

# WSIS, IDI and Implications for Regional Cooperation

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## I. ICTs and general consensus

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- ICTs are one of the most powerful engines of growth**
- ICTs will continue to spread and serve as critical development enablers**
- to address digital divide by enhancing universal access and utilization of ICT is a current global issue**

## II. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

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- **world leaders recognize the importance of ICTs as valuable assets for economic growth**
- **and express strong political commitment towards building an inclusive, people-centered and development-oriented information society**
- **held in two phase, in Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005**
- **an important landmark in global effort to eradicate poverty and achieve the UN MDGs by 2015**

## II. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

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- \* The MDGs, adopted by all the UN member states in 2000, have become a universal framework for development and a means for developing countries and their development partners to work together in pursuit of a shared future for all. They represent commitments for resolving the eight issues by 2015.**

***(MDG 8) Develop a global partnership for development: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies- especially ICTs.***

## II. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

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- **set out a vision to harness the potential of ICTs to achieve the development aspirations of the world**

- \* **more specifically, to ensure access and utilization of ICTs including content**

- \* **related action lines include**

- role of public authorities and stakeholders*

- infrastructure*

- access to information and knowledge*

- capacity building*

- building confidence and security*

- enabling environment*

- applications (e-something)*

- cultural diversity*

- media*

- ethical dimension*

- international and regional cooperation*

## II. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

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- **emphasize the need to develop an ICT index for a realistic international performance evaluation and benchmarking through comparable statistical indicators and a composite index (*Geneva Plan of Action*)**
- **call for periodic evaluation through indicators and benchmarking, and an assessment of the magnitude of the digital divide (*Tunis Agenda*)**



velopment in global ICT sector

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**continue to spread through the world**

**As more people have access to the Internet, via mobile cellular networks, and its wealth of information and applications**

**As of 2008, the world had reached over 4 billion cellular subscriptions, 1.3 billion fixed telephone lines, and close to a quarter of the world's population online. The Internet.**

**In the past few years, strong and uninterrupted growth in ICT services, and high demand for ICTs from developing countries**

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