

XIV Infopoverty World Conference

How the digital innovation can accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and help launch the sustainable development goals

April 10th -11th, 2014

New York, Brussels



Agenda

Thursday 10 April 2014

9.30 am-10.00 am Opening Session

Navid Hanif, Director, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, UNDESA

Neelie Kroes, Vice President of the European Commission and Commissioner, Responsible for the European Digital Agenda

Report on Infopoverty Activities 2001-2014

Pierpaolo Saporito, President of OCCAM AND Founder of the Infopoverty World Conference

10.00am -11.30am First Session Strengthening social and sustainable development goals to fight poverty through the correct use of new technologies

Chair: Daniela Bas, Director, DSPD/DESA/UN

Karen Tan, Permanent Representative of Singapore to the UN

Garcia Gonzales, Ambassador Permanent Mission of El Salvador to UN

Shanu Hinduja, President of Hinduja Foundation, India

A.K. Abdul Momen, Ambassador Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN

Hiroshi Ishkawa, Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN^{tb}

11.30am – 1.00 pm Second Session New ICT solutions for SDG in developing countries

Chair: Neelie Kroes, Vice President of the European Commission and Commissioner, Responsible for the European Digital Agenda

Toshiko Murata, senior advisor of Infopoverty Program

Luigi de Vecchis, B! Technologies

Antoine Tristan Mocilnikar, Director for Sustainable Development at the Union for the Mediterranean Mission, French Republic Presidency

Antonio Di Giulio, head of Unite, Directorate- General for Research & Innovation

Hussain Badrawi, President of Badrawi Foundation, Egypt

Luca Neri, Vice President Winfocus international

Hewan Teka Legesse, President of Bianca Foundation, Ethiopia

Ibrahim O. Dabbashi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Libya to UN

2.30pm - 4.00 pm Third Session ICT strategies towards SDG

Chair: John Steffens, Ph.D., Provost Emeritus and Executive Director of Infopoverty Institute, University of Oklahoma

Friedrick Norkeh, Minister of Technology, Liberia

Imad Hoballah, CEO Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, Lebanon

Jean-Francis Zinsou, Ambassador Permanent Representative of Benin to the UN, Chairperson of the UN Coordination Bureau for the Least Developed Countries Group

Robert St. Thomas, Smarter Solutions Delivery Executive, IBM Global Business Services

Umar Amjad, Ph.D. Chief Architect, GAID eNabler Project University of Pennsylvania and Harrisburg University

Alxei Tikhomirov, Chief, Transition Economics Unit: Development Planning and Policies, UN DESA

Aline Kabbatende, Senior Official of Rwanda Government

Sharon Brennen-Haylock, Director, FAO, Liason Office with the UN

4.00 pm -6.00pm **Fourth Session** *The best ICT practices of the year*

Chair: Nelson Muffuh, Head of Outreach, Post-2015 Development Planning Team, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, UN

Jim Poisantt, WITSA Secretary General

Steve Conboy, president ECO, US

Ying Zang, President i-Medcare Technologies co, China

Prof. Yangong Chao, Chief of ICU and emergency department of **Hua Xin Hospital**, First Hospital of Tsinghua University

Giovanni Sesana, Ems Areu, Emergency Call Center Director, Milan, Italy

Dennis Bamidale Sunday, Director General National Center for Youth Development

Tomislav Bogdanic, President, World Youth Bank Network

Deepak K. Srivastava, PhD Professor Department of International Business and Marketing School of Business

Adele Smithers, The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Inc.

Liberato Bautista, Assistant Secretary General to UN, United Methodist Church

Marcia L. Dyson, CEO, Women's Global Initiative

Francesca Cesa Bianchi, Vice President for Institutional Relations, G3ic

Friday 11 April 2014

09.30am – 11.30 pm **Fifth Session** *Services and applications for disadvantages people and communities*

Chair: Palitha T.B. Kohona, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the UN

In videoconference with European Parliament seat in Milan for EXPO 2015

Co-chair: Bruno Marasà, Head of the Information Office in Milan of the European Parliament

Ruggero Gabbai, President of the City Council of Milan for Expo 2015

Alberto Martinelli, Professor Emeritus, Università degli Studi of Milan

Gloria Starr Kins, editor in chief and publisher, Society & Diplomatic Review

Calvin Burgess, CEO, Dominion Farms,

Neeley Hicks, Assistant Director United Methodist

Sean McDonald, CEO, Frontline SMS

Marc Abbyad, Medical Mobile

Matthew Kam, CEO, Inveneo

Ben Kuzora, President of the Eastern Africa Diaspora Business Council (EADBC)

Emmanuel Amos, Ceo PROGRAMOS Nigeria (West Africa)

Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Executive Director UNAFF and UNAFF Traveling Film Festivals

Lola Poggi Goujon, CICT- ICFT NGO official Partner OF UNESCO

11.30am -12.30 pm **Sixth Session** *General discussion on the ICT action plan for SDGs*

Larry Hollon, General Secretary, UM-COMM

Dr. Richard Niemeyer, Medical Doctor, International Medicine

Josh Glacken, Global Media Outreach

Timothy Anderson, president, World Computer Exchange

Jenny Dyer, Helping Hands

David Neely, ACI International

12.30 -13.00 pm Final Roundtable And Approval Of The Final Declaration

Chair: Pierpaolo Saporito, with the chairpersons of the previous sessions

2.00pm – 4.00 pm Special Event

IV Signs Of Change Film Festival

Special screening of movies on fighting poverty, organized by UNAFF in collaboration with OCCAM, CICT-UNESCO. Selected movies concerning the IWC.

