



PARLAMENTO  
EUROPEO



University of  
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Regional United  
Nations  
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UNESCO  
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Politecnico di  
Milano



CeTIF  
Master  
Emergenza



European Space  
Agency

## IV INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE

29-30 APRILE 2004

### FINAL DECLARATION

*Considering that:*

Fighting poverty is the primary goal of the Millennium Declaration approved in 2000 by United Nations;

The declaration of the 2003 WSIS Summit underlines the necessity of linking all the communities of the earth by 2015;

The digital revolution is changing life parameters of entire populations, with the risk of increasing the severe already existing imbalances;

These technologies can give a decisive contribution to effectively combat the poverty conditions that affects the majority of humankind and to help to reach the Millennium Development Goals.

### THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE

which includes more than 100 institutions, with about 150 speakers in 14 different locations connected in videoconference with more than 150 rapporteurs, at the end of the work, within the **Infopoverty Programme**, in which OCCAM play the role of acting agency

*Undertakes to support with special effort the proposal to draft, during the next 2005 Summit in Tunis, a project of excellence aimed at providing all those forefront ICT applications able to improve the social and economic conditions and to face the vulnerability of their positions to a Tunisian disadvantaged community. The goal is to submit the present Delegations and the international press the best solutions involving the most appropriate, effective and validated technologies, including satellite technologies, as everywhere replicable models and guaranteed to the absolute reliability and to the high skills of the services provided.*

All the present institutions, coordinated in **Infopoverty Network**, operating within the conference since 2001 are invited to contribute to the realization of this pilot project

*Promotes* a wide coordination among the ongoing initiatives for the creation of a real society of the knowledge, through the institution of the **Digital Focus** in Lombardy (Italy), in order that new forms of sharing can develop technological, knowledge, resources and services platforms, in order to optimize costs and to accelerate the reach of the common goals.

*Supports the Infopoverty Institute*, established at the university of Oklahoma, in order to facilitate the use of connectivity and to support the effective access and the use of information aimed at improving life conditions of the communities who need more help.

***Recommends:***

To strengthen the spirit of **consensus** between all the stakeholder, in order to mobilize, with human, technological, economic resources, to reach the primary goals already indicated, specifically referring to the Millennium Development Goals;

To promote global long term agreements between satellite operators and UN, in particular, in the **connectivity** field, in order to start charging policies compatible with development levels.

To lead **product policies** oriented to populations' real needs, respecting human rights and guaranteed to operational reliability (abolishing programmed obsolescence practices, ensuring safety from virus and spam) and to freeware and linguistic availability levels, in order to make use of ICTs open to all.

*Invites* Financial International Organizations, governments, NGOs and the private sector to start initiatives that bring to “turnkey” realization of those **primary services** (telemedicine, e-learning, e-governance, e-commerce) immediately available for the most disadvantaged communities, and at the same time to encourage them with microcredit activities.

On the basis of the proposals emerged during the Conference, **supports** practical actions shown this year in order to exemplify the International Community effort expressed during this Conference through its representatives, to reduce digital divide on a sustainable basis and on an approach that considers people at the heart of any action.

**Welcomes** the enthusiasm and the seriousness of Tunisia, with which the country has committed itself in the preparatory work of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society that will take place in Tunis on November 2005, and **recommends** that all the partners (UN, ITU, European Union, Governments etc.) sustain Tunisia in order to ensure the success of the Summit.