

9 September 2010

Global Alliance for ICT and Development
‘Prepcom’ Meeting
on ICT for MDG Project
1-2 September 2010
United Nations Headquarters, New York

Summary of Proceedings

A Preparatory meeting for the presentation of the MDG eCenter in the context of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly was held on 1-2 September 2010, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The meeting was attended by some 140 participants representing 44 countries as well as UN agencies, business, civil society and academia. It was a truly multi-stakeholder event with 30% participation from governments, 20% from business, 16% from civil society, 14% from UN agencies and 10% from international organizations.

The purpose of the meeting was to further refine and develop, through an interactive discussion and exchange of ideas and suggestions among high-level representatives of all relevant stakeholders, the design, features and title of the ‘eCenter’ in preparation for a presentation of a further developed version to Member States in the context of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on 21 September. The organizational and governance structure of managing and maintaining the content for the project was also a major topic of discussion throughout the meeting.

There was broad recognition of the positive and dynamic impact that the new initiative could have on accelerating progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The expert participants engaged in an interactive and lively discussion on all aspects of the initiative. The concepts and objectives of the project received overwhelming support and a positive response from all participants. While there was not a single objection to the project, many important suggestions and proposals were made to help refine, enhance and develop it.

I. Opening Session

Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UNGAID), welcomed all participants, and thanked them for coming to such an important event. The Chairman acknowledged the importance of broad participation from all stakeholders, and reminded participants that the project was being built in a collaborative, open manner and that their substantive engagement was needed for it to be successful. The Chairman drew attention to the status of the name of the project, noting that the previous name, MDG eCenter, may suggest the creation of a bureaucratic physical entity; on the contrary, this initiative is meant to operate as an agile online tool for development practitioners. He then proposed the name ‘MDG eNabler’, where the ‘e’ could express both the term ‘electronic’ and ‘enabler’, and highlights the main objective of the initiative, namely to ‘enable’ development through the use of ICTs. The Chairman asked the audience for feedback on this matter throughout the day and listed this as an item for agenda, among others, that needed a consensus decision by the participants.

In his video address, **Prince Hassan of Jordan** expressed support for the work being done by UNGAID and the project in particular. He emphasised the importance of a long term, comprehensive and

integrated view of global development, taking into account the rapid pace of change in technologies and societies.

In his opening remarks, **Under Secretary-General Cheick Sidi Diarra**, Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, stated that the project is particularly encouraging for progress towards achievement of the MDGs in Africa and other developing countries, given that a major reason that poorer countries are lagging behind in the pursuit of the goals is their lack of easily accessible information to enhance development. He suggested that the project could consider including a feature which perhaps tracks the performance of African Countries, the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in their endeavors to reach their goals. This disaggregating exercise would allow us to retrieve pertinent information so that we can closely monitor and advocate more effectively on behalf of these vulnerable groups of countries as we progress towards 2015. He also mentioned that the project could serve as a useful blueprint for the development of country specific portals of a similar nature. Mr. Diarra concluded his statement by stating his confidence that the project will provide fresh ideas and guidance for development practitioners, and that he looked forward to working closely with UNGAID and the rest of the stakeholders in its development.

Mr. Sergei Kambalov, Executive Coordinator of UNGAID, reported to the participants on the results of both on-line and physical consultations that had been conducted since the launch of the project. He reiterated that nobody had questioned the importance and added value of the initiative throughout the process. He emphasized that the project would not duplicate any other work being done but instead would add to what already exists. Mr. Kambalov urged the participants for guidance on issues such as the project governance, vetting procedures and official title of the initiative. He also presented the Matrix of ICT Solutions for MDG Advancement, a core component of the project, describing the concept, proposed architecture, and status of inputs received thus far.

Dr. Jim Poisant, Secretary-General, World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), reminded participants of the urgency and importance of using ICTs to accelerate development. He urged all participants to work together on this project and warned that if technology were not deployed quickly in the developing countries, they may fall even farther behind in their social and economic development.

Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh presented the agenda for the meeting and emphasized the need to find consensus around issues such as the establishment of an advisory committee for the project, the establishment of thematic task forces, and the project name and host, among others.

