**United Nations General Assembly's Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes**

**(Russia, Belarus, Ecuador: review title to include political declaration as last proposed)(US, Canada, Australia: oppose)(EU: oppose but open to other options)(Cuba: alternative to include chapeau preamble para)**

*Note: highlighted in blue means consensus elements*

*Paragraphs followed by* (AD REF.) *should be ready for adoption.*

**Preamble**

1. Recalling the request in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society to the General Assembly to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2015, **[Canada, Australia, EU, US: del -** and in this regard reaffirming the **(RoK: the importance][**centrality] of the General Assembly to this **[Belarus: overall review]** process]**(G77 & China: retain)**; **[EU: and in this regard ...** (continue text from para 2, combining para 1 and 2)] (**G77 & China, US, Belarus: can consider combining para 1 & 2)**

2. Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/302 of 31 August 2014, decided that the overall review would be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly **[US; Belarus can support: , del -** preceded by an intergovernmental preparatory process that also takes into account inputs from all relevant WSIS stakeholders];

3. Welcoming the constructive and diverse inputs from **[Canada, Australia, Japan, EU, US: del -** governments and]**(Ecuador, Russia, Egypt, Belarus, China: oppose del)** all **[Canada, Australia, Japan, EU, US: del** - other relevant] [**Cuba, China: as well as private sector, civil society, international organizations and other**] stakeholders] [**Belarus**: replace stakeholders with participants] [**EU, Brazil and US can support: including governments]** in taking stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS and addressing potential information and communication technology (ICT) gaps and areas for continued focus, as well as challenges, including bridging the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide] and harnessing ICT for development;

4. Building on, among other relevant inputs, the ten-year WSIS reviews conducted by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in May 2015; the UNESCO-hosted multistakeholder conference Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, held in February 2013, **[Russia, Belarus: , multistakeholder event "CONNECTing the Dots", held in March 2015**, **](Canada, Australia: oppose addition),** and its outcomes; and the multistakeholder WSIS +10 High Level Event hosted by ITU in June 2014, **[Russia, Belarus: the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and the WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 adopted by**

**multilateral consensus**](**Canada, Australia: oppose addition**) including its outcomes;
(**EU, Canada, Australia: add reference to UNESCO's work**)
(**EU, Brazil, Canada, Australia, US: add reference to NetMundial**)(**Belarus, Cuba, Russia, China: oppose addition**)

5. We [**Cuba: decide that**] [reaffirm] our common desire and commitment to the WSIS vision to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information[ and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, [**Cuba: is guided by**][premised on](**US, EU: retain**) the purposes and [**EU, US support: all**] principles of the Charter of the United Nations, [**G77 & China; Canada, Australia, India, US and EU support: del** - including sovereign; to include other principles] [**G77 & China: political independence, the right to self determination,**] [**G77 & China, China: settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and refraining from the use of force**] (**EU, US, New Zealand, Canada, Australia, Cuba: oppose listing**) (**US, China support: to include all principles in para. 53**) (**EU; Canada, Australia, US can support: annex all principles or as footnote**) respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights]. [**Russia:  , International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**] [**Canada, Australia: and the International Covenants on Human Rights**](**EU, Canada, Australia, Russia: can support both**)(**China; US, EU can support: oppose addition**) [**EU alternative:  ... and the International Covenants on Human Rights, including International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**] [~~Russia: We recognize the importance of ICTs as a tool for transition from information to a knowledge society and the fact that it is inseparably connected with human development~~][~~EU, Canada, Australia: oppose addition~~] (**China; US, Russia support: reservation pending text in para 53**)

[**(Brazil)Facilitator text below, plus add concise ref (text from NetMundial) to all principles in para 53; India, US, EU support:**

**5 alt.** We reaffirm our common desire and commitment to the WSIS vision to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and [**all**] principles of the Charter of the United Nations, [**and**] respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.]

6. We further reaffirm our commitment to the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the Geneva Plan of Action and its Action Lines, the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and we recognize the need for governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to continue to work together to [**EU, Canada, Australia: implement them**][further enhance the WSIS vision] beyond 2015. (AD REF.)

7. We moreover reaffirm the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the WSIS process since its inception, recognising that effective participation, partnership and cooperation of governments and all other relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, has been and continues to be vital in developing the Information Society. (AD REF.)

8. We welcome the remarkable evolution and diffusion of ICTs, and underpinned by the contributions of governments and all other relevant stakeholders, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interaction and enabled new business models, and contributed to economic growth and development **[EU: , and promoted transparency, accountability and good governance and human rights]** in all other sectors. **[G77 & China: particularly in the past 10 years, while noting the emerging challenges related to evolution and diffusion of ICTS, including cyber-crime, cyber-terrorism, cyber-threats and cyber-attacks](US: oppose addition)**

9. We recognize that increased ICT connectivity, innovation, and access have played a critical role in enabling progress on the Millennium Development Goals, and we call for close alignment between the WSIS process and **[Canada, Australia: further recognise the importance of ICT connectivity to the achievement of]** the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, **[Canada, Australia: given]**[highlighting] ICT's cross-cutting contribution **[Canada, Australia: del -** to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and poverty eradication, and noting that access to ICTs has also become a development indicator and aspiration in and of itself**]**.

