WSIS Forum 2011: Open Consultations on Thematic Aspects and New Innovative Format

Review Meeting: UNDP (Remote Intervention)

On behalf of UNDP, I want to welcome you all to this meeting.

As you are aware, UNDP is the development arm of the UN. We work within countries, with you all, at the ground level. I would like therefore to make only two concrete remarks in this short introduction. First, I would like to emphasize that this forum is your forum. You are here to lead us and to let us know what we need to implement on the ground in this area of ICTs for development. It is therefore important that you take this into account. This is not our thing, this is your thing and you should be able to steer this. This is about how we can make this work to assist development in your country.

The second is based on action. At these global meetings, we need to be able to go back to our countries and then be able to do something. We need to go from meetings to concrete action and to make a difference at the local level. The recent global events also underline the need to open communications between government and citizens and all stakeholders. We need to keep this in mind as we go forward.

I wish you all successful deliberations in the upcoming discussions.

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