

Mr Houlin Zhao
Deputy Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union
Geneva

6 June 2014

Dear Deputy Secretary-General Zhao,

We are writing to you in your role as Deputy Secretary General of the ITU, as organizer and convener of the WSIS+10 Open Consultation Process Multistakeholder Preparatory Process (MPP) and for the ITU-led WSIS+10 High Level Event, together with UNICEF, UNCTAD and UNDP as facilitators.

We welcome the achievement of the Multistakeholder Preparatory process of the ITU-led WSIS+10 High level event in producing the two outcome documents, The Statement and the Vision, as we were tasked by ITU Council Resolution 1334.

We should congratulate ourselves, and particularly the ITU for holding such a successful and open multi-stakeholder process.

In addition we note that the vast majority of the Action Line document was only provisionally agreed subject to full agreement to outstanding text on C5, C7 E-environment, C8, C9 and part III of the Vision document. While we regret that within the three originally scheduled meetings and two additional meetings we were unable to find consensus on these issues, we note there was agreement at the end of the fifth physical meeting to include the Action Line document with appropriate brackets in the Chairman's report in order to reflect the hard work and many compromises that had been made.

It was, therefore, disappointing to find that the unagreed text on Action lines had been included in a document containing the agreed Implementation and Vision documents on the MPP website, with much of the Action Line text marked as a "final agreed text". This did not accurately reflect the final agreement at the meeting on which documents would be forwarded to the High Level Event.

It is also disappointing that, although a number of MPP participants raised this discrepancy with the ITU Secretariat, this error has not yet been rectified. We remain concerned that the Action Line document is not agreed text in whole or in part and under no circumstances should be forwarded to the High Level Event on this basis.

We note with surprise the recent invitation sent by Secretary General Touré to MPP participants to attend an additional consultation on 9 June. At the end of the Fifth Physical Meeting we understood that negotiations were closed. We also understood from comments made by Secretary General Touré and yourself that there would be no further negotiations during or immediately prior to the High Level Event. We would have expected there to be greater respect for the MPP process and the decisions made by the meeting as a whole.

In our view, not only was there no agreement to further consultations but the short timeframe in which the additional meeting has been organized could undermine the multistakeholder basis of the process given that participants that are not based in Geneva, who do not have permanent representation here and may not have made arrangements to attend the pre-events on 9 June may not be able to fully and actively participate in further negotiations. We also note that as it is a UN public holiday, a

number of mission and UN agency representatives may be unable to attend the consultation.

Whilst we wish to emphasise our willingness to work towards consensus on the Action Line text, for all the reasons outlined above we do not support the way in which further consultations have been planned nor the modalities for the 9 June consultations.

We ask the ITU as the organizer for the High Level Event and the WSIS+10 MPP process to:

- (a) Ensure the document on the MPP website is split into three documents:
 - 1) Implementation document (agreed)
 - 2) Vision document (agreed)
 - 3) Action Line document (not agreed).

- (b) Ensure only documents that are completely agreed will be forwarded to the High Level Event for endorsement.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Mulrean
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
United States Permanent Mission to the United Nations Geneva

Ambassador Raul Heredia
Deputy Permanent Representative
Mexican Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Ambassador Takashi Okada
Deputy Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Japan

Dominic Porter
Deputy Permanent Representative
European Union Delegation
On behalf of the European Union and its Member States

Ruth Stone
Deputy Permanent Representative
Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Alison LeClaire Christie
Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative
Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Nick Ashton-Hart
Executive Director
Internet & Digital Ecosystem Alliance (IDEA)

Chris Disspain
Chief Executive Officer
.au Domain Administration Ltd

Michael R. Nelson
Principal Technology Policy Strategist
Microsoft Corporation

Matthew Shears
Director - Global Internet Policy and Human Rights
Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT)

Stuart Hamilton
Deputy Secretary General
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

Nigel Hickson
VP, IGO Engagement
Geneva
ICANN

James Waterworth
Vice-President
CCIA

Copy:

ITU Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun Touré

Prof Minkin, Chair, WSIS+10 MPP