10. We express concern, however, that there are still significant digital divides, such as between and within countries and between women and men, which need to be addressed through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments and international cooperation to improve affordability, **[G77 & China: access,]** education, **[Belarus: accessibility]** capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, and **[Canada, Australia: investment][**appropriate**]** financing. Further, we acknowledge that a gender divide exists as part of the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide], and encourage all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to the new technologies, especially ICTs for development.

11. We acknowledge that particular attention should be paid to address the ICT challenges facing developing countries, [G77: support listing of countries] [EU: including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states], **[Canada, Australia, EU, US: reservation** - middle-income countries**]**, countries and territories under **[Israel, US, Canada, Australia: del** - [foreign]]**[G77 & China: retain]** occupation, [EU: and countries affected by conflict or natural disasters] **(EU; US support: to change order of country groups to reflect development priority)**. Particular attention should also be paid to address the specific ICT challenges facing children, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, [**EU: del -** women], indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced people, migrants and remote and rural communities.

12. We recognize that the Internet is a global resource that must be managed in an open **[EU: del - and]** inclusive **[EU; US, Cuba can support: , transparent and democratic](China, Ecuador, Russia: oppose addition; retain as-is)** manner, which serves the public interest. We further reaffirm that the international management of the Internet should be **[India; New Zealand: del** - multilateral] **[Brazil; US can support: and multistakeholder (simultaneously)]**, transparent and democratic, **[India, Brazil: multistakeholder]** with the full involvement of **[Brazil: all]** governments, private sector, civil society, the technical community, and international organizations **[Brazil: in their respective roles and responsibilities] [G77 & China, China, Russia, Cuba, Egypt, Belarus, Ecuador: taking into their respective roles and responsibilities, as stated in the Geneva plan of action and the Tunis Agenda. We therefore recognize the relevance of a multistakeholder increasing cooperation and engagement]**.
**(Canada, Australia, Japan, US: del para) (G77 & China, China, Russia, Cuba, Egypt, Belarus, Brazil, India, Ecuador:  retain para)**
**(Cuba; Brazil support: address both principles of multilateral and multistakeholder)**
**(Ecuador: note distinction between Internet management and Internet governance)**
**(US bracket entire para pending text in 56; China support)**
**(EU, Canada and Australia: define multilateral)**

**[Japan; Canada, Australia, US can support: 12 alt. We acknowledge that the Internet is a central element of the infrastructure of the Information Society and is a global facility available to the public, and affirm that Internet issues should be addressed through respect for human rights and the principles of openness, accessibility and multi-stakeholder participation]**

**[(Brazil)Facilitator's proposal: concise text in para 12, with more elaborated text in para 56]**

13. We further recognize that to achieve the WSIS vision, the same rights that people have offline **[Brazil; Canada, Australia, Cuba, Belarus support: must also be protected]**[apply] online **(EU, US: more text on HR)(Ecuador, Cuba: reservation) [EU: We recognize the importance of]** Building confidence and security in ICT use **[Canada, Australia, Japan, EU, China: del; or replace 'must' with 'should' as alternative (Belarus can support) -** must be [**Japan, Canada, Australia: one of the][China: the][Russia: an important]**[a] priority **[EU, Canada, Australia, Japan; Russia can consider: for sustainable development][EU, US, Belarus alt: for a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society]**, especially given growing abuse of ICTs for harmful activities from harassment to crime to terrorism]. **(Russia, G77 & China: retain as-is)(G77 & China, EU, Cuba: can support split to 2 para, from second line)**

**1. ICT for Development**
**(G77 & China, Cuba: supportive of para 14-21 as-is)**
**(Canada, Australia, US, EU: supportive in general; minor edits)**

14. We commit to harnessing the potential of ICTs to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that ICTs can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).  We accordingly call on **[Canada,**

**Australia, Japan: all stakeholders][**all governments and all other relevant stakeholders**](Cuba, Russia: oppose replacement)** to **[Canada, Australia: consider]**[integrate] ICTs in their implementation approaches to the SDGs, and request United Nations entities facilitating the WSIS Action Lines to review their reporting and work plans to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

15. We recognize with satisfaction that the last decade's considerable increases in connectivity, use, creation, and innovation have created new tools to drive poverty eradication and economic, social, and environmental betterment and poverty eradication. **[Canada, Australia: del -** [**US: For example**] Fixed and wireless broadband, mobile Internet, smartphones and tablets, cloud computing, social media and big data were only in their early stages in the Tunis Agenda, and are now understood to be foundational contributors to sustainable development.**]**

16. We reaffirm that the [**Canada, Australia: ICT connectivity is essential in building the Information Society, and the**] spread and use of ICTs must continue to be a core focus and outcome of the WSIS process. We are highly encouraged that the number of mobile phone subscriptions is estimated to have risen from 2.2 billion in 2005 to 7.1 billion in 2015, and that by the end of 2015, 3.2 billion people are expected to be online, over 40 per cent of the total world population and of which 2 billion are from developing countries. We also note that fixed broadband subscriptions have reached a penetration rate of almost 10 per cent, as compared to 3.4 per cent in 2005, and that mobile broadband remains the fastest growing market segment, with continuous double-digit growth rates and an estimated global penetration rate of 32 per cent, or four times the penetration rate recorded just five years earlier.