Final Declaration

Appreciating

- the continued patronage of the President of the Italian Republic, H.E. Giorgio Napolitano and support of the Permanent Mission of Italy;
- the participation of the UN representative of the governments of Bangladesh, Benin, El Salvador, France, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Morocco, Palau, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Kenya; and the UN organizations: DESA, ECOSOC, FAO, ITU, UNAFF, CICT- UNESCO, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries;
- the partnership of the European Parliament and European Commission, in the person of its Vice-President Neelie Kroes;
- the crucial role of OCCAM, the Observatory for the Digital Revolution, founder and main organizer of the Infopoverty Conference, with the Infopoverty Institute at the University of Oklahoma,

Taking into account the results of the proceedings of the Conference, the participants converge on the following

INFOPOVERTY DECLARATION 2014

- Approaching 2015 at the conclusion of the MDGs plan, it appears evident that the new technologies, and in particular the digital ones, have played an important role in changing our societies and could accelerate even more the achievement of these goals.
- Facing the post-2015 Agenda elaboration, the information and communication technologies (ICT) could have a determinant capacity in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), if the innovations will be empowered as key social players, and not only as market goods for consumers.
- The social complexities that digital technology helps to make fluid are at risk of congealing and halting democratic processes
- New paradigms are imposing that are producing new practices involving progressively all population, in particular the youngsters, who will be protagonists of the next digital era, where the existing poverty gap will overcome by global connectivity, able to interact values, culture, goods and resources, of the people, in a horizontal process, which can revitalize the decline of the ancient regime, lighting a new global challenge.
- The Conference put in evidence , through best practices and projects, the new strategic solutions based on the social use of ICT, beyond the stage of mere information, as tools for a real development, for both the supply of essential services, such as education, e-health and food security, and for the creation of infrastructure for the exchange of proficiency, knowledge, products, and economical and financial resources, facilitated by the use of the Digital Services Global Platform (DSGP) elaborated in the 13th Conference and validated at ECOSOC AMR last July.
- A clear vision emerge from the Conference: reduce poverty empowering the people capacity, supplying the needed services to everyone, with ICT devices, in order to ensure an adequate level of health care and food security, and start the process of social inclusion by an interactive system of communication
- As we are living in a world where almost all people are interconnected, in necessary that national and international institutions take in charge this opportunities, with new strategic plans, encouraging inclusion, exclusion, making citizens active, creating jobs, overcoming the

traditional barriers of languages, territories, economical and financial hegemonies, with open and sharing platform of global cooperation

- The Infopoverty Program 2014-2015, taking in charge all this suggestions emerged from the debate, will transale it in actions, thanks to the collaboration expressed by the countries, UN, academia, NGOs and companies, representatives, acting as a real operational community, sharing experience, applying the solutions, elaborating new project tailored on the need of the poorest populations, in the spirit of the UN mission, forwarding the challenge of post 2015 agenda: the Sustainable Development Goals.

DELIBERATIONS

Adhering to the willingness of all participants to join forces and give continuity to the discussion **we decide:**

1. to change the Infopoverty Conference into a **Permanent Conference** Organization, integrated with the UN system, with the task not only to ‘convince the Stakeholders of SDGs of the importance of ICTs’, but mostly to provide the concrete implementation of the new ICT solutions able to support and accelerate the UN Sustainable Development Agenda (SDGs) and the Last Developed countries (LDC).
2. to elaborate the **Infopoverty Program** as the synthesis of the main practices and projects presented, which constitute a peculiar selection of the best solutions ready to be applied by the UN system and governments to accelerate the MDGs achievement and able to give support to incoming SDGs. Empowered through the Digital Services Global Platform, this new practices will provide easy access to the basic e-services, illustrated in the Report, with the contribution of all participants, operating as a Community, to express the new digital capacity to solve problems, still unachieved.
3. to start an intense interaction as a **Infopoverty Community** in order to define the Infopoverty executive program that could be centered on following focus:
 - i. ICT for Gender and disability, lead by DSPD- UNDESA, with the convergent applications emerged in the discussion
 - ii. E-health: E-MedMed project, promoted by OCCAM, for the South Euro-Mediterranean region, as partnership integrator of advanced ICT stakeholders, ready to be implemented by the participants in other contest like LDC and Small Island Countries
 - iii. Food Security: related initiatives for EXPO 2015, following the invitation of the representative of Milano Municipality, The applications of ICT for Africa and developing countries empowered by the network of service providers worldwide aimed at providing assistance to remote centers with a permanent structure that can serve as a *world e-center for food-security*.
 - iv. E-learning lead by Infopoverty Institute of Oklahoma University, to empower local universities and educational infrastructures
 - v. Industrial ict sector, lead by WITSA with IWG, to organize the Infopoverty followup at the World Congress on IT on 30 september 2014.

OCCAM is in charged to continue assuring the general secretariat, to sharing this Declaration and providing coordination to realize the Infopoverty Program.