World Summit on Information Society



Internet Society's Contribution to Stakeholder Consultation

June 2025

The Internet Society welcomes the opportunity to take part in the first WSIS stakeholder consultation and thanks the co-facilitators for convening this timely stocktaking meeting.

Established in 1992, the Internet Society is a global, non-profit organization with a network that includes nearly 120 chapters, 150,000 individual members, 80 organization members, and 8 special interest groups.

Our mission is to promote an Internet that is open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy.

And we collaborate with all stakeholders committed to advancing and strengthening the Internet as one of the strongest enablers of a digital society for everyone.

This year marks 20 years since the Tunis World Summit on the Information Society in 2005. Since then, the Internet has evolved rapidly and become central to nearly every part of life—government services, commerce, health, education, communication, and so much more.

Achieving the WSIS vision not only depends on access to the Internet, but also on the Internet being open, global, secure, and trustworthy. The Internet gets these properties from the way that it is governed.

Multistakeholder governance—where development, operation, and oversight are shared by a diverse range of actors—is key to ensuring that decisions are made in the public interest.

When a range of experts can meaningfully participate in developing the solution, we get better answers to global challenges. In the technical community, we share a sense of collective stewardship towards the Internet and the open standards on which its technologies and networks are based. These characteristics fortify stakeholder trust in the way that the Internet is operated and governed.

To build our digital future together, the Internet Society calls for the following:

- Protect and nurture the decentralized and globally connected nature of the Internet that has made it open, secure, and trustworthy;
- Affirm and continue the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines;



Document Title 2

- Re-commit to multistakeholder governance and ensure meaningful participation from all sectors;

- Support the renewal and continuation of the Internet Governance Forum.
- Recognize that the IGF has evolved to address digital governance of applications and services, while still continuing to provide a common place for discussions concerning the operation and management of Internet infrastructure;
- Strengthen national and regional IGFs for local capacity-building and collaboration; and finally,
- Implement the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and leverage the Internet to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The Internet Society remains committed to supporting the WSIS+20 review and encourages inclusive and effective stakeholder engagement throughout the process as outlined in the <u>São Paulo Guidelines</u> and the <u>Eight Practical Recommendations</u> as emphasized in the intervention made by Global Partners Digital.