17. We note that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy, and that ICT connectivity is correlated with increases in GDP. ICTs have created a new generation of businesses, innovators, and jobs, and, while altering and making obsolete others, have also generally increased the efficiency, market access, and ingenuity of all sectors. We recognize the critical importance of expanding the participation of all countries, particularly developing countries, in the digital economy. (AD REF.)

18. We also recognize that ICTs are contributing to higher levels of social benefit and inclusion, providing new channels among citizens, businesses and governments to share and augment knowledge, as well as participate in decisions that affect their lives and work. As envisioned by the WSIS Action Lines, we have seen ICT-enabled breakthroughs in government, business, education, health, employment, agriculture and science, among others, allowing greater numbers of people access to services and data that might previously have been out-of-reach or unaffordable. At the same time, we recognize that ICTs are fundamentally altering the way individuals and communities interact, consume, and spend their time, with new and unforeseen health and social consequences, many of which are positive, and some of which raise concerns.

**(Liechtenstein: separate last part as 18bis. At the same time, we recognize that ICTs are fundamentally altering the way individuals and communities interact, consume, and spend their**

**time, with new and unforeseen health and social consequences, many of which are positive, and some of which raise [concerns] [Liechtenstein: serious challenges to our societies.])**

19. We recognize that ICTs have become **[Canada, Australia: important]**[central] to disaster and humanitarian response and further reaffirm its role to enhance and develop multi-hazard early warning systems, preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. We **[Canada, Australia: encourage]**[also call for] greater investments in innovation and technology development for long-term, multi-hazard and solution-driven research in the field of disaster risk management.

20. We recognize that ICTs are also increasingly a means to support the diversity of cultural expression and the fast-growing cultural and creative industries, and we affirm that comprehensive, practical digital strategies are needed for the preservation of **[Belarus, Russia: cultural heritage]** and access to recorded information in the digital **[EU: heritage]**[environment] [**EU: del - in all its forms].**

21. We further recognise that increasing use of ICTs both generates certain environmental benefits and imposes certain environmental costs, which we aim to reduce. We welcome the opportunity afforded by sustainable energy to potentially decouple ICT growth from contributions to climate change, and we also note ICT's catalytic value for deploying renewable energy, energy efficiency, smart and resilient city concepts, and Internet-enabled delivery of services, among other abatement options. However, we recognize that we must encourage further action to improve the resource efficiency of ICTs, and to reuse, recycle, and safely dispose of e-waste. (AD REF.)

**1.1 Bridging the Digital Divide[s]**
   **(Canada, Australia, EU, US: support in general; replace all with divides)**
   **(G77 & China: support in general)**

22. Despite the last decade's achievements in ICT connectivity, we express concern that many forms of digital divides remain, both between and within countries – as well as between women and men. We recognize that further divides can emerge in the future, slowing sustainable development. Indicatively, we acknowledge that, as of 2013, only around 40 per cent of people globally have internet access, only 37 per cent of women have internet access, and an estimated 80 per cent of online content is available in only one of 10 languages. The poor are the most excluded from the benefits of ICT.

**(G77 & China: del above and replace with 22alt. Despite the last decade's achievements in ICT connectivity, we are concerned that digital divides remain – including between developed and developing countries – that slow sustainable development. We express our preoccupation on the facts that by 2015 34% of households in developing countries have internet access, compared with more than the 80% in developed countries, which means that 2/3 of the population residing in developing countries remain offline and an estimated 80 per cent of online content is available in only one of 10 languages.)**

23. We further express concern that digital divides remain between developed and developing countries, and that many developing countries lack affordable access to ICTs. By 2015, 34 per cent of households in developing countries have internet access, with significant variations by country compared with more than 80 per cent in developed countries. **(EU: reservation; need for more balanced text)**

**(G77 & China: del above and replace with 23alt. Notes with great concern that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies and that, for the majority of the poor, the promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divides**)

24. We affirm our commitment to bridging the digital divide[s], and we recognize that our approach must be multi-dimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access.  We acknowledge that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content, and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of quality, and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development.  We moreover acknowledge that differences in individuals' capabilities to both use and create ICTs represent a knowledge divide that perpetuates inequality. We note, too, the ambition to move beyond "information societies" to "knowledge societies", in which information is not only created and disseminated, but put to the benefit of human development. We recognize that divides may change with technological and service innovation, **[US: depending on how those innovations are deployed,]** and we call on all stakeholders, particularly United Nations entities that are facilitating WSIS Action Lines, to work together to **[Canada, Australia: continue to]**[regularly] analyse the nature of the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide], study strategies to bridge it, and make their findings available to the international community.

25. We underscore the need for further development of local content and services in different languages and formats that are accessible to all people, who also need the capabilities and capacities, including media, information, and digital literacy skills to make use of and further develop ICTs. Accordingly, we recognize the vital importance of the principles of multilingualism in the information society to ensure the linguistic, cultural and historical diversity of all nations. (AD REF.)

26. We moreover call for a significant increase in access to ICTs and **[US: strive]** to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet to all. We welcome the targets for the growth of access, broadband for all, inclusiveness, innovation and partnerships in ICTs, as adopted under the Connect 2020 Agenda at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014.

