

The Director-General

To All WSIS Stakeholders
- Governments
- Private Sector
- Civil Society
- International Organizations

Ref.: DG/5/06/29

Subject: **WSIS Action Line Facilitation: “Cultural Diversity and Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local content”
Multistakeholder Consultation on Action Line C8
12 May 2006, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland**

Dear Sir/Madam,

UNESCO is one of the lead facilitating agencies for the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines. In accordance with the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and the recent consultation of possible Action Line Moderators/Facilitators (Geneva, 24 February 2006), which assigned UNESCO a role as an interim focal point for several action lines, it is my pleasure to invite you to a multistakeholder consultation on WSIS Action Line C8 « Cultural Diversity and Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local Content ». The consultation will be held on 12 May 2006 at the Palais des Nations (Room XX), Geneva, Switzerland.

The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society recognizes that “it is time to move from principles to action (...) identifying those areas where progress has been made, is being made, or has not taken place” (paragraph 1). Accordingly, the consultation meeting aims at:

- facilitating the initial contacts and sharing of information among multistakeholders on their priorities and expertise in the implementation of Action Line C8;
- consolidating a team of stakeholders for Action Line C8;
- designating facilitator(s)/moderator(s) for the multistakeholder team;
- agreeing on the working methods of the multistakeholder team including its activities and expected outcome.

Please find attached the provisional agenda of the consultation meeting. A preliminary proposal as to the working methods of the stakeholder team is also annexed.


I also suggest you refer to documents provided in the recent WSIS follow-up meetings, namely:

- Consultation Meeting of WSIS Action Line Facilitators/Moderators, 24 February 2006, Geneva (<http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/consultation24feb.html>);
- Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet, ITU-UNESCO initiative to WSIS follow-up action, 9–11 May 2006, Geneva (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/multilingual>).

The registration and badge request form and further information are available at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/>.

I look forward to your participation in this important event.

Yours faithfully,



Koichiro Matsuura

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