunities than ever, which is precisely why the WSIS Plus 20 review outcome document should reinforce what keeps it open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy. Firstly, we'd like to note the section entitled, Enabling Environment for Digital Development, should explicitly include elements that help achieve an enabling environment. Paragraph 48 should include measures such as proportionate taxation and licensing fees.

319

01:04:58.880 --> 01:05:14.350

Mona Gaballa: Access to finance, facilitation of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure sharing models, community-based approaches, and public access facilities.

320

01:05:14.350 --> 01:05:38.349

Mona Gaballa: Secondly, in paragraph 53, we note the reference to critical internet infrastructure, which has no agreed definition, and we would like to call for its deletion, as the paragraph already importantly recognizes the efforts to protect infrastructure. Additionally, we welcome the substantive changes introduced to the internet governance section, including the permanent mandate of the Internet Governance Forum and the recognition of the Net MuneDown plus 10 guidelines for multi-stakeholder collaboration and consensus building.

321

01:05:38.580 --> 01:05:45.839

Mona Gaballa: As well as paragraph 120, which provides recommendations on how to strengthen coherence between the WIS's vision and the GDC commitments.

322

01:05:45.840 --> 01:06:09.000

Mona Gaballa: However, paragraph 101, which invites the Secretary General to make proposals concerning future funding of the IGF, needs to be done in consultation with existing IGF funders and stakeholders to ensure stable, predictable, and sustainable financial support of the Forum. Regarding paragraph 119, we recommend retaining the call for multi-stakeholder advice to UNGIS to ensure more effective collaboration, information exchange, and to avoid duplication.

323

01:06:09.000 --> 01:06:25.080

Mona Gaballa: As we noted in previous consultations, the Internet Society will keep working with our global community of chapters, individual, and organization members to translate these priorities into additional concrete recommendations as the process reaches its final stages. Our aim is the same as yours, OSIS outcome that

324

01:06:25.190 --> 01:06:33.610

Mona Gaballa: people can rally around, that strengthens multi-stakeholder collaboration, and that keeps the internet open, globally connected, secure, and trusted for everyone. Thank you.

325

01:06:35.340 --> 01:06:41.539

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Mona, and next we have Kusai Alshati from 3aref.com.

326

01:06:41.790 --> 01:06:43.390

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Qsi, please.

327

01:06:46.660 --> 01:06:53.750

Qusai AlShatty: Kusai al-Shati, aruf.com, Kuwait, private sector?

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01:06:54.230 --> 01:07:09.550

Qusai AlShatty: Revision 1 of the outcome document represents another positive development and evolution of the WSS Plus 20 review process, enhancing its clarity, views,

structure, and making it more concise to lead the way ahead until the next revision takes place.

329

01:07:09.800 --> 01:07:22.560

Qusai AlShatty: On internet government, governance and internet governance, we reaffirm our support for paragraph 86 on the definition of internet governance, which is in accordance with paragraph 34 of the Tunis agenda.

330

01:07:22.720 --> 01:07:35.899

Qusai AlShatty: With regard of paragraph 90 and 91 on enhanced cooperation, we believe that there are already existing in-house cooperation processes within internet governance-related organizations, like the ITU, the ICANGAC,

331

01:07:36.010 --> 01:07:54.609

Qusai AlShatty: or the UN regional commissions, or the regional organizations such in our part of the world, the Arab League of States. Therefore, they should be considered as a current existing mechanism for in-house cooperation that can be built on, and no need to initiate, an independent process for in-house cooperation.

332

01:07:54.990 --> 01:08:09.800

Qusai AlShatty: The worker group on House Cooperation reference in paragraph 91 faced difficulties in its work and did not continue. Therefore, it may not be a good example to reference. In fact, if we will take it as an example, it will support what we have mentioned in the previous point.

333

01:08:09.970 --> 01:08:22.319

Qusai AlShatty: Regarding paragraph 93, and mentioning Net Mondial plus 10 as a reference to multi-stakeholder cooperation, consensus building, and balanced representation, along with the text endorsed in April 2024,

334

01:08:22.319 --> 01:08:37.039

Qusai AlShatty: This may give an impression that it took a place or endorsed as part of a WSIS or an IGFO process, which is not the case. If we want to have a reference for consensus building, multi-stakeholder collaboration, and balance representation, then it should be through

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01:08:37.040 --> 01:08:44.399

Qusai AlShatty: voices and IGF-related processes, practices, and context that have accumulated and built for more than 20 years.

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01:08:44.529 --> 01:08:46.359

Qusai AlShatty: We strongly support

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01:08:46.850 --> 01:08:56.640

Qusai AlShatty: And welcome, paragraph 98, in making the IDF a permanent forum. With regard to paragraph 99, it included the following text. We call upon

338

01:08:56.640 --> 01:09:21.189

Qusai AlShatty: upon the forum to report on outcomes of its annual meetings. We would like to know that paragraph 72 of the Tunis agenda on the mandate of the IGF, and point I says publish its proceedings, and in paragraph 77 of the Tunis agenda says the IGF is an unbinding forum, so taking into consideration that the IGF is an unbinding, non-outcome-oriented forum, it would be better to replace the word

339

01:09:21.189 --> 01:09:26.310

Qusai AlShatty: outcome would detect, and detects with the word, proceedings.

340

01:09:26.330 --> 01:09:46.110

Qusai AlShatty: On the development of the WSIS framework, since 2022, the UN and related organizations have been active within the ICTC, producing the Global Digital Compact, and now on the outcome document of the WSIS Plus 20 Review, and in between establishing panels, work groups, and offices.

341

01:09:46.580 --> 01:09:49.740

Qusai AlShatty: This review is different from the previous revision.