A brief presentation of the project was made by **Professor Amjad Umar**, University of Pennsylvania. Professor Umar walked the audience through the different aspects of the online tool and reviewed the progress made thus far.

Mr. Kamran Elhian, Co-Chair of UNGAID, also welcomed and thanked all of the participants and presented and offered the U-Movement platform as a tool that could be integrated into the larger product to help promote it and gather substantive content to populate it.

Mr. Mohamed AlQaed, CEO of E-Government Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain Ministry of Transportation, presented the use of the product in Bahrain. He stressed the importance of using technology in country level development planning and shared the experiences of his country with the participants. Mr. AlQaed fully endorsed the product and noted that it will be key driver in getting the necessary ICT knowledge to the practitioners who need it the most.

H.E. Mr. Francis Lorenzo, of the International organization for *South-South* Cooperation, applauded the initiative and stressed again the importance of this product for the developing world, which so often are lacking the access to ICT necessary for successful and sustainable development.

II. Working Lunch

During the working lunch the Chairman welcomed an interactive discussion on the name of the project and the proposed establishment of thematic task forces and an advisory board to oversee the development of the initiative. Many important comments and suggestions were made in this regard. Some interesting names for the project were proposed; including: MDG Accelerator, MDG ICT Platform, as well as keeping the current name, MDG eCenter. It was also proposed that an online competition could be held to choose the name. A consensus was built though for the adoption of MDG eNabler, using the 'e' to mean both electronic and enable. The establishment of an advisory board for the project and the appointment of thematic coordinators were also widely supported during the working lunch. Finally, using an electronic collaboration culture or social-networking in some capacity, for management and development of the project was strongly encouraged by participants.

Professor Heba Nassar, Cairo University, pledged the support of her university and noted that a similar product was being built on a country level in Egypt.

Mr. John Steffens, Executive Director, InfoPoverty Institute, supported the establishment of an advisory committee and explained his position that the tool should be developed from the bottom-up by local practitioners who use and test it.

Mr. Mustafa Kayer, CEO, Hayat Bilgi Teknolojileri, Turkey, suggested that the use of an electronic collaboration culture for the project was necessary, connecting people virtually to develop the center.

Mr. Inye Kemabonta, Director of Standards and Regulations, Nigeria Information Technology Development Agency, supported the name eCenter and welcomed and applauded the work and commitment of Bahrain in development efforts in the region. He also noted that this tool will help bridge the existing gap in collaboration between the development practitioners working on the ground and governments and the private sector.

Mr. AlQaed encouraged the further engagement of potential users to help develop the product in its early stages. He also suggested that focus area groups could be established which would look after the different aspects and components of the initiative.

Mr. Shankar Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, Department of Information Technology, India suggested 'MDG ICT Platform' as name and noted that marketing for the initiative needed increased work and support.

Professor Lee Warren McKnight, Syracuse University suggested that there could be an online global contest to make decision on the name.

Dr. Wanda Lopuch, President, Global Sourcing Council, offered an online technology center to conduct such an online contest.

Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Head of Telecommunication and Posts Division, Dept. of Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union, reiterated the African Union's previous pledge of support for the project as a potentially powerful tool to accelerate development in African countries.

Ms. Louise Kantrow, ICC Permanent Representative to the United Nations, pledged her strong support both for UNGAID and this new project and offered the support of the ICC for its implementation and outreach efforts.

Dr. Barbara Samuels II, Executive Director of the Global Clearinghouse for Development Finance, suggested that ICTs be used for project development purposes and to coordinate advisory committee. She also commented that the project should integrate the existing work of large development banks and relevant development websites, and that much financing needed to be mobilized for the project.

III. 1 September - Afternoon Session

In a video address, **H.E. Mr. Ivo Ivanovski**, Minister of Information Society of the Republic of Macedonia, reiterated his country's support to the project. Minister Ivanovski stressed the importance of ICT in the growth and progress of his country and highlighted the continuous challenges he encountered due to the fragmented information channels available. He emphasized the need for a "system" that could consolidate the wealth of information, projects and best practices available around the world and offer Governments the tools and practical connections to implement projects faster and at lower cost.

The Chairman thanked all of the participants for their support and constructive suggestions and ideas. He stated that there was a consensus amongst the participants to create an advisory board, which will be both multi-stakeholder and multi-geographical in nature.

