

PRESENTATION

The digital era offers new and powerful tools anyone can use: mobiles, tablet, devices, computers, TV streaming, cameras, 3D makers, remote services, all fully connected by increasing broadband and able to interact with others worldwide. This means the reach of unimaginable advances in just one generation.

This powerful revolution opens new spaces of freedom for each person in the planet to preserve and empower his dignity and creativity. However, not all of this is automatic and it has to be achieved by employing these tools correctly, conscious of their capabilities and of the ecosystem where the ICTs are being used. In fact, these tools are often pushed into use by companies and orientated towards specific tasks that not always correspond to social needs. One of the major disadvantages is the improper and inefficient use of ICTs, such as the fact that free access and free expression are often not guaranteed worldwide. Moreover, the web, this maelstrom, is full of risks and an individual can be captured into its net and used without him knowing. Tools can be constructed too to have their options restricted, in term of obsolescence, fields of applications or remote controls. The main telecommunication structure reproduces the conservative status quo of the world political-financial asset.

The UN 2030 agenda is our magnetic compass towards the construction of the future and constitutes the commitments in the hand of Nations to build their society in a more equitable and people-oriented way. A new vision is created, and the role of UN is empowered, along with its responsibility to drive the digital process in order to reach the SDGs as soon as possible.

ICTs will play a primary role, not only in terms of technology, but also in terms of their capacity to change the paradigm, to solve atavistic problems, linking up people and community giving them a voice. ICTs are now pervasive in all aspects of our lives, and it will be more and more so in the near future. We need to understand the nature of the process and fix the rules in order to preserve the road map of dignity.

We need to create new global infrastructures, such as a universal platform as Ban Ki-moon suggests in his declaration "Roadmap to dignity by 2030".

This platform will involve the knowledge and leading competencies of the major worldwide institutions, in order to provide adequate services to Nations, communities, especially poor and needy ones. The UN itself is the major authoritative engine of eminent scientists, economists, technicians, doctors, and the like; it could be a strong and powerful engine furnishing solutions on demand for the most needy.

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Under the Patronage of
the Italian Chamber of Deputies
the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

ICTs AS THE TOOLS FOR EVERYONE TO ACHIEVE DIGNITY AND FREEDOM



Project: Studio Experimento; Digital Image: Giacomo Sparotto

INVITATION

14-15 APRIL, 2016

New York, UN Headquarters - Conference Room 12

in videoconference with:

Milan, European Parliament Information Office - Sala Conferenze

PLENARY SESSIONS

New York, United Nations Headquarters
Conference Room 12

10:00-10:30 - Opening Session

UN High Representative
H.E. Mr. Sebastiano Cardi, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN

General Introduction
Pierpaolo Saporito, President, OCCAM and Infopoverty Programme

10:30-11:30 - First Session

DIGITAL SERVICES FOR SDGs ACHIEVEMENT: THE TASK OF THE GLOBAL PLATFORM
Following the unanimous adoption, last September, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the attention of countries and the international community is now turning to "implementation" and "monitoring", the most effective ways – building on partnerships between institutions and civil society – to provide services capable of ensuring concrete progress towards the SDGs and to generate real time information and data to assess the reach and impact of the actions being taken and their sustainability. The present session will discuss the unique role that a global ICT platform can play in furthering both of these objectives and, by harnessing specific ICT services in support of different SDGs, contributing to the realization of the overall purposes of the 2030 Agenda.

Chair: Patrizio Civili, IDLO Permanent Observer to UN

Katsuhiko Imada, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN
Robert St. Thomas, Smarter Solutions Delivery Executive, IBM Global Business Services
Gary Fowlie, Director, ITU Liaison Office to the UN
Masahiro Ikeno, President & CEO, NEC Europe
Yamina Djacta, Director, UN-HABITAT New York office

11:30-13:00 - Second Session

E-SERVICES GLOBAL PLATFORM APPLICATION FOR SDG3. THE TELEMEDICINE HUB FOR EMERGENCY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA
It is now taken into consideration the third goal, focused on health, and the ways to accelerate its achievement. eMedMed is a large telemedicine initiative activated in five Mediterranean countries in order to face the biblical exodus of population ensuring an efficient health security level to all.

Chair: Susan Alzner, Officer in Charge, UN Non-Governmental Liaison Services

Francesco Santocono, Delegate of the Mayor of Catania, Italy
H.E. Khalid Omar Ali, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Somalia
Steven H. Shaha, DBA, Principal Outcomes Consultant, Allscripts
Aliye Celik, President, Consortium for Sustainable Organization
Tatána Kuchařová, Chairman of the board of Trustees, Beauty of Help Organisation
Álvaro de Marichalar, Member of the Royal Sea Academy of Spain

PLENARY SESSIONS

New York, United Nations Headquarters
Conference Room 12

14:30-16:00 - Third Session

THE ROLE OF ICTs IN THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND SAMOA PATHWAY
The Samoa Pathway represents a challenge to provide the basic e-services for health, food security, learning and job creation as soon as possible through the global platform, which is now able to solve the lack of infrastructure and competence in the less developed countries, under the demand emerging from the countries and the isolated communities.