342

01:09:49.740 --> 01:10:11.909

Qusai AlShatty: It is a major effort in outreaching and consulting relevant stakeholders, and it is viewed as a much-needed evolution and update to the outcome of the WSIS and its two phases, Geneva and Tunis. In this regard, we strongly support paragraph 104 of Revision 1 on the alignment and the synergy between GDC and the WSIS plus 20 review, considering the overall consent of building

343

01:10:11.910 --> 01:10:22.559

Qusai AlShatty: on current existing mechanism, we would suggest adding text to this paragraph reflecting that the WSIS process and IGF become an implementation mechanism for the GDC. Thank you.

344

01:10:24.250 --> 01:10:35.009

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Kusai, and I would just like to remind the remaining participants to kindly stay within the allotted time limit, so that we can make sure we go through the entire list.

345

01:10:35.180 --> 01:10:43.159

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Before the end of this meeting. Next we have Giacomo Mazzone from the IGF Policy Network on Meaningful Access. Giacomo, please.

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01:10:50.130 --> 01:10:51.890

Tony Oweke (Kenya): I think you may be on mute.

347

01:11:01.380 --> 01:11:06.940

Giacomo Mazzone: Too much.

348

01:11:06.940 --> 01:11:17.010

Tony Oweke (Kenya): I think there's a bit of an echo, so I don't know why we figure it out. Perhaps we can move to the next speaker, and we can invite you back once we know what the issue is.

349

01:11:17.430 --> 01:11:20.310

Giacomo Mazzone: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

350

01:11:20.310 --> 01:11:26.639

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Yokomo. So next, we have Juan Fernandez from the Ministry of Communications of Cuba. Juan, please.

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01:11:34.060 --> 01:11:36.450

UN DESA DPIDG: Bonnie, just give us a second time.

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01:11:36.450 --> 01:11:44.730

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Okay, so let's just take... A couple of seconds for... Okay.

353

01:11:44.850 --> 01:11:51.759

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: We appreciate the opportunity to share Cuba's view on the Revision 1 of the Wishes Close 20 outcome document.

354

01:11:52.440 --> 01:12:10.869

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: And we recognize the efforts made by the co-facilitators and their team to integrate the inputs of member states and other stakeholders. In our intervention during an informal consultation on October 14, we highlighted three key points, which we'd like to reiterate and elaborate upon today.

355

01:12:11.000 --> 01:12:35.879

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: First, we note the inclusion in the Enabling Environment section of agreed language from WSIS concerning the unilateral coercive measures. This constitutes a positive step. However, we must underscore that over the past 20 years, the imposition of such measures has significantly increased. These measures not only contravene international law

356

01:12:35.880 --> 01:12:39.530

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: on the principles and purpose of the Charter of the United Nations.

357

01:12:39.530 --> 01:12:46.399

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: but also run counter to the fundamental principles enshrined in both the WSIS and the GDC.

358

01:12:46.640 --> 01:12:58.470

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: For this reason, we propose that the introduction of the resolution include a stronger and more unequivocal condemnation of unilateral coercive measures.

359

01:12:58.470 --> 01:13:07.139

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: It is worth noting that my inability to participate live in this consultation, just as in the previous one.

360

01:13:07.140 --> 01:13:20.949

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: is a direct consequence of these measures. This clearly illustrates how such measures impede the access of affected countries to internet platforms and applications essential to their development.

361

01:13:21.050 --> 01:13:46.039

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: Second, regarding the issue of financing the information society in developing countries, the current revision continues to address this matter in overly general terms, without advancing concrete, actionable proposals. While we note the proposal to establish a task force to address this deficiency in the resolution, we urge that it's

362

01:13:46.040 --> 01:14:10.770

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: composition be fully inclusive, and that its mandate empower it to formulate practical financing mechanisms, ones that are not only acceptable, but also viable, equitable, and beneficial to all stakeholders, particularly of developing countries. Third, concerning the WSIS framework and the follow-up and review processes, which are intrinsically linked

363

01:14:10.810 --> 01:14:35.789

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: We welcome the emphasis placed on ensuring convergence between the implementation of the WSIS outcome and the GDC in order to avoid duplication, promote synergies, and maximize impact. The document rightly calls for the WSIS framework established in the Tunis agenda to continue supporting the realization of the WSIS vision and objectives, as well as its core

364

01:14:35.790 --> 01:15:00.750

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: integration with the GDC. Nevertheless, as is the case with the financing mechanisms, no clear pathway for implementation is proposed. In this regard, we suggest the establishment of an additional task force mandated to deliberate and formulate concrete recommendations on how to holistically integrate the various forms and processes. Such a body should clearly define the

365

01:15:00.750 --> 01:15:15.580

Audio shared by UN DESA DPIDG: existing objectives of each process, and clarify how they interrelate and reinforce one another, thereby ensuring coherence and the effectiveness in global digital governance. Thank you.

366

01:15:20.460 --> 01:15:28.180

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you much, Juan... thank you very much, Juan. We're going to try Giacoma one more time, so Giacoma, do you want to come in and...

367

01:15:28.360 --> 01:15:30.099

Tony Oweke (Kenya): And try and give your remarks.

368

01:15:38.890 --> 01:15:40.579

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Okay, I guess,

369

01:15:40.810 --> 01:15:48.950

Tony Oweke (Kenya): they're still sorting it out. So for now, we'll move to our next speaker, who is Elonai Hickok from the Global Network Initiative.

370

01:15:49.510 --> 01:15:51.040

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Lni, please.

371

01:15:52.710 --> 01:15:55.059

Elonnai Hickok: Yes, hello, can you hear me?

372

01:15:56.100 --> 01:15:57.689

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Yes, we can. Loud and clear.

373

01:15:57.690 --> 01:16:07.120

Elonnai Hickok: Okay, wonderful. So, my name is Ellen I. Hickok, and I am with the Global Network Initiative. We are a multi-stakeholder initiative working towards responsible business conduct.

374

01:16:07.120 --> 01:16:20.160

Elonnai Hickok: We are also a member of the Global Digital Rights Coalition, and we are running a project with the Global Partners Digital to support multi-stakeholder participation, particularly stakeholders from the global majority in the WISS Plus 20 review process.

