

# PRESENTATION

Established in 2001 under the auspices of the United Nations, the Infopoverty World Conference has become an event of critical importance held annually at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The event is devoted to the role the digital revolution can play in development strategies.

The Conference over the years has benefitted from the participation of leaders in their fields of analysis, strategic evaluation and applied practice. Its aim is to contribute to fighting poverty with innovative and appropriate use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The Infopoverty World Conference is the hub of a conception of digital that goes beyond gadgets and social networks to the application of digital tools and facilities to the needs of the poor through the wise use of low cost and smart technologies. As the world has become almost entirely connected, it is important that the benefits of the digital revolution be made available to those most in need. The digital revolution also offers business opportunities for the companies, local and global, that are able to provide products and services that answer to the needs of those at the base of the pyramid.

The UN provides a convening platform and an approach focused on the needs of the "bottom billion" that will allow the question of who drives the digital revolution to be carefully debated. The digital revolution offers the promise that countries of the Global South can re-engineer their systems by by-passing outmoded forms of technology and integrating the digital opportunities in their economic development. The result should be better governance, new markets and job opportunities for the next generations.

In this context fits well Europe 2020, which outlines a framework of the European social market for the next decade, based on three priority areas that are closely linked and mutually reinforcing. Smart growth, developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation, sustainable growth, promoting a low carbon, resource efficient and competitive, and inclusive growth, promoting an economy with a high rate of employment, which fosters social and territorial cohesion, and with positive repercussions for the countries in the developing world, thanks to neighborhood policies and integration with Asia, Africa and Latin America.

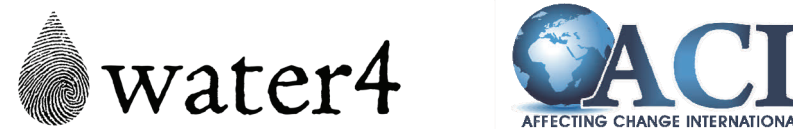
The results will be seen in fields as diverse as health, education, governance, agriculture and others that can support efforts for health, education, job creation, democracy, climate changes, food security as well as the empowerment of women.

The objective of the Infopoverty World Conference is to provide a high-profile platform for in-depth discussions on the interlinks between ICT and development, inspire new public-private partnerships in this field and encourage creative solutions addressing the Millennium Development Goals.

## WITH THE PATRONAGE OF



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## XII INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE

# WHO DRIVES THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION? DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INNOVATION



Project: studio Experimentia; Digital Image: Giacomo Saporito

## INVITATION

**22-23 MARCH 2012**

**New York, UN Headquarters - Conference Room 6**  
*in videoconference with:*  
**Milan, European Parliament Information Office - Sala Pirelli**

# AGENDA

Thursday 22 March 2012

## PLENARY SESSIONS

New York, United Nations Headquarters  
Conference Room 6

10.00 – 10.15 a.m.

### Opening Session

**Roland Rich**, Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Office for Partnerships  
**Ambassador Cesare Maria Ragaglini** Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations (TBC)

10.15 a.m. – 11.15 p.m.

### Opening Panel Discussion: Who drives the digital revolution?

The Conference will open with a series of keynote speakers that will present the current state of the digital revolution, the driving role of the United Nations system and the possibilities open to development processes in the Southern hemisphere, followed by the presentation of the draft global platform for the development of digital services.

**Moderator: Pierpaolo Saporito**, President of OCCAM and founder of the Infopoverty World Conference

**Gbremichael Debretsion**, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Ethiopia

**Jerome C. Glenn**, Executive Director, The Millennium Project

**Modibo Ibrahim Touré**, Minister of Posts and New Technologies, Mali

**Mathew Taylor**, ICT Solutions Strategies & Architect, Intel World Ahead Program

**Robert Shaw**, Head, Innovation Division, ITU Development Sector

**Hannia Vega Barrantes**, Viceminister of Telecommunications, Costa Rica (videorecorded message)

11.15 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

### Panel Discussion: Promoting Health for All through New Technologies

How to ensure maternal and neonatal health as well as prevention and treatment will be the focus of this session, which provides direct experiences from 3 continents (Africa, Asia and Latin America) to report the most advanced experiments on how ICTs can provide health services for all.

**First part of the panel:** Presentation about OCCAM projects in Lesotho, Brazil and India.

**Luca Neri**, USCME Project Director, Winfocus

**Antônio Jorge de Souza Marques**, Regional Minister of Health, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

**Scott Dulchavski**, Professor of Surgery, Molecular Biology, and Genetics, Wayne State University School of Medicine

**Amelia Ranotsi**, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, National University of Lesotho (videorecorded message)

**Moderator: John Steffens**, Executive Director, Infopoverty Institute

**Roberto Pugno**, President, European Medical Services EMS

**Giorgia Sambunaris**, Senior Advisor to Director, Office of Economic Growth, USAID

**Ihab Elfituri**, Director of Cooperation and international relations, Almadina Multimedia Center, Lybia

**Richard C. Greenly**, President, Water4 Foundation

**David A. Sabatini**, Executive Director, Water Technologies for Emerging Regions

**Hill Kemp**, Chairman & CEO, Suns River

## PLENARY SESSIONS

New York, United Nations Headquarters  
Conference Room 6

2.15 – 3.30 p.m.

