

Public-Private Partnerships: Delivering Results in the World Summit on the Information Society

Presentation by H.E. Mr. Adama Samassékou,

President of the Preparatory Committee of the WSIS,

President of the African Academy of Languages, and Former Minister of Education of Mali

to the

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council 15th General Meeting, September 1-3, 2003





The Challenge - Digital Divide

- ICTs transforming economy and society
- Tremendous benefits in health, education, trade, private sector investment and jobs
- But large populations being left behind
 - 91% of Internet users live in wealthiest countries that account for only 19% of the world's population



UN Resolution to hold Summit

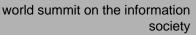
- Under the hospices of the UN and the patronage of UN SG Kofi Annan
- ITU lead with support of other UN bodies and host countries
- Meeting at the highest political level
 - Phase One in Geneva (December 10-12, 2003)
 - Phase Two in Tunis (November 16-18, 2005)





Summit Rationale

- Develop a common vision of an inclusive global information society
- Mobilize leaders with Action Plan to put ICTs at the service of human development
 - Expand access to ICTs in developing countries
 - Accelerate Progress on UN Millennium Development Goals
 - Promote Cultural and Linguistic Diversity





Preparatory Process for Geneva 2003

- Prepartory Committee Meetings
 - Negotiate political Declaration and Action Plan
 - Establish Summit Format
- Regional Conferences

Bamako, Bucharest, Tokyo, Bavaro, Beirut

Provide regional input





Participation

- « New Model Summit »
 - Governments, private sector, civil society and intergovernmental organizations actively involved
- Opportunity for new era in international relations
 - From misunderstanding and mistrust to collective solidarity of purpose



« From Input to Impact » From Observers to Partners

- PrepComs 1&2: Forum to express views
- PrepCom 3: Impact on Negotiations
 - New mechanism for observers' input, but decision making remains with governments
 - Precedent for new relationship between governments and other partners



Partnerships key to Summit Success

- Opportunity for each partner to participate
- Vehicle for action
- Tangible response to Declaration and Action Plan



Partnership Roles

Government

 Policy/regs, investment conditions, model user

Intergovernmental Organizations

 Standards, consensus, development expertise

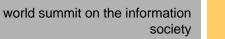
Private Sector

- Investment, tech solutions, new products and services, content
 Civil Society
- Content, grass roots support



Delivering Results through Partnerships

- Collective commitment, resources
- Monitoring and evaluation, measurable outcomes
- Sharing and applying lessons learned







Closing Thoughts

- Digital divide is fueling greater inequality
- WSIS is a unique platform for global action
- Everyone has a role to play
 - Leaders commit to vision and plan at Summit
 - All stakeholders participating in process
 - Preparation and follow up for leaders
 - Launch multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives





Thank you

website: www.itu.int/wsis

contact:wsis@itu.int

