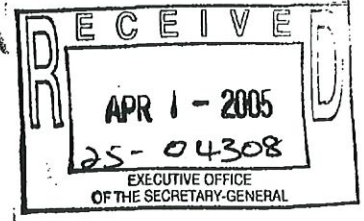


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NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

World Summit on the Information Society,
Tunis, 16-18 November 2005

As you are aware, the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society will take place in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005. Following the successful WEMF organized by DPI and its partners as a side event to WSIS in Geneva in 2003, DPI is preparing a parallel event at Tunis this year, in cooperation with UNESCO, the Arab States Broadcasting Union, the World Broadcasting Unions and the European Broadcasting Union. This is scheduled for 15-16 November 2005, and will be a smaller event than that held in Geneva (which had been funded by the Swiss Government). The Tunis event will address the issues of cultural diversity and dialogue among civilizations, safety of journalists in zones of conflict, the role of broadcasters in the information society, as well as more technical matters. The issue of press freedom, while not being addressed directly, is expected to come up in the discussion and I will continue to raise this issue in relation to our public comments on WSIS.

I am writing to alert you to DPI's parallel event, with a view to seeking a brief appearance of you at this occasion, at a time to be determined in relation to the rest of your programme.

Shashi Tharoor
Shashi Tharoor
1 April 2005

cc: Deputy Secretary-General
Mr. Ocampo
Mr. Khan

CLT - DJF/
for Tunis / Accus
March file. 13/6
Jr



NOTE TO MR. PATRIZIO CIVILI

Initiative on ICT in Parliaments

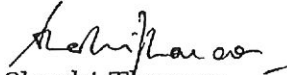
Thank you for your note of 2 February on the "ICT in Parliaments" initiative and your subsequent e-mail of 28 February. We look forward to working with you to publicize the formal launch of the Initiative during the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in November. The participation of so many distinguished Speakers of Parliaments from all regions will undoubtedly make this event one of the highlights of the Summit. Do keep me informed of your preparatory activities during the year.

At this stage, it is hoped that the Secretary-General will attend the Summit, and holding the formal launch in Tunis is likely, therefore, to facilitate his attendance. You might wish to consult with ITU to avoid any conflict with the opening and other high-level events where the Secretary-General's presence will no doubt be requested. The most reliable way to tentatively place the event on his schedule for further review, is through Mr. Kevin S. Kennedy in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

I also hope to attend the Tunis Summit, and of course, would be pleased to be a moderator or panelist at your event if scheduling allows. However, the Department of Public Information will bear a large responsibility for the organization of a parallel event for broadcasters, similar to the World Electronic Media Forum held at the 2003 WSIS, and I am sure you will understand that I must give this priority. This event will take place on 15-16 November. In view of this, and the limited staff resources we have for WSIS, the assistance we could provide to the "ICT in Parliaments" event would be primarily in promoting the event to journalists as part of our outreach for WSIS.

In case you have not already placed the "ICT in Parliaments" event on the official WSIS calendar, I am attaching ITU's guidelines and application form for parallel events at the Tunis Summit, drawing your attention to the deadline of 30 April.

With best wishes for your success in this endeavour.


Shashi Tharoor
8 March 2005

cc: Ms. Markham
Mr. Kennedy

① LK → KSA, J.N.

② CWT, for Tunis travel file
(Nov '05)



world summit
on the information society
Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005



تونس 2005 Tunis

Tunis, 24 February 2005
Original: French

GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZERS OF PARALLEL EVENTS DURING THE SECOND PHASE OF WSIS

The second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) will consist of two parts:

- *the official Summit, taking place from 16 to 18 November 2005 at the Parc des expositions du Kram in Tunis, and*
- *the parallel events, a series of meetings, discussions, workshops and exhibitions to be held from 14 to 19 November 2005, also in the Kram.*

This document, established jointly between Tunisia and the ITU, concerns the parallel events.

A. GENERAL FRAMEWORK

1. Purpose of the parallel events

The host country of the second phase of the Summit, Tunisia, in the interest of fostering interaction among the different stakeholders in the Summit, in accordance with resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations – in particular resolution 56/183, which encourages effective contributions from and the active participation of all relevant stakeholders in the Summit preparatory process and the Summit itself, resolution A/RES/57/238, which recommends that the occasion of WSIS be used for arranging events related to the Summit, and resolution 59/220 – has decided to make available within the Kram a space for the organization of parallel events. The purpose of this space, which is called ICT4All, is to facilitate the sharing of experiences, increase opportunities for dialogue, and provide an impetus for partnerships to build the information society. All events foreseen within this framework should be directly and explicitly relevant to the Summit's goals and objectives.