27. We also recognize the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide] in digital uses and literacy and the need to bridge it. (AD REF.)

28. We emphasize our concern that only 37% of women have internet access and draw attention to the gender digital divide, which persists in access to and use of ICTs, and also in ICT education,

employment and other economic and social development factors. We recognize that ending the gender digital divide and achievement of SDG 5 on gender are mutually reinforcing efforts, and we commit to mainstream gender in the WSIS process, including through a new emphasis on gender in the implementation and monitoring of WSIS Action Lines, with the support of relevant United Nations entities, including UN Women. We call for immediate measures to achieve gender equality in internet users by 2020, especially by significantly enhancing women's and girls' education and participation in ICTs, as users, content creators employees, entrepreneurs, innovators, and leaders.  We reaffirm our commitment to ensure women's full participation in decision-making processes related to ICTs. (AD REF.)

29. We moreover note that divides are often closely linked to [**US: development,** ] education levels and existing inequalities, and that policy and financing frameworks **[US: can][del -** also strongly] influence **[Canada, Australia: availability, affordability and]** quality of access to ICTs and services thereof.  We therefore call for a special focus on actions that improve the enabling environment for ICTs and expand related education and capacity-building opportunities. **(US: move para to enabling environment section)**

**1.2 Enabling Environment**
**(G77 & China: generally supports)**

30. We recognize that certain policies have substantially contributed to bridging the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide] and ICT's value for sustainable development, and we commit to continue identification and implementation of best and emerging practices for establishment and functioning of innovation and investment frameworks for ICTs.

31. We recognize the importance of free flow of information and knowledge, as the amount of information distributed worldwide grows and the role of communication becomes all the more important. We acknowledge that mainstreaming ICTs in school curricula; open access to data; fostering of competition; creation of transparent, predictable independent, and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems; proportionate taxation and licensing fees; access to finance; facilitation of public-private partnerships; multi-stakeholder cooperation; national broadband strategies; efficient allocation of spectrum; infrastructure-sharing models; community-based approaches; and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development.

**[EU: 31 bis. We also recognize the importance of cultural diversity in the digital era and the need to implement in the information society the principles of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.]**

32. We recognise that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states, middle-income countries, countries and territories under [foreign] occupation, and countries affected by conflict or natural

disasters. All efforts should be deployed to reduce the price of ICTs and broadband access, noting that deliberate interventions, including through research and development **[EU: del - a**nd technology transfer on **[G77 & China: non-discriminatory/concessional and preferential]** mutually agreed terms], may be necessary to spur lower-cost connectivity options. **(US: retain technology transfer as is) (Israel: same position on "foreign" in paras 28 and 58)**

33. In building the Information Society, States are strongly urged to take steps with a view to the avoidance of, and refrain from, any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, and that hinders the well-being of their population. **(EU, Canada, Australia: delete para) (G77 & China, Russia, Iran: retain)**

34. We recognize that the radio frequency spectrum should be managed in the public interest **[EU: del - and in accordance with principle of legality with full observance of national laws and regulations as well as relevant international agreements]. (Canada, Australia: delete para) (G77 & China, Russia: retain)**

**[G77 & China: 34 bis. We reiterate that ITU and other regional organizations should take steps to ensure rational, efficient and economic use of, and equitable access to, the radio frequency spectrum by all countries, based on relevant international agreements.]**

35. We request all Action Line facilitators **[Belarus: and all other relevant stakeholders]** [**Canada, Australia, Belarus: within their respective mandates]** to work with [**EU, US: all]** stakeholders **[US: in discussions related to ICTs and development]** and regularly identify and promote specific, detailed actions to **[US: continue to]** support the enabling environment for ICTs and development, **[Canada, Australia: del -** as well as provide demand-driven policy advice, technical assistance and capacity-building to realize them]. **(Russia: consider noting WIPO work on intellectual property; EU: WIPO would be covered by stakeholders in para as is)**

**1.3 [Financial Mechanisms][G77 & China: Means of Implementation, including Financial Mechanisms] (US: The title is correct)**

36. We welcome that total public and private spending on ICTs has increased substantially in the last decade, now reaching to the trillions annually, and has been complemented by a proliferation of new financing mechanisms, both results marking progress on paragraphs 23 and 27 of the Tunis Agenda. (AD REF.)

37. We recognise, however, that harnessing ICT for development and bridging the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide] will require greater and sustainable investment in ICT infrastructure and services, capacity building, promotion of joint R&D and transfer of technology on mutually agreed

terms. These mechanisms remain a primary focus for all countries and people, particularly in developing countries. (AD REF.)

38. We **[Canada, Australia: call for careful consideration of]**[commit to] efficient public resource allocation to ICT deployment and development, **[Canada, Australia: in partnership with the private sector]** recognizing the need for ICT **[Canada, Australia: investment]**[budgeting] across all sectors, especially education.  We stress that capacity is a major barrier to closing the digital **[Canada, Australia: divides]**[divide], and we recommend that capacity development, including for innovation, should be emphasised to empower local experts and local communities to fully benefit from and contribute to ICT applications for development. We recognise the potential to improve connectivity, especially in remote and rural areas, through universal service funds, publicly-funded national backbones, and community-owned and managed last-mile infrastructure, particularly in areas where market conditions make investment difficult.