375

01:16:20.190 --> 01:16:31.210

Elonnai Hickok: We thank the co-facilitators for the revised draft, and for taking on board several recommendations from civil society that have emerged across consultations.

376

01:16:31.550 --> 01:16:35.199

Elonnai Hickok: In particular, we welcome the permanent mandate of the IGF.

377

01:16:35.420 --> 01:16:41.570

Elonnai Hickok: The emphasis on connectivity as an underpinning issue that flows into other aspects of the WSIS framework.

378

01:16:41.690 --> 01:16:52.320

Elonnai Hickok: The recognition of the importance of the multi-stakeholder model, the reference to the Net Mandiel principles, and the work done in the draft to draw clear connections between WSIS and the GDC.

379

01:16:52.550 --> 01:17:09.560

Elonnai Hickok: But there are areas for improvement. In particular, the human rights section needs to be re-strengthened. Section 72 needs to recommend the re-inclusion of the principles of necessity, proportionality, and legality. These are critical principles to guide government powers and to protect human rights.

380

01:17:09.620 --> 01:17:18.890

Elonnai Hickok: Section 73 needs to reinduce the language around surveillance and reference the impact of overly broad and extra-legal surveillance on human rights.

381

01:17:18.920 --> 01:17:29.639

Elonnai Hickok: Section 73 also should reference the impact that internet shutdowns have on human rights, particularly freedom of expression and the ability to freely access information.

382

01:17:30.080 --> 01:17:45.579

Elonnai Hickok: Specific topics need to also address human rights throughout the WISS text. This includes sections on digital public goods. This needs to recognize that digital public goods need to be rights-respecting and in line with international human rights law.

383

01:17:45.580 --> 01:17:52.610

Elonnai Hickok: The section on labor, section 33, can reference the impact on labor rights, but also on human rights.

384

01:17:52.900 --> 01:18:11.710

Elonnai Hickok: Section 78 on data governance should reference rights respecting data governance frameworks, and the section on AI also needs to reference human rights. This can be incorporated in Section 81 by recognizing the importance of a human rights approach to AI, and Section 85 by referencing

385

01:18:12.060 --> 01:18:16.689

Elonnai Hickok: Undertaking risk and impact assessments of AI on human rights.

386

01:18:16.810 --> 01:18:21.580

Elonnai Hickok: There's also a need to strengthen the text around private sector accountability.

387

01:18:21.690 --> 01:18:27.660

Elonnai Hickok: While the sections of 67 and 68 are welcome, texts across the WSIS

388

01:18:28.410 --> 01:18:39.340

Elonnai Hickok: revision, and Rev. 1 can be improved by referencing human rights wherever it talks about the public sector. For example, in Section 26. Thank you very much.

389

01:18:41.450 --> 01:18:50.420

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, LNI. So, I'm just gonna quickly check with the Secretariat if we've managed to sort out, the microphone issue with Viacom.

390

01:18:52.760 --> 01:18:54.020

Giacomo Mazzone: It seems so.

391

01:18:54.220 --> 01:18:55.420

Giacomo Mazzone: Can you hear me?

392

01:18:55.580 --> 01:18:57.639

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Yes, we can. So please, please come in.

393

01:18:57.640 --> 01:19:10.700

Giacomo Mazzone: Okay. For being the form of technology, we are not making the best example. Sorry for that. Thank you to Tony and Ian for listening to us today, as the Ambassador have done.

394

01:19:10.860 --> 01:19:19.069

Giacomo Mazzone: in previous occasion. Today, I'm speaking on behalf of the Policy Network for Meaningful Access of the IGF.

395

01:19:19.250 --> 01:19:30.530

Giacomo Mazzone: And I would like to thank the two facilitators for their tireless work they are doing to carry on this activity in preparing the General Assembly in few weeks.

396

01:19:30.570 --> 01:19:39.920

Giacomo Mazzone: We welcome as PNMA the Revision 1 of the document that is rendering some of the important key points. In particular.

397

01:19:40.030 --> 01:19:54.410

Giacomo Mazzone: it's important to keep and to defend in front of the General Assembly the patronization of the IGF and the WSS follow-up, because this is absolutely essential, especially if we are able to frame in the perspective

398

01:19:54.470 --> 01:20:08.410

Giacomo Mazzone: of the Summit of the Future implementation process. The free process needs to be all integrated and work hands-in-hand. The second strong point to... that we want to protect and preserve

399

01:20:08.410 --> 01:20:19.400

Giacomo Mazzone: is a better integration and cooperation between IGF, WSIS, follow-up, and the implementation of the GDC.

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01:20:19.670 --> 01:20:30.100

Giacomo Mazzone: And as PNMA, we offer our support to strengthen and implement all activities that are launched within this process for building

401

01:20:30.130 --> 01:20:40.609

Giacomo Mazzone: Meaningful access, because as is mentally corrected now in the draft one, there is a problem.

402

01:20:40.690 --> 01:20:53.689

Giacomo Mazzone: a big gap. The gap that we have today is not lack of connection, but it's the lack of meaningful connection. There are 2 billion people not yet connected because they don't know

403

01:20:54.020 --> 01:21:04.190

Giacomo Mazzone: what to do with the internet, and because the internet is not affordable for them. So, this is a change of paradigm that we need to put in the... in the...

404

01:21:04.590 --> 01:21:18.990

Giacomo Mazzone: in the future framework. Unfortunately, as we have been explained, there was a problem to shorten the text, not to make too big, but in this shortening of the text, some important points has been...

405

01:21:19.210 --> 01:21:25.700

Giacomo Mazzone: Left aside, or are not... have not the relevance that they deserve.

406

01:21:25.940 --> 01:21:34.499

Giacomo Mazzone: For instance, as has been mentioned by others, we strongly recommend to include the outcome of the San Paolo conference.

