

	<p>him directly.</p> <p>Media Caucus Chair lobbies Sub Com. 2 Chair on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the importance of not making a regression in freedom of expression agreements at WSIS - the interaction the Media Caucus has had with Kofi Annan and the resulting articles and speeches that have affirmed existing agreements, standards and declarations. - the importance of recalling the development context behind the scenes.
<p>riefing on ance</p>	<p>Director General of UNESCO states in WSIS briefing to Permanent Delegates of Member States, in reference to ongoing negotiations over the inclusion of Article 19, that the Summit will not be deemed a success unless the Declaration contains an 'unambiguous assurance that freedom of expression is recognised as a the fundamental principle underlying and informing the development of an information society'. He called on member states to ensure WSIS Delegations argue for this.</p>
<p>b, GENEVA, nd</p>	<p>On going lobbying by Media Caucus to ensure inclusion of Article 19 in Declaration of Principles.</p>
<p>adcasting claration</p>	<p>Handed to Kofi Annan on the eve of WSIS and subsequently sent officially by the UN to all government delegates. (www.wemfmedia.org)</p>
<p>it Phase 1, witzerland</p>	<p>Declaration of Principles includes Article 19.</p>
<p>Place of the on Society and Arab ARRAKECH,</p>	<p>Planned conference to be hosted by the government of Morocco and Orbicom.</p>

ony Koven, Vice Chair – WSIS Civil Society Media Caucus September 2004

	<p>media.</p> <p>Media Caucus writes to UN Sec. Gen. Kofi Annan calling for UN agencies other than the ITU, to participate more fully in WSIS and provide complementary expertise to protect existing human rights.</p> <p>UN Under Secretary General for Communication and Public Information replies to Media Caucus indicating issues raised will be taken up.</p>
headquarters conference	Ministerial Round Table preparing for WSIS. Common position communiqué asserts Article 19 and freedom of the media as essential to an information society.
to UN Second on Freedom Commission and	UN Under Secretary General for Communication and Public Information uses Media Caucus arguments in an address to the UN Second Committee under an item on Science and Technology for Development and the WSIS.
the UN Commissioner Rights	Background Note on the Information Society and Human Rights released citing Article 19 as having special significance and clarifying that Article 29 may not jeopardise the right of freedom of expression itself.
Communications publicly meeting USA	Discussion notes that a setback to press freedom would be a 'public relations disaster for the UN', that the campaign to reaffirm existing UN language must be stepped up but that issues of press freedom should not draw media attention away from the other important achievements of the WSIS.
re-draft	The non-paper being used as a basis for negotiations at PrepCom 3A (put out by the President of WSIS) did not include specific mention of Articles 19 or 29, pluralism of media ownership or profession based regulation of ethical standards.
Geneva, GENEVA, and	<p>Media Caucus releases Press Statement stating that excluding the media from the information society is like 'agriculture without farmers'. Numerous interviews conducted / reported in global media.</p> <p>In the plenary debate on para. 52 of the non-paper (on media) the Finnish delegation proposed a new wording. The plenary decided that no new text would be considered - only already agreed texts passed by the UN General Assembly - not the UNESCO General Conference. Under Secretary General for Communications and Public Information at the UN in New York deployed to identify the appropriate document to be used as the starting point on the text on media. The Chair of WSIS Sub-Committee 2, then proposed that interested parties speak to</p>

Civil Society plenary responds to Draft Declaration with strong concerns on the lack of commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ARTICLE 19 and the Millennium Development Goals and takes decision to develop a separate declaration.

Media Caucus develops text for inclusion in the Draft Declaration and Plan of Action and widely circulates a text arguing that Article 19 must be an over riding principle on freedom of expression.

Split in Media Caucus over the inclusion of community media in text asserting pluralism and diversity in media. Strong resistance from private broadcasters in Latin America who argue community media is not required in Latin America as they fulfil this function. Argument over-ruled by Chair as a regional issue to be tackled at that level. Resulted in departure of Latin American group from Media Caucus. Strong lobbying program undertaken by Latin American private broadcasters to government delegations.

New caucus on community media formed by interested parties within the Media Caucus to lobby for community media references in official documents. Strong but unsuccessful lobbying ensued to have community media included in Declaration of Principles. Successful awareness raising strategy. Desegregating types of media perceived as too detailed by Govt. drafting group.

Inter-Government Working Group on Media formed to try to break the impasse on references to freedom of expression and media. (Media Caucus allowed 5 minutes input at the start and finish of daily debates and no observer status. This was a regressive move in terms of civil society participation.) Media Caucus Chair addresses Working Group twice to present and motivate for caucus agreed text, and to protest at being excluded from full participation in the Working Group.

Swiss Delegation to Inter-Government Working Group on Media adopted the Media Caucus text as its own to bring the text into the realm of an 'official' government position. Still no agreement reached on Article 19.