39. We recognise that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for ICTs can make significant contributions to development outcomes, particularly where it can de-risk public and private investment, as well as increase the use ICTs to strengthen good governance and tax collection. (AD REF.)

**[G77 & China: 39 bis. In this regard, ODA providers reaffirm their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries.]**

40. We recognise further the critical importance of private sector investment in ICT infrastructure, content, and services, and we encourage governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation.  We recognise the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end.  (AD REF.)

41. We also **[Canada, Australia, EU: encourage]**[call for] a prominent profile for ICTs in the new technology facilitation mechanism established by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda **[Canada, Australia, EU: del -** , and for the assessment of how it can contribute to implementation of the WSIS Action Lines]. **(US: supports EU, Canada, Australia)**

42. We **[G77 & China: note with concern]** [regret] the challenges in implementing the Digital Solidarity Fund, which was welcomed in Tunis as an innovative financial mechanism of a voluntary nature. We call for an ongoing evaluation of new innovative financing options in the annual review of WSIS outcomes. **[Canada, Australia, EU, US: We welcome the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.]**

**2. Human rights in the Information Society**
**(G77 & China, Cuba, China: supports as proposed; balanced)**

43. We also reaffirm the commitment set out in the Geneva Declaration and the Tunis Commitment to the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development as enshrined in the Vienna Declaration. **[Canada, Australia, US: We also reaffirm that democracy, sustainable development, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as good governance at all levels are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. We further resolve to strengthen respect for the rule of law in international and in national affairs.]**

44. We recognize that human rights have been central to the WSIS vision, and that ICTs have contributed to and strengthened the realization of human rights. (**Canada, Australia: move up and strengthen with access to information, freedom of expression, etc.)**

45. We moreover reaffirm, as an essential foundation of the Information Society, and as recognised in General Assembly resolution 69/166, that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy. (AD REF.)

46. We note however, that there are concerns about freedom of expression and plurality of information in many parts of the world, and we call for the protection of journalists, **[US: independent]** media workers, **[Canada, Australia: bloggers]** and civil society **[US: actors][space][US: both online and offline]**. (**EU, Canada, Australia: strengthen with previous proposals, 38 bis, on censorship, etc.) [Canada, Australia, US, EU: We call upon all States to take all measures necessary to ensure the rights and safety of human rights defenders who exercise the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association, including online, which are essential for the promotion and protection of human rights.] [Liechtenstein: We also note the threats to the right to privacy and the potential for the abuse of the freedom of expression contrary to established human rights standards.]**

47. We reaffirm our commitment to Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and that this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. We further recall those commitments made under Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We underscore the need for respecting freedom of expression and the independence of media. We believe that communication is a fundamental social process, a basic human need, and the foundation of all social organization, and is central to the Information Society. Everyone, everywhere should have the opportunity to participate, and no one should be excluded from the benefits the Information Society offers. (AD REF.)

48. We emphasise that no person shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home, or correspondence, consistent with countries' **[EU, US: del - applicable][Russia, China: does not support][Cuba: flexible if ICCPR article 17 deleted]** obligations under international human rights law, **[Canada, Australia; Russia (supports without articles): as outlined in Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and]** as recognized in General Assembly resolution 69/166. Accordingly, we call upon all States to review their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, as well as their interception and collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, with a view to upholding the right to privacy **[US: as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and**

**Political Rights [Cuba: as applicable]]** by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law. (G77: reservation)

49. We reaffirm our commitment to the provisions of Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of their personality is possible, and that, in the exercise of their rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society. These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. We also recall those commitments made under Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in which the exercise of the rights provided for carries with it special duties and responsibilities. In this way, we shall promote an Information Society where human dignity is respected. (**EU, Canada, Australia, US: delete para) (G77 & China, Cuba, Russia, Belarus, China: maintain balance of paras 47 and 49)**

**3. Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs**

50. We affirm that strengthening confidence and security in the use of ICTs is a prerequisite for the development of information societies and the success of ICTs as a driver for economic and social innovation. (AD REF.)

51. We welcome the significant work done by **[Japan: all stakeholders][Russia: including]**[governments, as well as the private sector, civil society, the technical community and academia]**[Cuba, Ecuador: retain]** to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including by the International Telecommunications Union, the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Group on Cybercrime, and the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, among other international, regional and local efforts. Computer Security Incident Response Teams have been established around the world and there is growing collaboration between them at both regional and local levels. **[US: insert text recognizing all work and delete to end][Belarus, Cuba: del -** We also take note of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime **[Russia: as a regional, European initiative]**.]**[India, Canada, Australia, Japan, EU: retain][Brazil, Cuba, China, US, Russia, Canada, Australia, Pakistan: move Budapest to para 55] [India, Belarus: and recognise that the convention on cybercrime be more broad based and inclusive leading to an international framework on cybercrime.][US, Canada, Australia: opposed] [Japan, EU: del -** We recognise the need for governments, which have responsibility for national security and the personal safety of their citizens, to play a **[Japan: key]**[leading] role in ensuring **[Russia: confidence and security in the use of ICTs] [Canada, Australia:** cybersecurity]**[US: inasmuch as it relates to those responsibilities]**, alongside other stakeholders in their respective roles and responsibilities, in a manner consistent with human rights.]**[Japan, US: The private sector, civil society...also have key roles to play in ensuring cybersecurity...][Ecuador, China, Cuba, Russia, India: retain]** We recognize the contribution of the private sector, technical community and civil society to the development of technical solutions and innovative approaches to building confidence and security. **(Co-Facilitators suggestions: consider 51 in light of 55)**