Mr. Stefano Maria Cacciaguerra, First Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations, was very pleased with the new direction of UNGAID and its focus on the new action-oriented initiative. Italy will continue to support and to be a partner of UNGAID and DESA in the coming years.

H.E. Dra. Linamara Rizzo Battistella, State Secretary for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Sao Paulo, Brazil, acknowledged the use of information and communications technologies (ICT) to advance the core MDG priority areas is an effective tool to speed-up and strengthen development efforts and stated that the emphasis today should be on making the various instruments we can use in development available to all, including persons with disabilities. She offered to contribute to the UNGAID project by integrating the existing work of the Center of Excellence in Technology and Innovation for people with Disabilities (CETID), spearheaded by the Government of Sao Paulo, into the project.

Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Head of Telecommunication & Posts Division, Dept. of Infrastructure and Energy, **African Union**, reemphasized the importance of the project, especially in the African region where many countries are falling behind in their efforts to achieve the MDGs. The African Union looks forward to being a positive contributor to the initiative and expressed the wish to organize 2 country meetings in Africa. The African Union representatives agreed on the need for an Advisory Committee but thinks that specific teams should be created to deal with specific themes. Mr. Yedaly asked for some clarification regarding the project's hosting and ownership as well.

Dr. Jimson Olufuye, President of the Information Technology Association of Nigeria (ITAN), ensured participants that the Sub-Saharan Africa region, particularly Nigeria, will actively collaborate with UNGAID and support a comprehensive penetration of the project in the region. He offered to host a

workshop in Nigeria to encourage all nations in the developing world to synergize, collaborate and partner at a regional level. Dr. Olufuye also expressed the wish of the West African Economic Commission to be fully engaged and involved moving forward.

The Chairman expressed the need for Africa to help in building the project and recommended that the African Union take a leadership role in that regard. Concerning the hosting question, the Chairman announced that the role would be left open for any volunteers and that his organization could fill the gap if there are no more important volunteers to host the center. He then clarified the fact that UNGAID and the United Nations have the ownership of the project. Finally, he reiterated the wish that the African Union hosts a meeting, maybe in Addis Ababa, similarly to what has previously done with the GCC.

In her statement, **Ms. Claudia Morrell**, CEO of Multinational Development of Women in Technology, stressed that the project needed to mainstream gender into all of its various components and that any recommendations around gender should be research based and therefore should have rigorous standards just like any science. She insisted that the projects sustainability and accuracy must be closely monitored and that the project should target certain objective international indicators which monitor gender penetration, for example. She expressed her support to the project while emphasizing the urgent need to highlight the issue of gender.

The Chairman and Mr. Kambalov expressed their full support to the comments of Ms. Morrell and ensured the participants that gender would be further mainstreamed into the project and will engage, among others, the new UN Women organization to spearhead these efforts.

Dr. Marek Wosinski, Arizona State University emphasized that in developing the project, the perspective of an end-user of ICT must be taken into account and that outreach efforts are necessary to convince the target audiences of the necessities of using ICTs in development at all levels.

Mr. Yousef A. Nusseir, Director, Information and Communication Technology Division, ESCWA, fully supported the initiative and stated that it has come at an opportune time. He believed that an Advisory Committee was necessary and suggested that the project could partner with thematic entities of the UN and other agencies to solidify the thematic areas. He emphasized the fact that the tool needs to be simple and user-friendly and that a 'push-mechanism' was necessary to create awareness and alert people that this new project was being developed.

The Chairman noted the importance of creating a simpler version of the tool during its early stages of development. He also proposed to establish thematic coordinators who would work on, among other things, engaging existing entities and building partnerships for each relevant thematic area of the project

Mr. Aggarwal recommended the creation of a platform which will draw on the expertise/current experiences of the world so that we can accelerate the process in the realm of ICT for Development and noted that India has had much success in this area.

Mr. Steffens strongly endorsed the project and urged that its functionalities are kept simple and user-friendly. He also emphasized that the target audience should be the end-user and that the most sustainable development begins at the local level.