### Panel Discussion: Fostering Strategic Innovation for Food Security

Fighting poverty and hunger is the first and foremost among the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals. In recent years innovations have emerged that can bring a crucial contribution in this area, which will be illustrated by the protagonists, including specialized international organizations, universities, research centers, international foundations working in the field of rural development, and taking into account the next EXPO 2015, hosted in Milan and entirely devoted to these issues. It will also address the issue of climate change, which have a devastating effect on crops in large parts of the world, and how new technologies can mitigate and address its causes.

**Moderator: Scott McCallum**, President & CEO, The Aidmatrix Foundation

**Mohamed Ibrahim**, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Transitional Federal Government of Somalia

**Hanif Rahemtulla**, the World Bank Institute's Innovation Team

**Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana** Director of FAO Office in New York

**Caroline Figuères**, Managing Director, International Institute for Communication and Development

**Heike Bach**, Managing Director, Vista

**Sophia Martelly**, First Lady of the Republic of Haiti (TBC)

3.45 – 5.30 p.m.

### Panel Discussion: Partnerships and Innovative Tools for Education

With increasing availability of online educational content enormous expertise can now be transferred from developed to emerging countries, not only in purely educational terms, but also intended to create jobs and skills. This process is combined with the ongoing as necessary tool to foster an ever greater inclusion of girls in schools.

**Moderator: Roland Rich**, Officer-in-Charge of UNOP

**Frederick Norkeh**, Minister of ICT, Liberia

**Alphonse Ntita Misakabu**, Coordinator, NICT Department, Ministry of Post, DR Congo

**Frank Gallagher**, Executive Director, Cable in the Classroom

**David Neely**, President, Affecting Change International

**Timothy Anderson**, President, World Computer Exchange

**Sofia Perrazzo**, Cisneros Foundation

**John Warren**, Infopoverty Institute

**Maria Amata Garito**, Dean, UNINETTUNO

**Armen Orujyan**, Chairman, Athgo International

**Ronald Bruder**, Founder and CEO, Education for Employment Foundation

Friday 23 March 2012

## EUROPEAN SESSION

New York, United Nations Headquarters  
Conference Room 6

Milan, European Parliament Information Office  
Sala Pirelli, Palazzo delle Stelline, Corso Magenta, 59

10:00 a.m.

### European Session in collaboration with the European Parliament Information Office and the European Commission Office in Milan

#### The challenges of Europe and the international community towards sustainable growth and democratic participation through innovation.

Europe 2020 sets out a framework for European social market for the next decade, based on three priority areas that are closely linked and mutually reinforcing: smart growth, developing economy based on knowledge and innovation, sustainable growth, promoting an economy to low carbon, resource efficient and competitive, and inclusive growth, fostering a high employment rate, which promotes social and territorial cohesion. This strategy has also positive effects to the developing countries, thanks to the neighbourhood policy, and integration with Asia, Africa and Latin America, which will be presented during the work session with representatives from both the European Parliament and European Commission, as well as of those organizations that have benefited from European funding under the calls for development and the research for innovative products and services.

**Co-chair: Serge Telle**, Ambassador in charge of the Union for the Mediterranean on behalf of the President of the Republic of France

**Michael Landau**, MAP International

**Robert Marks**, Economics and Social Affairs Advisor, US Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**Mara Rudman**, Dep. Administrator, Middle East, USAID

**Stephan Davenport**, Development Gateway

**Daniele Trincherio**, iXem Labs

**Jean Francois Soupizet**, Advisor, Close the gap (\* connected from Brussels)

**Co-chair: Bruno Marasà**, European Parliament Information Office in Milan

**Patrizia Toia**, Member of the European Parliament

**Representative from the European Commission**

**Leonardo Chiariglione**, Founder of MPEG

**Stefania Pigozzi**, Head, Center of Studies, UCIMU

**Gian Francesco Tiramani**, EMS, European Medical services

**Claudia Sorlini**, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Milan

**Giampaolo Landi di Chiavenna**, Chairman, Alleanza per lo Sviluppo e la Cooperazione

Representatives from Italian NGOs

**Louis Michel** and **Musikari Kombo**, Co Chairs of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly

12:30 a.m.

### Final Session: General discussion and approval of the Final Declaration

**Roland Rich**, Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Office for Partnerships

**Frederick Norkeh**, Minister of ICT, Liberia

**Alphonse Ntita Misakabu**, Coordinator, NICT Department, Ministry of Post, DR Congo

**John Steffens**, Infopoverty Institute

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