Draft Declaration of Principles released, with minimal reference to

	<p>Ongoing resistance in Govt. Plenary to inclusion of media in official documents. Media Caucus releases text asserting Article 19 and the key role of media in any conception of an 'information society'.</p> <p>Right to Communicate Debate held in the form of a panel about new communication rights vs. the elaboration of existing ones. Input from CRIS, ARTICLE 19 and the World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC). Result was recognition of existing rights and fundamental agreement between parties to the debate. Scheduled for further discussion. Remaining disagreement on the term 'communication rights', by WPFC.</p>
lists /	Circulation of Civil Society Priorities Document - result of discussion by email list following PrepCom 2.
/ e-lists	Civil Society Content and Themes report on activity between PrepCom 2 and Intersessional is released - including responses to March 21 st version of Draft Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action.
sional Paris	New version of Draft Declaration of Principles produced with three options for mention of Freedom of Expression / ARTICLE 19. Ongoing resistance in Govt. Plenary to the use of Article 19 and the principles inherent in it.
	Research project proposed on the perceptions of community media in WSIS, by Media Caucus member - now a PhD process at the University of Hamburg.
frica e, WN, South	Statement released by Highway Africa to be conveyed to PrepCom 3, endorsing the Media Caucus text developed at PrepCom 2 and asserting the fundamental principles of Article 19 as the basis for the information society and the role of the media - traditional and new.
, GENEVA, nd	<p>Government negotiations stalled on key issues - the proposed Digital Solidarity Fund, Private vs. public governance of the Internet, proprietary vs. open source software, freedom of expression, intellectual property rights. Strong resistance by a minority of national delegations to the acknowledgement of Article 19 or freedom of expression and media freedom.</p> <p>Draft Declaration of Principles (Sept 26th) released with references to Article 19 and freedom of expression in square brackets - i.e. not agreed to.</p>

Lobbying Chronology – highlights of Civil Society Media Caucus	
Location	Advocacy outcome/s
Namibia	African Charter on Broadcasting agreed at WINDHOEK + 10 meeting. WSIS named in the Charter as an implementation and strengthening process.
UNESCO Civil Society Consultation Mali. Bamako WSIS	African Charter on Broadcasting presented to UNESCO Civil Society consultation and not received well. Agreed to mention as a footnote / never done. Content on four themes developed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info-structures in developing countries • Cultural diversity, public domain and fair use • Freedom of expression in the Information Society • Education in and for the Information Society
UNESCO Preparatory BAMAHO, BAMAHO,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Charter on Broadcasting presentation to Government Plenary led to it being endorsed by African governments and named in the Declaration of BAMAHO, 2002 • Round Table on Africa and the Media influences Declaration. • Declaration calls for freedom of expression for all citizens.
	CRIS Campaign raises the need for a new set of Rights to enable the Right to Communicate within the Information Society. Article 19 and partners counter this arguing these rights already exist within the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
European WSIS Meeting, Bucharest, Romania	Bucharest Declaration quotes Article 19 of the UDHR.
	UNESCO convenes on-line discussion on WSIS related issues, freedom of expression dialogue promoted by MISA
African and European Regional Meeting, Évora, Portugal	Declaration cites Article 19.
	<p>Civil Society Plenary input to Action Plan of Feb. 27th, 2003. Consensus document compiled from all caucus inputs.</p> <p>Civil Society releases a document called 'Seven Musts - Priority Principles Proposed by Civil Society'.</p>

Media Caucus Report – WSIS Phase 1

A chronology of specific advocacy highlights and actions taken by the WSIS Media Caucus follows this introductory overview.

In general the following are worth noting about the work of the Media caucus in Phase 1 of WSIS:

1. The Media caucus was able to reach consensus on most issues and this was reflected in the statements made throughout the process.
2. Solid common ground was found between labour and management positions and public and private broadcasting interests.
3. Positive mention of community media was a substantial consensual agreement.
4. The re-affirmation of Article 19 of the UDHR, in the Summit Declaration, was largely the result of member and collective Media Caucus lobbying.
5. Unfinished business is the omission from final documents of the Media Caucus requests for recognition of the need to implement Article 19 in the countries where it is not respected.
6. The reaffirmation by organs of the UN system, as a result of Media Caucus texts, of the UNESCO endorsed regional declarations on promoting pluralistic and independent press. These are:

Declaration of Sana'a 11 January 1996

http://www.unesco.org/webworld/com_media/communication_democracy/sanaa.htm

DECLARATION OF SOFIA 13 September 1997

http://www.unesco.org/webworld/com_media/communication_democracy/sofia_de.htm

Declaration of Alma Ata 9 October 1992

http://www.unesco.org/webworld/com_media/communication_democracy/almaty.htm

Declaration of Santiago 6 May 1994

http://www.unesco.org/webworld/com_media/communication_democracy/santiago.htm

1991 *Declaration of Windhoek on Promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press, Namibia,*

http://www.unesco.org/webworld/peace_library/UNESCO/HRIGHTS/327-331.HTM

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