Swiss Confederation

General Assembly on the review of the implementation outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+20 Review)

Informal Stakeholder Consultation Session on the WSIS+20 Elements Paper

En ligne, le 29 juillet 2025

Déclaration de la Suisse

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Dear Co-Facilitators,

Let me begin by expressing our delegation's sincere gratitude for your steadfast leadership in guiding the WSIS+20 review process. Your commitment to transparency and inclusivity—exemplified by the establishment of the Informal Multistakeholder Sounding Board—has been instrumental in fostering trust and collaboration among all stakeholders.

As we approach this critical milestone, we believe the WSIS+20 outcome must reaffirm the enduring vision of a people-centered, inclusive, and development-oriented Information Society, while also aligning with newer ambitions such as the Global Digital Compact. Twenty years after the original Summits, we recognize the profound progress made in connecting communities, advancing digital cooperation, and leveraging technology for sustainable development. Yet we must also confront new challenges—from artificial intelligence to deepening digital divides—with the same spirit of multistakeholder solidarity that defined WSIS.

To ensure a focused and productive review, we underscore the importance of building on established consensus. Rather than relitigating settled issues, we should reaffirm the foundational outcomes of WSIS,

WSIS+10, and the GDC, drawing where appropriate on agreed language from relevant UN resolutions. Substantive discussions ought to prioritize emerging challenges and opportunities not fully addressed in earlier frameworks, ensuring WSIS+20 remains both forward-looking and actionable.

Implementation must be our shared priority. Strengthening the WSIS framework will require revitalized mechanisms—such as an updated UNGIS, a more strategic role for the CSTD and IGF, and a streamlined WSIS Forum focused on tangible outcomes. We further propose exploring practical tools like a WSIS Helpdesk to support capacity-building. By avoiding duplication and fostering system-wide coherence, we can translate principles into measurable progress, which is why we join the CSTD call for a joint implementation roadmap to harmonize GDC commitments into the WSIS architecture.

In closing, we urge all delegations to approach WSIS+20 with ambition and flexibility. Let us deliver an outcome that not only honors WSIS's legacy but also equips the international community to harness digital technologies as true enablers of the SDGs. You can count on our delegation's full engagement in this collective effort.

Thank you.