



IX INFOPOVERTY WORLD CONFERENCE
18-20 MARCH 2009 – UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

FINAL DECLARATION

Aware that:

Future has its roots in the present and in a shared view of expectations, we affirm that the priority of ICT for Development has to be the fight against poverty and the improvement of social conditions of disadvantaged communities, in the spirit of the Millennium Development Goals

Appreciating

the continued patronage of the President of the Italian Republic, H.E. Giorgio Napolitano, for the realization of the series of the Infopoverty World Conferences;

the presence of the President of ECOSOC, H.E. Sylvie Lucas, Permanent Representative of Luxemburg, and of the Vice Presidents of ECOSOC: H.E. Carmen Maria Gallardo Hernandez, Permanent Representative of El Salvador, H.E. Tiina Intelmann, Permanent Representative of Estonia, H.E. Somduth Soborun, Permanent Representative of Mauritius; the presence of H.E. Francis Lorenzo, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic, H.E. Zainol Rahim Zainuddin, Deputy Permanent Representative of Malaysia.

the constant support of the European Parliament; the participation of the EU Commissioner for the Information Society Viviane Reding, that of European Members of Parliament Vittorio Agnoletto, Cristiana Muscardini, Pier Antonio Panzeri, and that of Jean Francois Soupizet, Information Society Directorate of the European Commission;

the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development for facilitating the Conference and leading the whole process, making all stakeholders converge to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

the Infopoverty Institute at the University of Oklahoma for the organization of the workshops and the International Council of Film and Television at UNESCO for the organization of the Paris session;

the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy and the support of Regione Lombardia, City of Milan, Development Gateway, Smithers Foundation and the Kins Group.

Considering:

1. The Conference underlines the need to individuate solutions to the abuse and refuse of ICTs in development strategies, so that the deadline of 2015 can be matched.
2. Reaffirm the call of international organizations, summits and all stakeholders to provide low cost connectivity and high level e-services to all disadvantaged communities of the world to promote their endogenous development and struggle against poverty in all its forms.
3. The successful outcomes of the Infopoverty World Conference 2008, whose Final Declaration, as per the report that was submitted by OCCAM – lead founder of the Infopoverty Programme and World Conference – has been widely implemented in regards to:
 - (i) The activities carried out within the UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development, which have led to the delivery of broadband connectivity to the ICT Millennium Village in Sambaina
 - (ii) The wider participation to the Community of Expertise “e-services for development” led by OCCAM within the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development, which has allowed the provision of new services for development as well as high level low cost solutions for connectivity and WIMAX
 - (iii) The constitution of the Permanent Forum, where to converge all the stakeholders and the UN family to promote and facilitate the MGD results for EXPO 2015, created and presented in Milan on the occasion of the International Food Summit held in October 2008.

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The participants in the IX Infopoverty World Conference

Decide

1. To create the Infopoverty network of villages and communities as scientific campus of experimentation, where we can test the different innovations, compare, unify, evaluate in term of cost and efficiency, and interact with local population and validate them as valuable tools and practices to be shared and applied to UN aid programs, allowing a wider range of affordable practices, and to create an ad hoc committee and fund for this purpose.

2. To encourage the wider application of the ville-village model and practice which allows closest links between 2 communities towards shared sustainable and social development, as in the pilot project between Lodi and Sambaina, calling also for an in depth analysis and research on the use of ICTs in development strategies and programmes.

3. To support initiatives and projects presented at the Conference, including the 500/12 initiative; U-Movement; Electronic and Mobile Government Knowledge Repository (e/m-GKR); Global Initiative for Inclusive Technologies (G3ict); low cost broadband distribution by iXemLabs; e-phytopathology and e-veterinary by the University of Milan; Voice Internet access with any phone by InternetSpeech; the World Ahead Program by INTEL; the I-THINK Research by Lawson Health Research Institute; Desktop virtualization by NComputing; the Smithers Junior Award; IT Valley in Thailand by NECTEC; e-commerce initiatives by redtienda; the Integrated Safe Water System by Metropolitana Milanese; e-health by WINFOCUS; the Reborn Project; Community Renewal International initiatives; Telecenter e-Health Project by Kyrgyzstan; Samana College/University Centre; the Filarete Project; and all other initiatives carried out within the Infopoverty Community of Expertise.

Invite

4. All stakeholders, including partner organizations of the Infopoverty Programme (UNDESA-GAID, Development Gateway Foundation, UNESCO, etc.), United Nations agencies, business leaders, academic institutions and civil society organizations **to join in a web-based global movement** to raise awareness, mobilize resources and promote innovative solutions and entrepreneurship, built on local experiences and lessons learned from ICT4D projects and programmes for universal diffusion and application of ICT for accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

5. UN Member States **to support** the application of the Infopoverty Programme as International Governmental Organization.

6. OCCAM, with the collaboration of all stakeholders and organizations, **to prepare** – through a permanent consultation – a report to the X Infopoverty World Conference, on progress achieved in mobilizing support and its impact on the identified countries for partnership, while endorsing the Report submitted to this edition of the Infopoverty World Conference.

Approve

7. **to hold** the 10th edition of the Infopoverty World Conference in March 2010 at the UN Headquarters, on the following theme: *How technologies are reshaping the world and can defeat poverty*, enriched by an Exhibition on the same subject, where all stakeholders are invited to participate.