407

01:21:34.570 --> 01:21:46.400

Giacomo Mazzone: because this is really a tool for a better cooperation between multi-stakeholders. There is a problem

408

01:21:46.630 --> 01:21:50.129

Giacomo Mazzone: to discuss about the future financing of the IGF,

409

01:21:50.160 --> 01:21:59.690

Giacomo Mazzone: And we understand that this cannot be properly prepared in time for the General Assembly, but we suggest that it's a working group that just after

410

01:21:59.690 --> 01:22:15.850

Giacomo Mazzone: deal with this aspect. Last point is that the media role is not enough underlined. The media not only as defenders of freedom of expression, but the media also as allies of this process. Without them, we cannot communicate properly.

411

01:22:16.030 --> 01:22:22.679

Giacomo Mazzone: to all the citizens of the world that need to be involved in this process. Thank you very much for your patience. Have a nice day.

412

01:22:23.390 --> 01:22:33.849

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Very... thank you very much, Giacomo. Next we have Yu Yin Liu from Asia Pacific Artificial Intelligence Association. Yulin... Yu Yin, please.

413

01:22:34.030 --> 01:22:34.950

YUYINLIU: Hi.

414

01:22:36.450 --> 01:22:45.679

YUYINLIU: Thank you for the chair and our distinguished delegates. It's an honor to address this high-level meeting, marking 20 years since WISE.

415

01:22:45.960 --> 01:23:03.729

YUYINLIU: The Asia-Pacific Artificial Intelligence Association, an academic and professional bodies dedicated to advancing responsible AI research and cooperation across region, closely follows the global discussion on the digital governance and inclusion. So, the reversion...

416

01:23:03.760 --> 01:23:23.599

YUYINLIU: reforms our shared version of a people-centered inclusion, and a developer-oriented information society. Yet, as paragraph 13 and 181 to 85 highlight, the rapid evolution of artificial intelligence presents both unprecedentable opportunities and complex risks.

417

01:23:23.600 --> 01:23:27.290

YUYINLIU: That require collective wisdom and ethical foresight.

418

01:23:27.480 --> 01:23:33.369

YUYINLIU: First, as outlined in paragraph 28-33 and 68,

419

01:23:33.440 --> 01:23:53.300

YUYINLIU: The influence of major technology companies, or big techs, we quote, have become systematically in shaping data standards and innovation. In this new AI era, this is a need for a structured and transparent long-term engagement mechanism within UN framework.

420

01:23:53.300 --> 01:24:02.320

YUYINLIU: To ensure the technological power is exercised responsibly and in alignment with human rights and sustainable development.

421

01:24:02.650 --> 01:24:06.420

YUYINLIU: which controlled over half GDP in the world.

422

01:24:06.640 --> 01:24:15.249

YUYINLIU: The word will give the practice meaning to the multi-stakeholder principle reaffirmed in paragraph 87 to 19.

423

01:24:15.250 --> 01:24:27.020

YUYINLIU: Second, the paragraph of 42-45 and 59-63 provide emphasize the environmental dimension of the digital transformation.

424

01:24:27.020 --> 01:24:30.990

YUYINLIU: Sustainable and emerging efficient.

425

01:24:31.200 --> 01:24:39.750

YUYINLIU: AI infrastructure, such as data centers, are not integrated into achieving both connectively and climate objectives.

426

01:24:39.950 --> 01:24:47.410

YUYINLIU: A coordinated approach to green digital infrastructure could make the technology true alive of the plant.

427

01:24:47.980 --> 01:24:48.950

YUYINLIU: Third.

428

01:24:49.050 --> 01:24:53.659

YUYINLIU: The state paragraph 55... 56 to 58.

429

01:24:53.770 --> 01:25:03.059

YUYINLIU: Building capacity and digital skills is an essential to empower war regions to participate fully in AI revolution.

430

01:25:03.260 --> 01:25:14.220

YUYINLIU: International collaboration should prioritize AI research networks, fellowships, and equipped access to computing resources, particular for development countries.

431

01:25:14.300 --> 01:25:26.869

YUYINLIU: Finally, paragraph 86 to 100. Remind us a global internet and AI governance must remind inclusion, open, and accurate in shared responsibility.

432

01:25:26.980 --> 01:25:33.290

YUYINLIU: Every nation must have a meaningful role in shaping the norms and that define our digital future.

433

01:25:33.450 --> 01:25:53.449

YUYINLIU: As the Chief Policy Commissioner of AAIA, I believe by combining innovation with ethics and the progress with inclusion, especially to make sure the big tech's involvement, we can ensure that artificial intelligence truly serves the humanity, bridging debts, protecting rights, and advancing the subject

434

01:25:53.460 --> 01:25:56.989

YUYINLIU: Sustainable Development Goals for War. Thank you.

435

01:25:58.850 --> 01:26:04.269

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much. And next, we have Avery Doria from Technicalities.

436

01:26:04.530 --> 01:26:05.780

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Avery, please.

437

01:26:06.320 --> 01:26:11.619

avri doria: Thank you. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Revision 1.

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01:26:11.710 --> 01:26:25.479

avri doria: I had the opportunity early in this century to participate in the WIGIG as a civil society participant from the technical world. I came to the UN from an open multi-stakeholder community and found myself in a forbidding world.

439

01:26:25.550 --> 01:26:39.330

avri doria: Reading this revision, I want to applaud how far we have come over the years. I believe I see a UN that is opening itself to the concerns of the many types of stakeholders it serves. Yet we have further to go.

440

01:26:39.360 --> 01:26:58.099

avri doria: I have three observations on Revision 1. First, I am grateful that paragraph 93 has been included, taking note of Netmoon Jail Plus 10 guidelines for multi-stakeholder collaboration and consensus building. In that light, I'd like to suggest, in 108,

441

01:26:58.100 --> 01:27:20.520

avri doria: The addition of a few words. While recognizing the ITU and the WISS Forum for sharing information on practice, I recommend that it mention not only its role in multi-stakeholder dialogue, but its role for encouraging multi-stakeholder dialogue, collaboration, and consensus building. It does it, it should be mentioned.

442

01:27:20.520 --> 01:27:21.550

avri doria: Second.

443

01:27:21.550 --> 01:27:29.850

avri doria: It is good that concern for human rights has a place in this document, but it is not as strong or full-throated as it needs to be.