Mr. Juan Fernandez, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Informatics and Communications, Cuba, suggested that relevant United Nations Regional Economic Commissions should be linked to this project. He emphasized the need for a refined project management approach and in this regard expressed the need

for thematically focused groups. He also stated that the target audience needed to be further clarified and that communication channels such as TV and radio must not be overlooked.

Mr. Ahmed I. Al-Hakami, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Planning, Saudi Arabia, noted that the recommendations of the Riyadh workshop in June 2010 need to be implemented. He also wanted to ensure that the relevant statistical agencies are involved.

Mr. Jim Poisant interjected and volunteered to help in coordinating the distribution of work, mentioning that regional and thematic experts must be identified for content evaluation and other tasks, and that volunteers should contact him directly with proposals.

Mr. Peter Silberberg, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, advised that the project should consider the Development Gateway's Aid Management platform. He also expressed the need to move outside the UNGAID community to the broader development community to increase momentum and capacity building for the project.

Ms. Tatiana Ershova, General Director, Institute of the Information Society, Russia, reminded participants that other similar initiatives had previously failed as a result of poor governance and that this project must ensure that this does not happen. She also ensured that Russia and the broader CIS region were ready to contribute and establish a necessary partnership to do so.

Mr. Richard Jordan, United Nations NGO Representative recommended that the project could engage three valuable and logical partners involved in work on the MDGs: NGO/DPI Executive Committee, Congo and WFUNA.

Ms. Lila Rasifandrihamana, Director, FAO Liaison Office with the United Nations, expressed support to the project and fully recognized it as an ambitious and important initiative. She was pleased to contribute to the project FAO resources such as IMARK and the eAgriculture Platform.

Mr. Mohamed Taamouti, Statistics Director, Haut Commissariat au Plan, Morocco, suggested that the project should include applications of GIS in poverty mapping to better identify the poor zones. He also reminded participants that work on the MDGs needed to be participatory in nature.

The Chairman reminded the audience that an executive program (content and curriculum) had been developed for use of the project and hoped that universities and educational organizations will use it widely all over the world to provide knowledge.

Mr. Emdad Khan, CEO of InternetSpeech, mentioned the need to focus on innovation and entrepreneurship to improve economic and social situations. He agreed that an online networking mechanism should be set-up for project development that will engage all stakeholders and users. Finally, he expressed his wish to work with UNGAID to continue provide information and knowledge and to include all the people of the world.

Ms. Viola Krebs, Founder and Executive Director, ICVolunteers, expressed that the ICVolunteers network of 11,000+ volunteers may be of use for the project. She noted that from a user perspective, we should split up the target audiences in terms of their expectations.

The Chairman agreed but clarified the fact that this project follows a comprehensive approach, and that it will address issues sector by sector, goal by goal, in order to be as efficient and wide-ranging as possible.

Mr. Mario Franco, President, Foundation for Mobile Communications, Portugal, pledged full support for the project and reminded that it will be relevant and useful for both developing and developed countries. He expressed interest in contributing to the education aspect of the project and suggested an alternative name: 'MDG eLab'.

Ms. Anne Miroux, Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, emphasized the need for a comprehensive architecture for the project and technical support for information vetting and other areas of project management.

Mr. Carlos Viniegra, Chief, Digital Government Unit, Mexico, stressed the value of ICTs as an intermediary between government and citizens. He also provided a paper to UNGAID Secretariat with further proposals and ideas for consideration of all participants.

Mr. S. Srinivasan, CEO, FFCO Kisan Sanchar Ltd, India, explained the mission of his company, which was to give access to information to rural farmers and others living in rural areas, which is very much in line with the objectives of the project, and expressed his interest in committing and contributing.

Mr. Mohamed AlQaed responded to the many constructive comments from the participants. In particular, he declared Bahrain's interest in hosting the center. He also offered to host a workshop on the project during the Bahrain International Forum in May 2011.

Mr. Medard Gabel, CEO and Founder, BigPictureSmallWorld, Inc., USA, stressed the need to include the youth of the world because the most important innovations on the planet are coming from the young people and we need to make this tool available to them. He also suggested that we must pay close attention to the graphical user-interface, and emphasized the necessity of using games and simulations in the project to attract as many young people as possible.

