

# **Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI)**

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)  
Tunis, 16-18 November 2005

**PrepCom-3 – 19-30 September 2005**  
**Final plenary meeting**

**Intervention by Ayesha Hassan (ICC)**  
**Friday 30 September 2005**

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Thank you Mr. Chairman

The Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI) , which has mobilized business from around the world to contribute to the WSIS process, wishes to take a moment to thank you and the chairs of the two subcommittees for your services to this process.

Although we have not had time to read a hard copy of the food for thought paper presented by the chair of subcommittee A, business expresses concerns about procedural and substantive aspects of that paper. There are some important contributions that CCBI has expressed throughout this process that are not reflected in the paper.

The status of a 'food for thought' paper will be difficult for many people to understand, and the fact that the source is the chair of the subcommittee, may lead some to interpret this as indicative of at least some level of support within the process. We are now entering the inter-sessional period leading up to Tunis. Even though there may not be formal meetings for the next six weeks, we appreciate that governments will be considering how best to conclude the drafting of the WSIS document. We have two requests:

First, we ask that all stakeholders continue to be included in the process. Speaking for business, we believe that our active participation over this period will be beneficial, as we continue to provide our expertise and perspective on the various open issues. We look forward to hearing how the participation of non-governmental stakeholders will be assured for the continuing work that will be done between now and the Summit.

Second, we ask all those who will be working on improving the draft texts to keep in mind some of the fundamental principles that have formed the basis for so many of our remarks over the last two weeks:

These include:

1. Internet governance is a multi-stakeholder process. Building out the Internet thus far was a joint effort of many stakeholders. If that success is to continue, all stakeholders must fully and effectively cooperate and participate in Internet governance.
2. The stability and security of the Internet is a paramount concern. Any proposal must be tested against this standard.
3. Another principle that has been repeated in our remarks is that---Our focus must be on development. In particular, it must emphasize human capacity building and exchanges of innovative ideas and best practices. For these purposes, a forum, or event, for discussions, exchange of information and best practices may be useful if it is respectful of the need to preserve limited financial and human resources. We look forward to further details.
4. Overall, CCBI supports relying on existing institutions, evolving consistent with the above principles.

Once we have had the opportunity to see a final text of the various proposals, in particular for section five, we will consult with the CCBI membership and hope to have the opportunity to provide further comments for consideration.

We would also like to call delegates' attention to written comments on the proposed follow-up and implementation mechanism that CCBI has submitted to the secretariat for posting on the website. We hope that delegates will consider our suggested revisions and comments on the one page follow-up and implementation proposal.

We will consult with CCBI members and look forward to contributing to this process.

Thank you for your attention.

## **WHAT IS THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF BUSINESS INTERLOCUTORS (CCBI)?**

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was held during the week of 8 December 2003 in Geneva, culminating in the Summit segment on 10-12 December 2003. The second part of this Summit will take place in 2005 in Tunisia.

Principals of the Summit host countries and executive secretariat invited the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to create the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI) as a vehicle through which to mobilize and coordinate the involvement of the worldwide business community in the processes leading to and culminating in the Summit. ICC and the CCBI group led the private-sector effort to provide substantive input into the first phase of the Summit, and mobilized the private sector to participate in the preparatory phases and at the Summit itself. The CCBI, is constituted of the following organizations and their members: Among the organizations actively involved in the work of the CCBI, in addition to ICC, are: Asociacion Hispanoamericana de Centros de Investigacion y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones, Brazilian Chamber of Electronic Commerce, the Business Council of the United Nations, Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD; Global Business Dialogue on Electronic Commerce; Global Information Infrastructure Commission; Money Matters Institute; United States Council on International Business; World Economic Forum; World Information Technology and Services Alliance; French Publishers Association; International Publishers Association; and Gobierno Digital.

For further information regarding CCBI, please consult the WSIS website at: <http://www.itu.int/wsis/index.html>  
the CCBI website at [www.businessatwsis.net](http://www.businessatwsis.net)  
or ICC's website at: <http://www.iccwbo.org/policy/ebitt/id2343/index.html>  
or contact [wsis@iccwbo.org](mailto:wsis@iccwbo.org)

## **ABOUT ICC**

ICC is the world business organization, the only representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. ICC promotes an open international trade and investment system and the market economy. Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment, e-business, IT and telecoms policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. ICC was founded in 1919 and today it groups thousands of member companies and associations from over 130 countries.

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