

ICC BASIS intervention re WSIS +10 review process, visioning session, 17 May 2013, Geneva

- I am pleased to speak on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce and its BASIS initiative, Business Action to Support the Information Society. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to these discussions regarding the WSIS +10 review process.
- ICC was the focal point for business throughout the WSIS Geneva and Tunis Summits and the preparatory processes as many of you will recall the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI).
- ICC launched its BASIS initiative in 2006 to continue to bring business expertise and priorities to the processes and forums established by the Summit, and business has actively contributed to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), WSIS action lines Forum, and the CSTD review of WSIS activities each year since then.
- ICC and BASIS represent businesses and business associations from across sectors and geographies, and of all sizes.
- We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the progress made at this year's WTPF since we did not have a chance to do so earlier this week. We would like to recognize the resources and time devoted to the WTPF this year by many stakeholders and the efforts of member states and the ITU staff. We especially recognize the efforts of the ITU Secretary General, Dr Touré, and his personal commitment to successful meetings and sessions.
- The WSIS review events process journey began in February at the first WSIS +10 review event hosted by UNESCO and co-organized with ITU, UNDP and UNCTAD.
- The journey has continued here this week, will continue at the CSTD meeting in June, and will continue through the autumn to next April and into 2015.
- The years since the WSIS in Tunis have demonstrated that having all stakeholders contributing to the discussions on ICT and Internet governance matters is critical to achieving the goals of the WSIS of a people centred, inclusive Information Society.
- We believe the WSIS +10 review process will best be served by continuing the inclusive approach; we have seen the benefits of the multistakeholder approach.

- We, business, remain committed and fully support the involvement of all stakeholders, governments, IGOs, business, civil society, the academic community and the Internet technical community in the review process going forward.
- We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the CSTD's work as the body tasked with assisting in the review of the WSIS and its focus on science and technology for development. Business looks forward to contributing to the newly established CSTD working group on enhanced cooperation next week as well.
- The statement on WSIS +10 visioning posted today on the WSIS review process poses important questions and presents some opportunities for improvement.
- Our members will have comments and we look forward to discussing this with them and providing feedback.
- We appreciate that this document has been developed to be an input to the CSTD in June. We would like to share that business and other stakeholders were not all able to participate in all of the visioning exercises that took place or to provide input into the drafting of this statement. We encourage all elements of the WSIS review process to be inclusive of all stakeholders.
- We must keep the WSIS goals in mind, and what it takes to accomplish them through and beyond 2015 as we discuss the review process; these goals are guideposts for what the review and post 2015 goals should be.
- We must also keep in mind the challenges all stakeholders around the world face in terms of financial, time and human resources. The goal with the WSIS +10 review process should be to maximize all resources to accomplish the WSIS goals.
- We call on all stakeholders to consider how we can best achieve the goals we are all striving for and ensure that the WSIS +10 review can feed into the MDG Summit and the post 2015 development agenda.
- We remain committed to the journey and the process through the MDGs and the post 2015.

Thank you.