**[EU: 51 bis. All stakeholders have roles and responsibilities to promote confidence and security in the use of ICTs. Governments, the private sector, civil society and the technical community all have important roles to play, working together to develop effective national regulatory frameworks, to promote and sustain multi-stakeholder cooperation, to ensure networks and devices are secure, to raise awareness and to support vulnerable groups.] (Russia: does not support)**

**[US: 51 bis We recognize the need for governments which have responsibility for national security ... to play a leading role in relation to those responsibilities in addition to other stakeholders...] (based on para 51) (China, Canada, Australia, Cuba, India, Pakistan, Japan: support splitting para 51)**

52. We reiterate the importance of ethics in establishing a safe, secure, tolerant and reliable cyberspace and strengthening the role of ICTs as enablers of development, as emphasised in paragraph 43 of the Tunis Agenda and mentioned under the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society of the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action. We recognise the need for special emphasis on the protection and empowerment of children online, incorporating regulatory, self-regulatory, and other effective policies and frameworks. In this regard, governments and other stakeholders should work together to help all children to enjoy the benefits of ICTs in a safe and secure environment. The growing threats of online harassment, intimidation and abuse, which are particularly aimed at women and girls, must also be comprehensively addressed. **(Canada, Australia, Japan: delete para)**

53. We recognize the **[Canada, Australia, Japan: del -** central importance of the principles of] international law enshrined in the United Nations Charter **[Canada, Australia, Japan: is applicable]** in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, particularly the political independence, territorial integrity and sovereign equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs of other states **[G77 & China (3 purposes and 7 principles): , the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and refraining from the use of force,]** and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. **[India, EU: We [US: welcome][take note of] the [Canada, Australia: 2013 and 2015] report of the fourth Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security [of 26 June 2015][US: which builds on the conclusion of the 2013 report of the third UNGGE that international law, in particular the UN Charter, is applicable to the use of ICTs by States and is essential to building confidence and security in the use of ICTs.]** (EU: delete para) (US, China: separate para on UNGGE)

**(Co-Facilitators: Discussion on 53 linked to paragraph 5)(US, China: listing all principles (annex or footnote) (Canada, Australia: do not support) (India, EU, Canada, Australia, Russia: fourth report of UNGGE (2015) addresses this)**

*(Note on principles from Secretariat: We recognize the international law enshrined in the United Nations Charter in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, including the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members, fulfilling in good faith the obligations assumed by the Member States in accordance with the present Charter, settling their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered, refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations, giving the United Nations every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter, and refraining from giving assistance to any state against which the United Nations is taking preventive or enforcement action, ensuring that states which are not Members of the United*

*Nations act in accordance with these Principles so far as may be necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security.)*

54. However, we are concerned about certain and growing uses of ICTs that threaten security and development benefits, including terrorism and cybercrime, **[Japan: del -** and we acknowledge concerns that existing legal and enforcement frameworks may not have caught up with the speed of technological change and application**]**. Furthermore, we note concerns that attacks against States, companies, other entities, and individuals are now being undertaken through digital means. We reiterate our belief that a global culture of cybersecurity needs to be promoted, developed, and implemented in cooperation with all stakeholders and international expert bodies in order to foster trust and security in the Information Society. **(EU: need for consistency with 1st committee)**

55. We call for increased global efforts **[Canada, Australia: for building confidence in the security and use of ICTs][Canada, Australia: del -** and cooperation in combating cybercrime, including by terrorists, and in countering cyber-threats and **[G77 & China, Russia: cyber]** attacks,**]** such as through United Nations processes and including discussion forums, information-sharing, elaboration of national and international [**Russia: strategies for building confidence and security in the use of ICTs**][cybersecurity strategies], **[Canada, Australia, Japan - del** improved indices for measuring cybersecurity]; and cooperation on **[Russia: del** - cybersecurity] standards and technical specifications. **[G77 & China: We call for robust measures to prevent terrorist organizations from using the Internet to broadcast terrorist and violent audio-visual materials, incite and promote violent ideology, recruit new members, raise funds, and instigate, plot and execute terrorist activities [US: while respecting internationally recognized human rights [Canada, Australia: including freedom of expression and freedom of assembly]].] [Brazil: retain** - We call in particular for greater capacity-building and technical assistance for ICT security and combatting cybercrime, especially in developing countries.**]** **[EU, US, Canada, Australia, Japan: del -** We acknowledge the call for a convention against international cybercrimes.**]** We recognise that approaches to **[Russia: building confidence and security in the use of ICTs]**[cybersecurity] should be fully compatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**[Brazil, US, EU, Pakistan, Canada, Australia: 55 alt. We underline the importance of the prosecution of cybercrime, including cybercrime committed in one jurisdiction, but having effects in another. We further underline the necessity of effective and efficient tools and actions, at national and international levels, to promote international cooperation among, inter alia, law-enforcement agencies on cybercrime. We call upon governments in cooperation with other stakeholders to develop necessary legislation for the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime, noting existing frameworks, for example, UNGA resolutions 55/63 and 56/121 on "Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies" and regional initiatives including, but not limited to, the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.] (replacing para 55 with Tunis Agenda para 40; to add selected text from para 55)(Co-facilitators suggestions: consider 55 in light of 51)**