Prof. Byungki Kim, Korea University, offered to organize a session on the project in Seoul, Korea in 2013-2014 in collaboration with UNGAID.

Mr. Sarbuland Khan, senior advisor to the UNGAID Chairman, closed the 1st Day session by reiterating the importance of including youth in all aspects of the project.

IV. 2 September

The second day of the meeting began with a presentation of the Strategic Planner by **Professor Amjad Umar**, in his presentation he highlighted the fact that it should be a collaborative effort which will require the involvement of all stakeholders.

Many interesting comments followed Professor Umar's demonstration, notably regarding the target audience, the financing of the Enabler and the need to have public-private partnerships. Professor Umar welcomed all participants to send their comments and questions by email and Mr. Kamran Elahian, Co-Chair of UNGAID, proposed that all the questions and answers should be made available to all participants in order to strengthen the collaboration within the UNGAID Community.

The Chairman then expressed his sincere thanks to all the speakers as well as all the participants for their strong support and positive contributions during the first day's meeting.

The Chairman then submitted to the audience some decisions that had reached consensus and conclusions of the first day. The Chairman first addressed the issue of the project's name by announcing that it would be 'MDG eNabler'. Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh also declared that an Advisory Committee will be

established for management and development of the eNabler, that an editorial board will work on a report of Prepcom conclusions for all participants, including the Secretary-General, on outcomes of the meeting and that thematic coordinators shall be assigned for the various MDG goals and will help in developing partnerships with existing and potential thematic partners to grow the enabler.

A general discussion, including new comments and proposals followed the Chairman's conclusions from the first day:

Mr. Talaat Abdel-Malek, Senior Economic Advisor to the Minister of International Cooperation of Egypt expressed Egypt's support and suggested that a UNGAID 101 version should be developed to negate the risk of losing many of the potential users, not to mention Least Developed Countries and fragile states as a result of the complexity of the tool. He also expressed the need to have expertise around each goal and to verify the credibility of all content before using. Finally, Mr. Abdel-Malek noted that the eNabler should include a component/module on capacity building, which is not only project focused but also revolves around the topic area of ICT for development.

Dr. Paul Jhin, CEO of Information and Technology Corps, expressed his congratulations to UNGAID for hosting the meeting. He also expressed his support to the MDG eNabler while reemphasizing the importance of the project as a strategic instrument for bringing ICT in the service of the MDGs.

Mr. Ahmad Bassel Alkheshi, Deputy of the Minister of Communication and Technology of Syria, expressed the strong support of Syria and recommended that the planned meeting in Damascus should become a regional meeting for Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Syria.

H.E. Mr. Mian Qadrud-din, Former Director of Public Affairs of the United Nations and Former Additional Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, focused on the capacity-building aspect of the project by adding that the project should enable all Governments to help every child in a school and, this way, accelerate the achievement of MDG II, which is Education.

H.E. Dra Linamara Rizzo Battistella, State Secretary for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of Sao Paulo, offered to host the website of the eNabler and noted that Brazil would invite all Latin American countries to a UNGAID Regional Meeting in Sao Paulo in the first week of March 2011.

Mr. Sayed Hashish, General Manager of Microsoft North Africa, East Mediterranean and Pakistan, expressed the strong commitment of Microsoft to the project and offered to provide technology support, best practices and experiences of Microsoft and their partners, and address the marketing aspect by promoting the eNabler with their global customers. Microsoft also offered to host a workshop for UNGAID members to address technical issues (usability and user interface) at their headquarters (invitation was also extended to other technology entities in collaboration with UNGAID on this initiative) and support the Strategic Planner team through the Microsoft office in Pakistan.

Ms. Eunhee Jung O'Neill, President of the Center for International Virtual Schooling, conveyed her strong support to the MDG eNabler while expressing her concerns regarding the identification of the best practices and models and the updating of the information that is going to be implemented in the Strategic Planner.

Mr. Jose San-Magallon, Director of Communications of Telefonica, expressed his support to the initiative and noted that Telefonica could be of particular use in the thematic areas of uses of ICTs for people with disabilities and ICT for Environmental Sustainability and Education.

Mr. Clyde Rodriguez, Sr. Fellow of Inveneo, pledged his support and suggested that we should separate the project's content from its execution by establishing a specific deadline driven action plan.

