



Declaration of Global Collaboration

WITSA's 19th World Congress on Information Technology, Guadalajara, Mexico

1 October 2014

Preface

Sharing the benefits of the *Digital Age* with everyone on earth is a critical goal, which must be the central focus of public policy and all policy actors. WITSA is committed to doing what it can do to fulfil the promise of this great new Age. However, the reality of fulfilling this promise reaches beyond any one individual or organization; it must be accomplished through multi stakeholder cooperation and collaboration. WITSA's 19th World Congress on IT is one way to inform, encourage, and support global collaboration towards achieving this goal.

The Declaration

During the World Information Technology & Services Alliance (WITSA)'s 19th World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT2014), which took place from September 29-October 1, 2014 in Guadalajara, Mexico delegates from over 80 nations gathered to discuss the impact of information and communications technologies and how global collaboration was required to address the theme of the Congress, ***Building the Digital Age Together***, so that every person on earth shares in its benefits.

A program of 100 renowned speakers from around the globe, representing government, industry, civil society, non profits, institutions and academia joined together to define the roles each plays on the global stage of collaboration to build the Digital Age.

WCIT calls upon each individual and stakeholder group to commit to building an inclusive Digital Age, by playing a collaborative role in the evolving Digital Age. The ICT Industry will continue to be actively engaged in addressing impediments of infrastructure, affordability, accessibility, protection and security. Governments are asked to develop digital agendas, enabling regulations and legal frameworks, equitable taxation models and market rules. Governments should also embrace ICTs and to consider them at the core decision-making. Governments and industry must cooperate to establish

equitable partnerships in building and sustaining a viable ICT industry in order to better serve societies.

International organizations are encouraged to continue investing and funding ICT development, especially in emerging economies, and to open up a closer relationship with the ICT industry. The model of transparent, open multistakeholder structures and processes, which is working successfully to enable effective governance of the Internet, is an example of successful collaboration based around consensus to achieve constructive public policy outcomes.

The Congress asks governments, educational institutions and industry to close the global skills gap by providing employment opportunities to young people around the globe, and to enhance employment opportunities for women in all roles, while meeting industry and market demands.

All delegates are encouraged to work diligently to address the challenges that the vast growth of information itself presents through big data; the application of data analytics and artificial intelligence.

WCIT2014 underscored the need for these opportunities to be exploited responsibly and transparently, and not as tools to subjugate individual and societal rights.

WITSA's 2014 Guadalajara Declaration of Collaboration will endure for as long as it takes to fulfil the promise of the Digital Age to include everyone. Working together is the ONLY way to make this dream a reality.

WITSA Chairman

19th WCIT Chairman

WITSA Secretary General

WITSA's 2014 Guadalajara Declaration is its sixth, drawn from its program of annual summits and congresses, and builds on the 2009 [Bermuda Declaration](#), the 2010 [Amsterdam Declaration](#), the 2011 [Guadalajara Declaration](#), the 2012 [Montreal Declaration](#), and the 2013 [São Paulo Declaration](#).