**[G77 & China: 55 bis. We recognize the challenges by States, in particular, developing countries in combating the use of ICT for criminal purposes, including by terrorists, and emphasize the need and we commit to reinforce technical assistance and capacity building activities to developing countries, upon their request.] (US: supports capacity-building)**

**4. Internet Governance**

**[Canada, Australia; US, EU can support: 56 pre. We recognize that the existing arrangements for [Brazil: the technical management of] Internet governance have worked effectively to make the Internet the highly robust, dynamic and geographically diverse medium that it is today [US: add statistics, e.g. 3.5 billion Internet users del - , with the private sector taking the lead in day-to-day operations, and with innovation and value creation at the edges.] [Cuba support with additional text: However, 4 billion representing ⅔ of people residing in developing countries remain offline.] (Tunis Agenda para 55) (Ecuador: reservation - day-to-day operations related to Internet management) (China can support pending para 56)(Cuba: add role of government in public policies related to the Internet)**

56. **[Canada, Australia, Japan: del -** We affirm that the governance of the Internet as a global **[Cuba: facility]**[resource] should be **[India: multistakeholder]**[multilateral]**[New Zealand, Republic of Korea: del -** multilateral]**(Russia: retain)**, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of all stakeholders.]**[Russia, China, Cuba: retain][China: see relevant para of UNGA res. 69/204][Canada, Australia, Japan: We emphasize that any Internet governance approach should be inclusive and responsive and should continue to promote an enabling environment for innovation, competition and investment.]** We reiterate the working definition of Internet governance set out in paragraph 34 of the Tunis Agenda, as 'the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision making procedures and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet. **[G77 & China, India: We call for the balanced distribution of critical Internet resources across the regions of the world.] (US: delete para) (India: see para 38 of Tunis on management of Internet resources)(China: capture Tunis Agenda paras 29, 34, 35 in the outcome document, versus 73 on IGF; distinction between IG and IGF)(Ecuador: note distinction between Internet management and Internet governance)(Cuba; Brazil support: address both principles of multilateral and multistakeholder)(Canada, Australia: clarify or state definition of multilateral)**

**[US; EU, Brazil support - 56 alt. We reaffirm that international efforts related to Internet governance should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.](US: possibly add text that different stakeholders have different roles and responsibilities)(China: can support but with additional text on roles and responsibilities from para 55)**

**(Co-Facilitators: Discussion on 56 linked to paragraph 12)(Brazilian facilitator proposal: to consider 56 alt., with acknowledgement of both multilateral and multistakeholder processes)**

57. We reaffirm **[G77 & China: del -** the principles agreed in the Geneva Declaration that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations,**][G77 & China: that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations. In this respect it is recognized that: policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues; the private sector has had, and should continue to have, an important role in the development of the Internet, both in the technical and economic fields; civil society has also**

played an important role on Internet matters, especially at community level, and should continue to play such a role; intergovernmental organizations have had, and should continue to have, a facilitating role in the coordination of Internet-related public policy issues; international organizations have also had and should continue to have an important role in the development of Internet-related technical standards and relevant policies.], [Japan: del - within their respective roles and responsibilities] as set out in [Japan: del - paragraph 35 of] the Tunis Agenda. (Canada, Australia: could support)

58. We recognise that there is a need to promote greater participation and engagement in Internet governance discussions of [Canada, Australia: del - governments and] all [other relevant] stakeholders from developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states, middle-income countries, countries and territories under [foreign] occupation, and countries affected by conflict or natural disasters. [Canada, Australia: del - We call for strengthened stable, transparent, and voluntary funding mechanisms to this end] [Russia, Cuba, Belarus: and development of an international legal framework of Internet governance].

59. We recognise the importance of [US: the ongoing dialogue in Member States on] net neutrality [US: and the open Internet] in the context of the Information Society. (Canada: supports) (Russia, Belarus: reservation) (Pakistan: flexible)

[EU: 59 bis. We recognise the importance of preserving the open and neutral character of the Internet and supporting end users' right to access, disseminate and use Internet content or services of their choice.]

60. We acknowledge the [Russia: important][unique][EU: unique and important] role of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) as a multistakeholder platform for discussion of Internet governance issues. We support the recommendations of the report of the CSTD Working Group on improvements to the IGF, [Canada, Australia: del - which were [Russia: noted][approved] by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/198,] and we call for their accelerated implementation. We extend the IGF mandate for another 10 years with its current mandate as set out in paragraphs 72 to 78 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society. We recognize that during this period, the IGF must show progress on outcomes, working modalities, and participation of relevant stakeholders [Canada, Australia: in particular] from developing countries.  We call on the CSTD, within its current reporting, to give due consideration to fulfilment of its Working Group report recommendations.