Ms. Amina Az-Zubair, Special Assistant to the Nigerian President on MDGs, expressed her support and reminded the importance for the MDG eNabler to remain focused on the MDGs, rather than ICT. She also mentions that there should be involvement from the whole African continent in addition to the African Center in Bahrain that was suggested during the first day.

Mr. Quinn Sutton, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Digital Alliance Foundation, proposed to provide the support of his organization and the resources of his team. He also stressed the fact that there needs to be capacity building around the subject matter itself and that prerequisite knowledge needs to be taken into account.

Axel Leblois, Executive Director, G3ict, recommended that the issues of the people with disabilities should be included in the development of the eNabler while ensuring that his organization is ready to provide all its tools for this inclusion.

Ms. Muriel Glasgow, President, MG Associates, Inc, suggested that the 'MDG eNabler' should find a way to develop ecozonal categories as an online platform, and engage people of the different environments to interact with each other. She also mentioned the need to look towards the establishment of MDG cells/incubation units in the different schools of technology while developing the platform. Finally, Ms. Glasgow suggested the establishment of webinars in order to increase productivity and reduce costs while offering her support for the development of any UNGAID webinars.

Professor Lee Warren McKnight, Syracuse University, stressed that sustainability of the effort to develop - and maintain- the eNabler/eCenter planning guide must be a primary concern. He also mentioned that global social community should be led by the private sector and civil society, which have experience in building popular and useful tools and websites. Finally, Professor McKnight pledged his support and offered the assistance of his students in the development of the eNabler.

Dr. Marek Wosinski, Facilitator of the Network, University-Community Partnership for Social Action Research of the Arizona State University, announced that his network already created an ICT Team with the task to implement the initiative. Dr. Wosinsky that China should be more involved in the project as well.

The Chairman closed the meeting by thanking all participants for their insightful and incredibly useful ideas and suggestion for the 'MDG eNabler'.

V. Action Items

The name of the initiative will be 'MDG eNabler', with the 'e' meaning both 'electronic' and being the first letter of the word 'enabler'. UNGAID Secretariat will work with graphic designers to develop a formal visual representation of the name.

Regarding the management and governance of the 'MDG eNabler', it was decided that an advisory committee will be established for management and development of the eNabler. An editorial board will work on report of PrepCom conclusions for all stakeholders and participants, including a report to the Secretary-General on outcomes of the meeting. Thematic coordinators will be appointed for the various MDG goals, which will develop partnerships with existing and potential thematic partners to develop the 'MDG eNabler', among other tasks.

It was clarified that UNGAID and the United Nations will have full ownership of the project. The enabler will ensure full compliance with United Nations rules and regulations. UNGAID will continue to reach out to United Nations agencies for their leadership in the project. UNGAID will continue to engage the broader global development stakeholder community for their commitment and participation. It was also re-affirmed that UNGAID will own all intellectual property rights of the 'MDG eNabler'. In addition, it was decided that additional financing and staff support for the project was necessary to ensure its sustainability and success and a 5-year budget will be developed in this regard.

The Chairman acknowledged the offers of Bahrain and Brazil to host the initiative. He also accepted the offer of Bahrain to establish and support a center for African capacity building and consulting. The African Union expressed the wish to organize 2 country meetings in the region. The Nigerian Delegation announced that it will have a workshop to encourage all nations in the developing world to synergize, collaborate and partner at a regional level to build capacity for the project. The representative from Syria recommended that the previously planned meeting in Damascus should become a regional meeting for Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Syria on the 'MDG eNabler'. In addition to its offer to host the website, Brazil noted that their nation would organize a UNGAID Regional Meeting in Sao Paolo in the first week of March 2011. All Latin American nations would be invited to attend.

There was strong consensus that Gender should be further mainstreamed into the project. Also, involving youth and creating a virtual social network to facilitate project management and governance was also encouraged by the participants. Outreach and marketing efforts for the 'MDG eNabler' needed to be scaled up to raise awareness and ensure appropriate buy-in from the relevant stakeholders.

Microsoft pledged its commitment to the initiative and offered technology support to all aspects of the project. In addition, they offered their services for marketing the product and offered to host a workshop at Microsoft headquarters.