

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

**Revised recommendations submitted in preparation for the 4th WGEC
meeting**

Submitted by

**SAUDI ARABIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, PAKISTAN AND
PARMINDER SINGH**

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

The contribution to the 4th meeting of CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

I Introduction

The forth meeting of CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation is the critical for successful completion of the WG EC work in purpose to *develop recommendations on how to further implement **enhanced cooperation** as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda*, according # 65 of UNGA Resolution A/70/125. After sharing views during 3 previous meetings now it is the time to start to prepare a final report to have time to discuss and agree it at the next one of two meetings. We consider that the structure of the report shall be as one of the outcomes of 4th meeting.

II Draft structure of the Report

Based on the previous discussions we propose the following draft structure of the report:

1. Introduction
2. Background
 - 2.1. Scope and Focus areas of Enhanced cooperation
 - 2.2. Format of Enhanced cooperation
 - 2.3. High level characteristics of Enhanced cooperation
 - 2.4. International organizations to be involved to Enhanced cooperation
3. Recommendation

III Proposals to the Report

1. Introduction

Includes information on the work of the WG EC.

2 Background

Includes relevant references to the Tunis Agenda and UNGA Resolution A/70/125/

For example:

The Tunis Agenda in § 69 *recognized the need for **enhanced cooperation** in the future, 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.*

In para 35 **it was reaffirmed** 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 on **international public policy issues** that:

a) 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**.

d) Intergovernmental organizations have had, and should continue to have, a facilitating role in the coordination of **Internet-related public policy issues**.

Para 58 recognized that Internet governance includes more than Internet naming and addressing. It also includes other significant **public policy issues** such as, inter alia, critical Internet resources, the security and safety of the Internet, and developmental aspects and issues pertaining to the use of the Internet.

Para 70 emphasized that using relevant international organizations, such cooperation should include the development of globally-applicable principles on public policy issues associated with the coordination and management of critical Internet resources. In this regard, **we call upon** the organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet to contribute to creating an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles.

Para 71 stated that the process towards **enhanced cooperation**, to be started by the UN Secretary-General, involving all relevant organizations by the end of the first quarter of 2006, will involve all stakeholders in their respective roles, will proceed as quickly as possible consistent with legal process, and will be responsive to innovation. Relevant organizations should commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and responsive to innovation. The same relevant organizations shall be requested to provide annual performance reports.

UNGA in its **Resolution A/70/125** drawn special attention to the enhance cooperation:

64. We acknowledge that various initiatives have been implemented and some progress has been made in relation to the process towards **enhanced cooperation** detailed in paragraphs 69 to 71 of the Tunis Agenda.

65. We note, however, the divergent views held by Member States with respect to the process towards implementation of enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda. We call for continued dialogue and work on the implementation of **enhanced cooperation**. We accordingly request the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, through the Economic and Social Council, to establish a working group to develop recommendations on how to further implement **enhanced cooperation** as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, taking into consideration the work that has been done on this matter thus far.

2.1 Scope and Focus areas of Enhanced cooperation

Levels	Focus area

Infrastructural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring connectivity, stability, continuity, integrity and sustainability of the network • Coordination and management of critical Internet resources but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters • Affordability and universal access • Security, safety, COP and combating spam and cybercrime at the infrastructural level
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of expression, privacy, • Ethics in Internet • Information Security • Confidentiality • Combating spam and cybercrime at the content level • Protecting children and vulnerable people from abuse and exploitation. • Intellectual Property Rights • Protection of personal data and information • Multilingualism and heritage • Capacity building
Social-economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital transformation and SDGs • Bridging digital and gender divide • Enhanced involvement of developing countries in Internet governance • Human rights in cyberspace • Consumer protection • ICT applications, including international e-commerce, e-business, e-environment, e-health, e-agriculture • Elimination of ICT illiteracy • Etc.

2.3 High level characteristics of Enhanced cooperation

- Equal footing
- Transparent
- Inclusive

- Collaborative
- Effectiveness/goal oriented
- Sustainability of cooperation
- Responsive to innovation
- International

2.4 International organizations to be involved to Enhanced cooperation

Relevant international organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet should create an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles.

HLPF, WSIS Forum, IGF could also provide necessary platform for regular wide multi-stakeholder discussions.

International public policy issues	UN agencies	Forums
Infrastructural level	ITU, UNDP	WSIS Forum, IGF
Content level	UNESCO, UNCTAD,	WSIS Forum, IGF, HLPF
Social-economic development level	UNGIS, UNCTAD, UNDP, ITU, UNESCO, WIPO, WTO, UNDECA, WHO, FAO, WBG, UN Women	HLPF, WSIS Forum, IGF

3 Recommendations

- To invite UN GA to consider reasonability of establishing UN body/mechanisms for intergovernmental format of continuation of Enhanced cooperation in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
- To invite relevant UN agencies, intergovernmental and international and regional organization responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet to create and support an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles.
- To recommend governments and all other stakeholders to use the WGEC 2 Report in their activities on continuation of Enhanced cooperation in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.

- Following Tunis Agenda's mandate for enhanced cooperation, it is urgently required to create a body/mechanism to enable governments to carry out their roles and responsibilities with respect to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet.
- The form of this body/mechanism could be a UN organization, a committee or a standing open working group with support from the UN secretariat. Its appropriate form should be discussed at the WGEC, ECOSOC and UNGA. The process could also take an evolutionary form, beginning with a committee or an open working group which later evolves into a full-fledged UN organization.
- This body/mechanism could develop and establish international perspectives, norms and public policies with a view to ensuring coordination and coherence in cross-cutting Internet-related global issues.
- This body/mechanism would develop appropriate relationships with relevant existing policy bodies inside and outside the UN – in non-technical and technical areas; direct relevant public policy issues to them, provide guidance on cross-cutting themes, receive their inputs and comments, and itself contribute Internet public policy perspectives to issues under their purview.
- Various UNGA resolutions have recognized enhanced cooperation and the IGF as distinct but complementing processes. Accordingly, the body/mechanism should build a close association with the IGF but be distinct and separate from it.
- Further revisions to the WGEC's public policy issues mapping paper could be forwarded as describing the kind of public policy issues that the body/mechanism needs to begin working on. However, this is an extremely dynamic area and newer and newer issues will need to be taken up and resolved by this body/mechanism.
- If found appropriate to begin with a committee or an open working group, the comparative advantages and appropriateness of its hosting in an appropriate UN organization like UNGA, ITU, CSTD, etc. should be discussed.