444

01:27:29.850 --> 01:27:46.209

avri doria: Please do not shy away from the fullest possible call for human rights in its many aspects. I support the requests that have been made by earlier speakers to restore the many paragraphs related to human rights that were removed.

445

01:27:46.210 --> 01:27:48.650

avri doria: from Revision Zero.

446

01:27:48.670 --> 01:27:49.850

avri doria: And third.

447

01:27:49.900 --> 01:28:03.389

avri doria: I have a concern that the follow-up does not make an emphatic call for expanded use of ICT, AI, and other emerging technologies in the service of governance itself.

448

01:28:03.690 --> 01:28:10.109

avri doria: One of the digital divides we still need to tackle involves including the world's population.

449

01:28:10.260 --> 01:28:21.979

avri doria: It's technology's users, in their own governance discussions, as is their right, in their role as the users of the technology, and as those most affected.

450

01:28:22.490 --> 01:28:37.549

avri doria: The emerging technology allows for them to participate from wherever they are. This document misses the opportunity to encourage a decade that includes a voice in governance for all of those still on the other side

451

01:28:37.940 --> 01:28:40.830

avri doria: Of this digital governance divide.

452

01:28:41.010 --> 01:28:50.409

avri doria: To the GO facilitators and pen holders, thank you for the care and attention you give the many stakeholders you've interacted with. Thank you.

453

01:28:52.010 --> 01:28:57.500

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Avery. And next, we have H.M. Bazlo Rahman from...

454

01:28:57.630 --> 01:29:01.229

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Bangladesh NGO's Network for Radio and Communication.

455

01:29:03.240 --> 01:29:05.400

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Your Excellencies.

456

01:29:05.460 --> 01:29:17.840

AHM Bazlur Rahman: It is an honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Bangladesh and News Network for Radio and Communication, the Bangladesh Internet Governance Forum, and the effect for the Future Bangladesh CSO Initiative.

457

01:29:17.860 --> 01:29:35.040

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Your Excellencies, the revision of the WSIS Plus 20 outcome document demonstrates substantial progress in integrating diverse stakeholder perspectives and addressing concerns constructively raised during earlier round of the consultation.

458

01:29:35.060 --> 01:29:47.930

AHM Bazlur Rahman: We welcome this advancement and wish to extend our sincere appreciation and congratulations on the diligent effort reflected in the preparation of Revision 1.

459

01:29:48.240 --> 01:30:00.669

AHM Bazlur Rahman: We would like to recognize that the International Telecommunication Union has played a key role in the World Summit on the Information Society process and the establishment of the WSIS projects.

460

01:30:00.860 --> 01:30:13.019

AHM Bazlur Rahman: The Bangladeshan News Network for Radio and Communication has been an active and long-standing contributor to the WSIS process since 2000. For all the preparatory phase.

461

01:30:13.300 --> 01:30:15.840

AHM Bazlur Rahman: We are honored that

462

01:30:15.840 --> 01:30:33.480

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Our program has been recognized for the WSIS Prize winner, and 8 subsequent WSIS champion award, reflecting our contribution commitment to the advancing media development, digital inclusion, and information integrity in Bangladesh.

463

01:30:33.480 --> 01:30:49.049

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Your Excellency, strengthening the ongoing localization of the WSIS and IGF implementation at the national level, ensuring that global commitments are translated into concrete and measurable national outcomes.

464

01:30:49.050 --> 01:30:53.870

AHM Bazlur Rahman: and promoting meaningful engagement of the UN Resident Coordinator Office.

465

01:30:53.870 --> 01:31:00.019

AHM Bazlur Rahman: relevant UN entities, and to the stakeholders within the multi-stakeholder framework.

466

01:31:00.030 --> 01:31:24.099

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Your excellencies, we want to ensure universal and affordable access, fostering inclusive and resilient digital ecosystem, and upholding the multi-stakeholder model as the foundation of the both internet governance and the WSIS process. Equally, we emphasize the imperative of a human-centric and human rights-based digital transformation.

467

01:31:24.250 --> 01:31:42.240

AHM Bazlur Rahman: Essential for building a just, equitable, and knowledge-driven society for all. Your Excellency, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your thoughtful consideration and your kind attention. I thank you. Over to you, Your Excellency.

468

01:31:44.090 --> 01:31:52.950

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much. And next we have Bertrand de la Chapelle from the Internet and Jurisdiction Policy Network.

469

01:31:53.100 --> 01:31:54.630

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Bertrand, please.

470

01:32:01.310 --> 01:32:06.940

UN DESA DPIDG: Hi, Tony, we can move on to the next speaker. It will be, Sochata, Sokacha.

471

01:32:07.460 --> 01:32:12.109

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you, thank you. So, Sujata, Sokha-chan, from Net Mission of Asia, please.

472

01:32:30.220 --> 01:32:33.910

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Okay, I guess not, and perhaps while we're waiting for,

473

01:32:34.100 --> 01:32:43.619

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Suchata, to get back to us, we can proceed to William Drake from Columbia University. William, please. Oh, no, sorry. Suchata is, is here. Suchata, please.

474

01:32:44.250 --> 01:32:59.480

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): So sorry for the inconvenience of internet connections, and thank you, Secretariat and co-facilitator, for these opportunities. My

name is Sujita, and today I speak on behalf of the APAC youth leaders who signed a joint letter for our written submission to the zero draft.

475

01:32:59.480 --> 01:33:23.729

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): As youth, we envision technology and connectivity that translate into capabilities, opportunities, and digitalities. Through inclusions require not just access, but the skill, network, and infrastructure that empower us to save the digital world. We appreciate that paragraph 20 acknowledged the urban-rural digital divide. However, we urge that this paragraph be strengthened into a specific name Pacific Island nations.

476

01:33:23.730 --> 01:33:33.240

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): And conflict zones, where connectivity challenges are particularly acute, ensuring that the language captures both progressed and the most vulnerable geographies.