Chair: H.E. Mr. Ahmed Sareer, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Maldives to the UN

George Mathew, Chairman, Institute of Social Science
Amjad Umar, Professor of ICTs - Director, ICT4SIDS Master Hub, Harrisburg University
Paul Haye, Project Manager, ICT4SIDS, Jamaica
John Mwaipopo, Project Manager, ICT4SIDS, Tanzania
Lisa Novajosky Smith, IBM Federal Healthcare, Collaborative Solutions and Technologies
John G. Kenerson M.D, FACC, Co-Founder, Colleagues in Care, World Hypertension League
Liberato C. Bautista, President of the Conference of NGOs of the Religious at UN

16:00-17:30 - Fourth Session

FOR A UN-PUBLIC-PRIVATE-NGO AND ACADEMIA INTERCHANGE
This session aims at taking stock of the situation on common aspects between the public and private sectors, the academia and the United Nations, which has revealed some discontinuities in the past, also due to the acceleration of the innovation flux, which can both create and destroy new opportunities. Cooperation is more than ever necessary to concretely take part in the achievement of SDGs.

Chair: Naoko Kimura, Relationship Manager Asia and Oceania, UN Global Compact

Michael Mathews, Chief Information Officer, Oral Roberts University
John Baker, Founder and President, D2L
Sugandha Sukrutaraj, Founder and CEO, AMBA, India
J. Douglas Reid-Green, Expert, BASF Corporation
Luigi Giannazzo, President, One Sanità
Mike Barbee, President and CEO, AGT

PLENARY SESSIONS

New York
Conference Room 12
10.00 - 11:30

Fifth Session

THE LEGACY OF EXPO MILANO 2015 – THE WORLD FOOD SECURITY E-CENTRE: DIGITAL SERVICES SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCE TO FIGHT HUNGER

The World Food Security e-Center aims to increase the capacity of management of the agro-alimentary development process, enhancing the centers of excellence in this field as “services providers” for the countries and the communities as “services users” in need of help, by means of a dedicated platform. This project has been developed as EXPO Legacy, further increasing the heritage gained by Expo, acting in perfect synchrony with other scientific-technologic and academic initiatives, eventually in program. To develop the Project an Organizing Committee has been established, including FAO, Milan Municipality, Lombardy Region; Scientific Committee for Expo 2015; University of Milan, Polytechnic of Milan.

Co-chair: Melchiade Bukuru, Chief UNCCD Liaison Office in New York

Toshihiko Murata, Former Executive and Liaison Officer, FAO New York Office

Muhammed Murtala, Member of Parliament, Ghana
Eugénie Salebongo Basoy, Secretary General, Ministry of Commerce, DR Congo

Hewan Teka Legesse, Responsible for pan African University, African Union

Carolina Requena, Delegate of the Mayor of São Paulo, Brazil
Stacia Murphy, Smithers Foundation

H.E. Barzanji Ahmed Abucar Suldán, Ambassador, Somalia

11:30-12:30 - Sixth session: Roundtable

IS GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN ALREADY ACHIEVED IN ICTs?

Chair: Maria Grazia Cavenaghi, Former Director European Parliament Information Offices in Milan and Marseille; OCCAM Liaison Officer

Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy, Supreme Court Justice, State of New York, New York County
Gloria Starr Kins, President Kins Group Publ., Publisher Editor in Chief Society & Diplomatic Review
Saideh Browne, Vice President Development & Public Affairs, US National Council of Women
Linda Spradley Dunn, CEO, Odyssey Media
Joan Alice Katen, Professor of Political Science & Peace and Justice Studies
Ilyasah Shabazz, Activist, Author, Educator

12:30-13:00 - CONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION and ENDORSEMENT OF THE FINAL DECLARATION

13:30-15:30 - UNAFF, OCCAM, IFTC-UNESCO present

6th SIGNS OF CHANGE / 12th UNAFF TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL NEW YORK

moderated by Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Director, UNAFF/UNAFF Traveling Film Festivals

I Am Able
Directors/Producers: Isaac and Jacob
Seigel-Boettner

The Girls Of The Taliban
Director: Najibullah Quraishi
Producer: Jamie Doran

Havana Curveball
Directors/Producers: Ken Schneider,
Marcia Jarmel

For more info about the films please visit www.unaff.org