



IFLA Tool Kit for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Geneva December 2003 and Tunis 2005

Summary

Library and information services are key actors in providing unhindered access to essential resources for economic and cultural advance. In doing so, they contribute effectively to the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom, safeguarding democratic values and universal civil rights. They encourage social inclusion, by striving to serve all those in their user communities regardless of age, gender, economic or employment status, literacy or technical skills, cultural or ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs, sexual orientation, and physical or mental ability. The communities they serve may be geographically based or, increasingly, linked only by technology and shared interests.

What to do

- Participate in national and regional WSIS preparatory meetings
- Identify representatives of your national government in the WSIS process [see www.itu.int/wsisp/participation/prepcom2], send them material on the IFLA position and seek to meet with them
- Contact appropriate ministers or interested members of parliament, send them material on the IFLA position and seek to meet with them
- Publicise the Summit and the IFLA position in library association journals and newsletters
- Organise library and association meetings to discuss the issues and future action at the national and regional levels
- Try to get media coverage of the Summit and the issues
- Use every opportunity !

Time line

15-18 July 2003

Inter-Session meeting, UNESCO, Paris

1-9 August 2003

IFLA World Library and Information Conference, Berlin

15-26 September 2003

PrepCom3, Geneva

3-4 November 2003

Libraries @ the Heart, Prelude Conference, Geneva

10-12 December 2003

World Summit 1st Phase, Geneva

16-18 November 2005

World Summit 2nd Phase, Tunis

WSIS documents

- See WSIS site -- www.itu.int/wsis/index.html

Key IFLA documents

- IFLA WSIS documents -- www.ifla.org/wsis
- Glasgow Declaration -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/the-glasgow-declaration-on-libraries-information-services-and-intellectual-freedom>
- IFLA Internet Manifesto -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/node/224>
- IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-public-library-manifesto-1994>
- IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-school-library-manifesto-1999>
- IFLA Statement on Sustainable Development -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/statement-on-libraries-and-sustainable-development>
- IFLA Statement on Indigenous Traditional Knowledge -- <http://www.ifla.org/publications/ifla-statement-on-indigenous-traditional-knowledge>
- IFLA/FAIFE World Report 2001 (available from IFLA/HQ)
- IFLA/FAIFE Summary Report 2002 (available from IFLA/HQ)

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