2. Parallel events of the second phase of WSIS

The parallel events of the 2005 Tunis phase of WSIS consist of the following.

- A space under the banner "Partnership for development of the information society", consisting of:
 - an exhibition organized on the theme "Partnership for development of information and communication technologies"

Note to the File

1. Mr. Riza met with the Permanent Representative of Tunisia, who raised three requests for the Secretary-General's consideration.
2. The Tunisian Government is preparing for the Tunis phase of the WSIS Summit. The Government feels that the ITU is expressing some apprehension regarding the dates and organization of the WSIS Summit. The PR thought it might be because the ITU lacks resources. The ITU has indicated that November 2005 is too soon to hold the Summit. The Tunisian Government has already started preparations based on the November 2005 date, which was mandated by a GA Resolution. The PR noted that the ITU's approach "is worrisome for us". He requested the Secretary-General's intervention on the matter, and to help Tunisia push the process forward. Mr. Riza agreed it was a serious matter and promised to look into it further. The PR asked if he might brief the Secretary-General orally.
3. The League of Arab States Summit is likely to be held from 22-23 May in Tunis. The Tunisian Foreign Minister and Mr. Moussa have released this date, which will be confirmed on 8 May at the LAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The PR noted that the agenda would remain as it was, but Iraq was likely to dominate. Mr. Riza noted that the dates might be problematic due to the Secretary-General's other commitments.
4. The GA has established the "World Solidarity Fund", which will be launched by UNDP through a High Level Committee meeting in July in Tunis. The PR enquired if the Secretary-General might consider launching the High Level Committee - as he did for the Private Sector Commission. The Committee will have a major influence on the fight against poverty. The date of the launch would be set to suit the Secretary-General, but he might consider it en route to the AU Summit in Addis. Mr. Riza said that the details of the Fund and Committee would have to be studied.

Thank you.

Laila Manji
Laila Manji
22 April 2004

cc Mr. Mourad Bahar with 1 + 3 pieces

Mr. Kennedy Advance notice in # 2.

Ms. Manji

Handwritten signature and date: 22/4/04

24-06136

ROUTING SLIP

FICHE DE TRANSMISSION

TO:		
A: Edward Mortimer		
FROM:		
DE: Kevin S. Kennedy <i>(KS)</i>		
Room No. - No de Bureau	Extension / Poste	Date
S-3840	3-6821	01/04/05
FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL		POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE		POUR SIGNATURE
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS
MAY WE DISCUSS?		POURRIIONS - NOUS EN PARLER?
YOUR ATTENTION		VOTRE ATTENTION
AS DISCUSSED		COMME CONVENU
AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

I would appreciate your views as to whether this should be recommended to the SG.

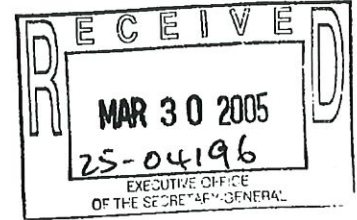
He is already committed to speaking at 11:00 a.m. the same day to the Women's International Forum.

As you know, he did speak at the first 2 "Unlearning Intolerance" seminars - on anti-Semitism & Homophobia. If DPI can make this into a credible third seminar in the series - on
COM.6 (12-78)

The need for "unlearning intolerance" both in and towards the media - I would favour the SG making short introductory remarks.

*EM
 LHV*

DPI LKSK
u EM



NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

"Unlearning Intolerance" seminar on
World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 2005

As you are aware, World Press Freedom Day is commemorated by the Department of Public Information on 3 May each year. Unlike in previous years, this year's commemoration does not coincide with the session of the Committee on Information and will be independently observed. It is our intention to build upon the momentum generated by our *Unlearning Intolerance* seminar series to observe the Day within that context and, specifically, to seek to highlight the role of media in projecting the core values of the United Nations, particularly in confronting intolerance.

We will be working closely with the United Nations Correspondents Association in identifying panelists and discussants at the seminar, which will also be timely in relation to the forthcoming sixtieth anniversary of the signing of the Charter.

We would be honoured if you could open the meeting with an address at 10 a.m. on 3 May 2005.

Shashi Tharoor
Shashi Tharoor
29 March 2005

→ Central

*SG will not attend
due to tight schedule.*

J