[Canada, Australia: 60 bis. We encourage the development of multi-stakeholder processes at the national, regional and international levels to discuss and collaborate on the expansion and diffusion of the Internet as a means to support development efforts to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives.]

4.1. Enhanced Cooperation

61. We acknowledge that various initiatives have been implemented and [Canada, Australia, Japan: a great deal of][some] progress has been made in relation to the [Canada, Australia, Japan: process][concept] of enhanced cooperation, detailed in paragraphs 69 to 71 of the Tunis Agenda to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international

public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters, that do not impact on international public policy issues. **[Canada, Australia, Japan: We acknowledge that the Internet ecosystem has continued to adapt to the Internet's rapidly evolving technology and to the changing need of the global Internet community, including through efforts to increase the participation of stakeholders from developing countries.]** We note the reports by the Secretary General on enhanced cooperation (A/66/77; E/2009/92) and the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

62. We note, **[US: delete -** however, persistent**]** concerns by some Member States that **[US: del -** full implementation]**[US: the process]** of enhanced cooperation, as envisioned by Tunis, has not **[US: progressed at the speed they desired]**[been achieved]. We call for strengthening enhanced cooperation **[US: between and among all stakeholders. We invite the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement this mandate**]. **[Cuba: del (see 62 bis) -** We further request the Secretary-General to provide a report to the 71$^{st}$ session of the General Assembly on implementation to date and options to hasten progress on enhanced cooperation, including an **[Brazil: del -** intergovernmental**]** working group with participation and input from all stakeholders. The report may form the basis for discussion within the framework of a special session of the General Assembly on enhanced cooperation.**] (Japan, EU: do not support)**

**[EU: 62 alt. We recall paragraphs 69 and 71 of the Tunis Agenda, and call on CSTD to continue to provide an open, inclusive and transparent dialogue on the process of enhanced cooperation, involving all stakeholders.]**

**[Japan: 62 alt. We note in this regard that the process towards enhanced cooperation as envisaged by the Tunis Agenda needs to be continued.]**

**[G77 & China, Cuba, Russia: 62 bis. We resolve to establish an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on enhanced cooperation that is open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing recommendations on how to implement the mandate of enhanced cooperation as envisioned by the Tunis Agenda, taking into consideration of the work that has been done on this matter so far, to be agreed by the General Assembly. An open-ended working group shall be constituted no later than July 2016. At the outset, this open ended working group will decide on its methods of work, including modalities to ensure the full involvement of relevant stakeholders and expertise from civil society, scientific committee and the UN system in its work, in order to provide a diversity of perspectives and experience. It will submit a report, to the 73rd session of the General Assembly, containing a proposal for enhanced cooperation for consideration and appropriate action.] (Canada, Australia, EU, Japan: do not support)**

**5. Follow-Up and Review**

63. We reaffirm that the ongoing implementation of WSIS outcomes will require the continued commitment and action of all stakeholders – including governments, United Nations agencies, international organisations, the private sector, civil society, the technical community and academia –

and that regular review of progress of the full set of WSIS action lines will be essential to achieving the WSIS vision. <mark>(AD REF.)</mark>

64. We call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of WSIS outcomes through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), taking into account the follow up and review o f the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We encourage the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) members to contribute to these reports. <mark>(AD REF.)</mark>

65. We also call for the continuation of the work of the UNGIS in coordinating the work of United Nations agencies, according to their mandates and competencies, and we invite United Nations Regional Commissions to contribute to reviews of WSIS Action Line implementation**.** <mark>(AD REF.)</mark>

66. We recognize that the WSIS Forum has been a valuable platform through which all stakeholders can discuss and share best practices on the implementation of WSIS outcomes, and should continue to be held annually. <mark>(AD REF.)</mark>

67. We call for increased efforts to improve the extent of data collection and analysis, including quality of connectivity and the impact of ICTs on development, based on international standards and definitions; the inclusion of ICT statistics in national strategies for the development of statistics and in regional statistical work programmes, and the strengthening of local statistical capacity by assessing capacity needs and delivering targeted training on ICT statistics. The activities of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development have made a valuable contribution to data gathering and dissemination and should be continued. <mark>(AD REF.)</mark>

68. **[EU, Canada, Australia: del -** We recognize that, in the preparation of this review, a number of challenges and opportunities have been identified, requiring longer-term consultations to determine appropriate responses, and that the pace of the development of ICTs necessitates higher-level consideration of progress achieved and future action.**]** We [accordingly] agree to hold a **[Canada, Australia: review]**[High Level Meeting on the Information Society] in **[China: 2020][G77, India: between 2020 and 2025][Russia: 2020 and** 2025**][Ecuador, Belarus: 2020 or 2022][Cuba: 2021 or 2022][EU, Canada, Australia, US:** 2025**]**, which involves the inputs and participation of all stakeholders, including in the preparatory process, and takes stock of progress on WSIS outcomes, as well as identifies both areas of continued focus and solutions to enduring and emerging challenges. We designate its outcome as an input into the review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. **(US, Japan: do not support para) (Canada, Australia: do not support inclusion of modalities)(Cuba: open to consider modalities at a later date)**