477

01:33:33.240 --> 01:33:56.610

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): We welcome paragraph 27 recognitions of international light domain names and universal acceptance as paths progress. However, we urge that paragraph 27 explicitly include linguistic accessibility through international domain names and universal acceptance as ongoing priorities essential to linguistic diversity, inclusivity, and cultural participation online.

478

01:33:56.660 --> 01:34:06.520

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): As we work to close digital divide, we must also ensure that the technology being built serves our people and planet equitably. As youth already pinks.

479

01:34:06.520 --> 01:34:29.570

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): digital system. We call for technology governance rooted in equity, accountability, and human rights, governance that responds to diverse realities and remains accountable for design through environmental impact. We welcome paragraph from 82 to 84 commitments to bridging AI divides and establishing AI research programs that are focusing on developing countries.

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01:34:29.570 --> 01:34:42.479

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): However, we urge that these paragraphs be strengthened to explicitly address the concentrations of AI development in a minor language and indigenous knowledge system in AI development.

481

01:34:42.630 --> 01:34:48.229

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): And established a clear provision for youth inclusion in AI research and governance initiatives.

482

01:34:48.330 --> 01:35:06.630

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): We appreciate paragraph 41, recognition of digital technologies for environmental sustainability. However, we urge that this section explicitly include youth-focused capacity building and expand opportunity for youth to engage in monitoring, research, and advocacy on sustainable digital practice.

483

01:35:06.750 --> 01:35:22.999

Socheata Sokhachan (NetMission.Asia): While part of Grab 45 addresses the environmental impact, we urge recognizing independent environmental impact assessment, frameworks such as ECO Internet Index, and committing to optimize internet and digital infrastructure for energy efficiency. Thank you.

484

01:35:24.200 --> 01:35:31.340

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Suchata. So next, we have William Drake from Columbia University. William, please come in.

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01:35:33.860 --> 01:35:40.830

William Drake: Hello. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input today. I would like to make 3 comments on the, Revision 1.

486

01:35:41.120 --> 01:35:55.170

William Drake: First, as development was the starting point of the WSIS and remains a central focus of the Action Lines, it is good that financial mechanisms are mentioned, and that there are appropriate references to the Sustainable Development Goals.

487

01:35:55.310 --> 01:36:14.130

William Drake: At the same time, one wishes that there was more attention to really mainstreaming development considerations into the full range of policy frameworks for internet governance and digital transformation. A focused digital development agenda

would really require fresh thinking and committed engagement, rather than significant new resources.

488

01:36:14.560 --> 01:36:31.130

William Drake: Second, it is a pity that the original zero-draft language rejecting models of state-controlled or fragmented internet architectures has been deleted, and that the remaining reference to international cooperation on internet fragmentation provides no hint as to what might actually be entailed.

489

01:36:31.340 --> 01:36:50.100

William Drake: As I suggested at the October consultation, we need focused and sustained international dialogue among governments and stakeholders, together in the same rooms at the same time, in the IGF and other appropriate international venues in order to help identify and mitigate the risks of internet fragmentation.

490

01:36:50.300 --> 01:37:05.569

William Drake: More generally, as the digital world is increasingly divided into a spaghetti bowl of disparate intergovernmental and corporate spheres of influence, one would think that the WSIS review would have been an appropriate place to really champion an open global digital ecosystem.

491

01:37:06.100 --> 01:37:08.620

William Drake: Third, on the review process itself.

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01:37:08.720 --> 01:37:25.470

William Drake: We stakeholders have repeatedly emphasized our great appreciation of the co-facilitators' efforts to facilitate our input. But at the same time, the reality remains that this review has reconstructed silos many of us thought had been broken down during WSIS Phase 2 20 years ago.

493

01:37:25.640 --> 01:37:39.929

William Drake: It is great that we are no longer being locked out, or thrown out of meetings, or told not to speak, as we were in the Geneva phase, but yet here we are making short statements to each other, with no way of knowing which, if any, governments are really considering our views.

494

01:37:39.930 --> 01:37:54.050

William Drake: when they go into their closed-door negotiations, about which there are no reports. The decision-making on the text feels a bit like we are waiting for a papal enclave to send up a smoke signal, which is not at all where the WIS itself ended up.

495

01:37:54.240 --> 01:38:08.849

William Drake: In the Tunis phase, we are often able to sit with government representatives and explore ideas about how to tackle complex problems. In this sense, multi-stakeholder cooperation was in a better place 20 years ago than it is now, and that is regrettable.

496

01:38:09.090 --> 01:38:11.020

William Drake: Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

497

01:38:13.240 --> 01:38:19.500

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, William. And next, we have Nkita Rathi from Asia Pacific Youth Internet Governance Forum.

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01:38:23.570 --> 01:38:25.759

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): Thank you. Am I audible and visible?

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01:38:26.110 --> 01:38:26.980

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Yes, you are.

500

01:38:27.420 --> 01:38:44.889

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): Okay. Thank you, distinguished co-facilitators and colleagues, for this opportunity to bring youth voices into this important discussion. My name is Ankita Rati, the organizing committee member of Asia Pacific YIGF 2025, and today I speak on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Youth Community.

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01:38:44.890 --> 01:38:48.999

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): who have actively participated in the Business Plus 20 review process.

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01:38:49.000 --> 01:39:05.389

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): I would like to acknowledge the encouraging progress in Revision 1, which recognizes youth as important stakeholders in PARA 3 and PARA117, and acknowledges the contribution of national, regional, and youth internet governance forums in PARA 96.

503

01:39:05.420 --> 01:39:22.650

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): We strongly welcome the decision in Para 98 to make the Internet Governance Forum a permanent forum of the United Nations, and we urge that these provisions, including the recognition of youth IGFs, remain intact in further revisions.

504

01:39:22.650 --> 01:39:30.100

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): I'm here today to tell you that youth are already building the systems, norms, and cultures that define the internet.

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01:39:30.100 --> 01:39:42.000

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): Despite the challenges we face, we are ready to work alongside all stakeholders as capable partners committed to collective responsibility, collaboration, and accountability.

