WSIS Forum 2012: Invitation to contribute to the Open Consultation Process on the Thematic Aspects and innovations on the Format

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the outcomes of the WSIS Action Line Facilitators meetings during the WSIS Forum 2009, 2010 and 2011 and the exchange of views amongst several WSIS stakeholders, the organizers of the WSIS Forum, ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP are pleased to announce the Open Consultation Process on the thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the WSIS Forum 2012.

This consultation process aims at ensuring the participatory and inclusive spirit of the WSIS Forum 2012, scheduled to be held from 14 to 18 May in Geneva, by actively engaging governments, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental organizations in the preparatory process.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2012 is structured in six steps as follows:

- **Step One:** 11 October 2011 - Opening of the Open Consultations: Official Submissions ([www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)) and Online Dialogue on the WSIS Knowledge Communities
- **Step Two:** November 2011 - First Physical Meeting
- **Step Three:** 15 January 2012 - Closing of the Online Discussions
- **Step Four:** 20 January 2012 - Submission of the Official Contributions and binding Requests for Workshops
- **Step Five:** 15 February 2012 - Final Review Meeting (3 Months prior to the Forum)
- **Step Six:** 15 April 2012 - Final Brief on the WSIS Forum 2012

On behalf of ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, I am pleased to invite you to contribute to the Open Consultation Process on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS Forum 2012. We look forward to your active and enthusiastic participation and to seeing you at the WSIS Forum 2012.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Hamadoun I. Toure
ITU Secretary-General

14 October 2011

To: All WSIS Stakeholders

- Governments
- Private Sector
- Civil Society
- International Organizations