＜Submission＞
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Q1

To what extent, in your experience, has the "people - centred, inclusive and development - oriented Information Society", envisaged in the opening paragraph of the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles, developed within the 20 years since WSIS?

Over the past 20 years, the number of people with Internet access has increased considerably, but still one-third of the world's population, or 2.7 billion people, are not connected.
In addition, digitally-related technologies and applications have developed dramatically, but at the same time, cybercrime and misuse have also increased.
While rapid advances in generative AI technology and other technologies have brought great benefits to our daily life and economic activities, serious problems such as disinformation, misinformation, and infringement of intellectual property rights have also grown.
While considerable progress has been made in the past 20 years toward the vision of the information society as stated in the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles, new challenges are also increasing.
Not only has the 20-year-old problem of the digital divide, where 2.7 billion people still do not have access to the Internet, not yet resolved, but the new challenges created by the emergence of new technologies are endless. A forum for all stakeholders to discuss Internet-related issues will continue to be important, and in this sense, the role of the IGF is not over.

Q2

How has the implementation of WSIS outcomes contributed towards the development of a "people - centred, inclusive and development - oriented Information Society"?

The goal of a people-centered, inclusive, development oriented information society was set to avoid viewing the Internet and other emerging technologies as merely a technological issue and to help put the information society in today's SDG context. Only the IGF can link digital technology issues most effectively with the SDGs.
The IGF, which was agreed to be established at WSIS, has been a multi-stakeholder process for 20 years, with all stakeholders discussing a variety of relevant topics, and the annual IGF meetings have included Workshops, Open Forums, Town Halls, etc., on topics that anyone thinks are important. It is a unique and valuable forum where people from all over the world, from all walks of life, from governments, from the

private sector, from technologists, from civil society, can discuss the policies and technologies that should be in place to realize the WSIS vision.

Q3

How much progress do you believe has been made in implementing specific WSIS outcomes?

The IGF, which was agreed to be established at WSIS, has seen a yearly increase in the number of responses for the calls for thematic input, the number of session proposals, and the number of participants, indicating a growing interest in Internet governance.
Taking the number of workshop proposals at the IGF annual meetings as an example, the number of proposals has increased significantly each year: 203 in 2021, approximately 260 in 2022, and approximately 400 in 2023. This is an indication of the growing global interest in Internet governance.
In addition, 6,279 people attended IGF2023 Kyoto locally, and another 3,000+ remotely. This is not only the largest number in the past 18 years, but more than two-thirds of them were first-time participants, indicating a new interest in the subject.
The value of the multistakeholder dialogue at the global level that the IGF presented was widely accepted, and the format has now been replicated at the national and regional level, and at the level of stakeholder groups such as youth. Initiatives on Internet governance have been established, and the number has grown to over 150.
As these figures show, the continuous IGFs over the past two decades have increased interest in Internet governance year after year, and have made progress toward realizing the vision of WSIS.

Q4

What are the challenges to the implementation of WSIS outcomes?

The principle of an "open and transparent, inclusive, multistakeholder, bottom up, and non-commercial" Forum has been widely accepted and shared across all levels and stakeholders, and the national and regional IG initiatives now count to more than 150. However, considering that the Internet represents a global informational space, the principle of the IGF should be equally respected and implemented, and initiatives for such an end should be encouraged.
Youth initiatives that are emerging individually at various parts of the world should be connected globally, and youth communities from each region and state should equally be encouraged to participate in the IG process.
It would also be desirable to have any means to consider how to take the views expressed at the IGF to the next step.

Q5

How are these challenges being addressed? What approaches have proved to be effective in your

experience?

Today, the Internet is an indispensable part of everyday life and economic activities for all people around the world. As the use of the Internet and the challenges it poses vary by country/region, sector, gender, language and culture, it is necessary to discuss how to tackle these challenges from all perspectives and in a multi-stakeholder / bottom-up process to achieve this at the IGF. Although this approach does not always lead to immediate conclusions as to solutions, it is hoped that the accumulation of these discussions will deepen mutual understanding between the different positions and gradually form a path towards a solution. This is a major benefit of the multi-stakeholder process.

Q6

What do you consider the most important trends in technology and other aspects of ICTs which have affected implementation of WSIS outcomes since the Summit? What has been their impact?

Developments in infrastructure (especially improved access to the internet in developing countries), improved network speed technology and advances in applications for remote work and use of cloud systems during Covid 19 pandemic have greatly improved access for developing countries and people with disabilities.
Cloud computing has also benefited more people for a better life by enabling them to share applications and resources cheaply and easily, and to work collaboratively and teach group classes remotely in the event of pandemic such as Covid 19.
Generative AI offers various conveniences in people's lives, contributing to cost and time savings, for example.

Q7

What should be the priorities for stakeholders seeking to achieve WSIS outcomes and progress towards the Information Society, taking into account ongoing and emerging trends?

In the objectives sung at the beginning of the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles, it is important that the information society should be 'human-centred' in recent years, with the rapid development of generative AI, and that the development of an 'inclusive' information society is important at a time when the gap between developed countries and the Global South is not decreasing.
In particular, in the development of advanced technologies such as AI, it is often forgotten that these technologies are for human beings and should be considered as a particular priority.
In addition, even after 20 years, not only are there still people without internet access, but the development of new technologies is also creating a digital divide in other ways. The internet is valuable for connecting everyone in the world, and being 'inclusive' will always be a priority.
It is important to aim to eliminate the injustices and inequalities behind the impact of technology, rather

than the impact of the technology itself. It is also necessary not only that these injustices and inequalities are eliminated as a result, but also that the injustices and inequalities in the process of aiming to eliminate them are eliminated. To this end, a priority is to continue to maintain the multi-stakeholder dialogue that the IGF has continued to engage in.
Technological innovations often lead to the widening of the gap between the developed and developing countries. The IGF should continue to address issues concerning emerging technologies, but the technologies being discussed should not be chosen based on their disruptive potential, but on their impact on development and inclusion. Otherwise, the IGF may end up in a showcase of newer technologies.

Q8

How will ongoing trends and new developments in technology, especially in the deployment, access, and use of ICTs, impact future progress toward human development, specifically in relation to the SDGs?

The development of technology and ICTs enables the efficient cultivation and production of crops and food, and the elimination of hunger.
Infrastructure and systems can be developed to make cities hygienic, safe and easy for people to live in. For example, advanced technology can be introduced to developing countries, which can increase the number of lives saved, such as infants and patients with communicable diseases, by improving the healthcare system.
The development of networks, infrastructure, tablets, etc. will enable people to receive quality education remotely and at a distance.
The SDGs will also help to protect the global environment by reducing energy consumption, carbon dioxide emissions, etc., through various advanced ICT technologies.
In this way, internet-based ICT technologies have much to contribute to the achievement of the 17 goals set out in the SDGs for the future enrichment of human life.

Q9

Please add any other comments that you wish to make on the subject of the review that you believe would be helpful.

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N/A