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01:39:42.000 --> 01:39:55.420

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): While we appreciate that Revision 1 recognizes youth as stakeholders and acknowledges youth IGFs as the part of the broader IGF ecosystem, what remains missing are the concrete mechanisms

507

01:39:55.610 --> 01:39:58.690

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): That would make this recognition operational.

508

01:39:58.770 --> 01:40:10.159

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): To make youth participation structural, resourced, and respected, we urge that upcoming revisions include language that calls for, first.

509

01:40:10.160 --> 01:40:25.489

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): Institutionalization of youth delegate roles across the governance structures, and second, dedicated support and resources for youth IGFs and other youth initiatives, such as youth-led research and innovation.

510

01:40:25.590 --> 01:40:37.400

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): These revisions are essential because as digital natives, innovators, and advocates, we want governance to be responsive and accountable to a broad range of public interest.

511

01:40:37.400 --> 01:40:52.960

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): and to the future. The WSIS Plus 20 process has the opportunity to evolve into a truly intergenerational framework where youth are treated as partners of today, ensuring that digital governance serves not only current needs.

512

01:40:52.960 --> 01:40:55.520

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): But the future we are building together.

513

01:40:55.710 --> 01:41:12.369

Ankita Rathi (Asia Pacific yIGF): Thank you for the progress that is already reflected in Revision 1. We will share more inputs through email, and we urge that the final outcome include... outcome include clear calls for the structural provisions to further strengthen youth participation. Thank you.

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01:41:13.680 --> 01:41:20.839

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Ankita. And, next we have Constantinos Komitis from the Atlantic Council.

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01:41:21.450 --> 01:41:27.529

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Or apparently not. I think then we have arrived at our last speaker for...

516

01:41:27.920 --> 01:41:36.329

Tony Oweke (Kenya): today's consultation, and that will be Caitlin Kraft Bookman from Women at the Table, Alliance Inclusive Algorithms. Caitlin, please.

517

01:41:36.630 --> 01:41:47.309

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Thank you very much, Chair. So I'm speaking on behalf of Women at the Table, the A-plus Alliance for Inclusive Algorithms, and also the AI and Equality Human Rights Initiative.

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01:41:47.510 --> 01:42:06.070

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: So we welcome Rev. 1's inclusion of enforcement reporting in paragraph 122, and the explicit naming of UN women, and OHCHR in paragraph 119. These show what's possible when gender equality is taken seriously, and we need the same specificity throughout the document.

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01:42:06.500 --> 01:42:16.739

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: However, Rev. 1 presents critical gaps, and in some cases, regression from the zero draft, and I'll focus on four specific paragraphs requiring amendment.

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01:42:16.850 --> 01:42:33.479

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: First paragraph 11. The current binary framing of women and girls excludes gender-diverse persons and fails to align with contemporary human rights frameworks. We recommend adding after women and girls gender-diverse persons and other marginalized groups.

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01:42:33.550 --> 01:42:48.139

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: This language reflects the Beijing Platform for Action's recognition that gender is a social structure affecting people of all identities and intersects with race, class, age, disability, and sexual orientation.

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01:42:48.470 --> 01:42:59.379

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Second, Paragraph 76 addresses technology-facilitated gender-based violence, but remains aspirational, rather than operational.

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01:42:59.380 --> 01:43:11.089

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: We recommend replacing the current text with language that recognizes TFGBV as a distinct form of gender-based violence and human rights violation.

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01:43:11.090 --> 01:43:27.470

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Acknowledges differentiated impacts on vulnerable persons, and commits to survivor-centered access to justice, psychosocial support, and risk mitigation through intersectional approaches at local, national, regional, and international levels.

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01:43:27.470 --> 01:43:36.079

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: This draws from CSW 67 Agreed Conclusions, paragraph 58, and General Assembly Resolution 77-193.

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01:43:36.420 --> 01:43:49.689

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Third, paragraph 114 represents a concerning regression. The zero draft included gender-disaggregated targets and indicators. Rev. 1 deleted this language entirely.

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01:43:49.820 --> 01:44:09.570

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: We urge restoration of including gender-disaggregated targets, indicators, and metrics, as well as specific indicators on the prevalence, response to, and redress of TFGBV. Without mandated disaggregation, monitoring will remain gender-blind, and

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01:44:09.960 --> 01:44:17.910

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Probably not happen at all. This is supported by CSW 67, paragraph 58, CDAW General Recommendation 35.

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01:44:18.630 --> 01:44:19.580

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Fourth?

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01:44:19.820 --> 01:44:26.609

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: The AI section, paragraphs 81 through 85, contain zero gender analysis.

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01:44:26.670 --> 01:44:37.439

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Research shows that AI systems trained on biased data reproduce discriminatory patterns and disproportionately expose women and gender-diverse persons to harm.

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01:44:37.480 --> 01:44:50.380

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: We recommend inserting a new paragraph, 81Bs, stating, gender equality must be embedded as a core principle of artificial intelligence governance. This requires promoting participatory approaches.

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01:44:50.380 --> 01:44:58.700

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: In algorithmic design, ensuring gender-disaggregated and inclusive data practices, and addressing data gaps and biases.

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01:44:58.770 --> 01:45:16.469

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Algorithmic impact assessments conducted throughout the AI lifecycle are key tools to evaluate potential gender and intersectional harms. This language comes from General Assembly Resolution 77-193 and CSW 67, paragraph 61.

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01:45:16.820 --> 01:45:36.040

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: And finally, paragraph 119 names UN women, but lacks operational mandate. After listing members, we recommend adding, we further request UNGES to systematically integrate gender equality and women's rights into its monitoring, review, and accountability functions.

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01:45:36.040 --> 01:45:44.340

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: Including evaluation of state and private sector enforcement practices. This is drawn from CSW 67, paragraph 86A.

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01:45:44.670 --> 01:45:50.849

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: So, dear Chair, these amendments operationalize commitments governments have already made.

