



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY


7 March 2014

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith an invitation letter from the Co-Facilitators, H.E. Mr. Jarmo Viinanen, Permanent Representative of Finland and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Permanent Representative of Tunisia, to attend the second informal consultation to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, on Tuesday, 11 March 2014.

I encourage members to actively participate in the consultations on this important matter.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



pp - John W. Ashe

To all Permanent Representatives  
And Permanent Observers to the  
United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF TUNISIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

7 March 2014

Excellency,

As promised in our first informal consultations on 26 February 2014, concerning the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, we are sending the attached informal note for your information.

In order to gather broad enough guidance for the preparations of an initial draft of a modalities resolution, we would like to invite you to the second round of informal consultations, to be held on Tuesday, 11 March at 3.00 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council.

Member states are encouraged to be more specific on issues such as timing, format, structure, outcome and participation.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Jarmo Viinanen  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
Finland to the United Nations

Mohamed Khaled Khiari  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
Tunisia to the United Nations

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

## Informal Note by the Co-Facilitators

Paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society requested the United Nations General Assembly to make an overall review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes in 2015, and by GA resolution 68/198 of 20 December 2013, it was decided that modalities for this should be finalized by end of March 2014.

As we noted in the first informals, the review should also be done in line with the GA resolutions and decisions on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major UN conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.

In statements and comments heard so far, some Member States have called for the review to adhere to that of the Tunis agenda, paragraph 111, i.e. the "review of the implementation of WSIS outcomes". Many have underlined the role that technology can play in assisting development efforts. Others have stressed the importance of addressing the digital divide and improving broadband access in developing countries. Some delegations have also indicated the need to take into account paragraphs 69 to 71 of the Tunis agenda concerning enhanced cooperation. One call was also made to see the review as a roadmap for future discussions in various forums to help determine how best to implement WSIS outcomes.

Some delegations have also underscored the need to avoid duplication and called for the use of existing mechanisms, including the Commission of Science and Technology for Development as the Focal Point for the review. And while there are some Member States who believe that the review should be carried out in the context of a summit, several others take the view that this may not be the most efficient mechanism. One delegation stated that this review could be a part of the September 2015 Summit.

Some delegations believe that there should be wide stakeholder participation in line with the WSIS practise, and other delegations also pointed out the unique role that the GA can play in ensuring a universal and transparent participation of all states and stakeholders.