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01:45:51.280 --> 01:46:02.750

Caitlin Kraft-Buchman: gender equality is not peripheral... not peripheral, as you know, to WSIS outcomes. It's fundamental to its success, and we urge for this adoption. Thank you very much.

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01:46:03.870 --> 01:46:15.380

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Caitlin. So as mentioned before, we have exhausted our list of speakers. However, we have enough time for perhaps, 6 more speakers before we have to end the meeting.

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01:46:15.650 --> 01:46:18.710

Tony Oweke (Kenya): So at this point, I would open up the floor to...

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01:46:19.120 --> 01:46:25.010

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Any participants who didn't get a chance to speak and would like to, please indicate by raising your hand.

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01:46:37.930 --> 01:46:44.070

Tony Oweke (Kenya): I see Jimson, Olafoyi. Please, Jimson, please come in.

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01:46:54.030 --> 01:46:57.280

Jimson Olufuye: Alright, greetings.

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01:46:58.010 --> 01:47:00.640

Jimson Olufuye: My name is James Sulumu.

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01:47:01.520 --> 01:47:05.949

Jimson Olufuye: I want to say a big thank you to our co-facilitators for all the great work.

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01:47:06.300 --> 01:47:08.939

Jimson Olufuye: to be doing. Thank you, Tony.

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01:47:10.010 --> 01:47:15.760

Jimson Olufuye: Thank you, denise and all the... key stakeholders.

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01:47:16.310 --> 01:47:23.519

Jimson Olufuye: Yes, as a member of the MSB, I'm not speaking for IMSB, I'm just speaking my own personal capacity.

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01:47:24.980 --> 01:47:30.859

Jimson Olufuye: The Rev1 is excellent. In fact, the shorter the document, the better.

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01:47:31.480 --> 01:47:38.270

Jimson Olufuye: And the points raised on IGF, very critical, that is permanent, and the recognition of the...

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01:47:38.880 --> 01:47:42.560

Jimson Olufuye: dynamic collation and the NRL, very good.

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01:47:43.480 --> 01:47:45.610

Jimson Olufuye: On the need for...

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01:47:45.820 --> 01:47:52.390

Jimson Olufuye: follow-up, because that is important with regard to implementation. That's what I'm speaking to, actually.

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01:47:53.110 --> 01:48:01.819

Jimson Olufuye: There is no... still no mention of, national follow-up. Follow-up at the national level is very, very important.

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01:48:02.250 --> 01:48:08.469

Jimson Olufuye: National level follow-up, I think, was mentioned in the Tunis, agenda.

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01:48:08.750 --> 01:48:17.199

Jimson Olufuye: But in subsequent reviews, even 2015, there hasn't been clear, reference to national follow-ups.

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01:48:17.580 --> 01:48:28.779

Jimson Olufuye: Though in Rev1, there is, recognition of the need to support and fund a national statistical organization with regard to measurement.

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01:48:28.880 --> 01:48:30.560

Jimson Olufuye: measuring progress.

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01:48:30.810 --> 01:48:50.170

Jimson Olufuye: But specifically, on, WSIS plus 20, or WSIS review going forward at the national level, this is really important. There was no mention of that. So, in my personal capacity, I would like to re-emphasize there is need, for us to

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01:48:50.780 --> 01:49:04.460

Jimson Olufuye: recognize the need, for WSIS, implementation, also, follow-up also at the national level. And then, to avoid duplication.

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01:49:04.580 --> 01:49:09.919

Jimson Olufuye: Igm is already a strong multi-stakeholder platform.

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01:49:10.620 --> 01:49:24.960

Jimson Olufuye: IGF's a very strong multi-stakeholder platform where all stakeholders can discuss, policy direction openly, and new, and emerging, technologies, clearly, for all to understand.

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01:49:25.030 --> 01:49:44.219

Jimson Olufuye: As such, IDF should be such noted as an existing framework or platform for many of these emerging issues to be discussed in order to avoid duplication, which has been underlined by all stakeholders that are spoken so far.

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01:49:44.540 --> 01:50:00.929

Jimson Olufuye: So, thank you so much for all the work being done, our co-facilitators, we appreciate the Secretariat, we commend the need for... to reach out to so many, and then we hope that there'll be more openness going forward. Thank you.

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01:50:02.570 --> 01:50:11.329

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Thank you very much, Jimson, for your comments, and also all the hard work you've been doing as part of the sounding board, which has been really an asset for the co-facilitators.

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01:50:11.530 --> 01:50:13.349

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Throughout this process.

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01:50:13.680 --> 01:50:19.620

Tony Oweke (Kenya): At this stage, I don't see any other requests for the floor, so I will just proceed to the closing remarks.

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01:50:20.690 --> 01:50:28.150

Tony Oweke (Kenya): And thanks again to all participants for your active engagement, and the many substantive interventions that,

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01:50:28.250 --> 01:50:30.919

Tony Oweke (Kenya): We have gathered during today's consultation.

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01:50:31.320 --> 01:50:37.420

Tony Oweke (Kenya): The insights provided will help shape the next iteration of the WSIS Plus 20 outcome document.

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01:50:37.520 --> 01:50:39.599

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Which, as mentioned earlier, will be...

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01:50:39.730 --> 01:50:41.929

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Published in the beginning of December.

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01:50:42.430 --> 01:50:47.709

Tony Oweke (Kenya): So with this, I would close the meeting unless there are any other...

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01:50:47.870 --> 01:50:51.829

Tony Oweke (Kenya): points that, the Secretariat would like to raise.

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01:50:56.140 --> 01:50:57.679

UN DESA DPIDG: No, thank you, thank you, Tony.

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01:50:57.680 --> 01:51:01.740

Tony Oweke (Kenya): I see none. Okay, so we can close the meeting. Thank you very much, and have a great...

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01:51:01.860 --> 01:51:04.879

Tony Oweke (Kenya): Rest of your day, and even better weekend.

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01:51:08.130 --> 01:51:08.720

UN DESA DPIDG: Thank you.