



IDUAI AND THE TASHKENT DECLARATION:

Participants at the global 2022 celebrations of Universal Access to Information will adopt the Tashkent Declaration that will reaffirm the commitment by Member States to recognising and respecting the fundamental right of access to information. It will cover the principles of good governance and issues raised by Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies with regard to access to information. It will also address recent developments, such as the increase in access to information national legislation, implementation modalities, the impact of digitalisation and the importance of access to information legal guarantees to be inclusive, especially for persons with disabilities and other marginalised groups.

The Tashkent Declaration provides a set of 12 major recommendations focusing on:

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- *PROVIDE FOR OR/AND REINFORCE RTI AS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT, AND MAKE SURE THAT IT IS NOT OR CANNOT BE COUNTERMANDED BY OTHER LAWS*

 - *ENSURE THAT ACCESS STRATEGIES TO PSID ARE INCLUSIVE, INVOLVING ALL GROUPS WITH MOST DIFFICULTIES TO ACCESS TO INFORMATION: THE ELDERLY, RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES, LINGUISTIC MINORITIES, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, RURAL POPULATIONS, DIGITALLY LOW-SKILLED OR ILLITERATE PERSONS, AND THOSE OF LOW SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS.*

 - *CONSIDER PSID AVAILABILITY AND OPENNESS IN A BROAD FRAMEWORK, TO ALL PUBLIC INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS COLLECTED OR PRODUCED BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AT NATIONAL LEVEL, AND LOCAL LEVEL, THROUGH PUBLIC FUNDS, AND/OR AS PART OF PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE SECTOR, NGOs OR INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.*

- *RECOGNIZE AND INTEGRATE THE LEGAL VALUE AND THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY FORMAT HOLDING PUBLIC INFORMATION, AND OF ANY THE MEDIUM, AS WELL AS ALL MEANS, WAYS AND MEDIA TO COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE PSID.*

 - *SET-UP APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS TO MEASURE PROGRESS MADE IN THE FULFILMENT OF THE STATE OF ITS DUTY TO GUARANTEE PSID ACCESS.*

 - *ENSURE ALL NECESSARY SUPPORT FOR PSID REQUESTS AND DEFINE CLEARLY APPEAL PROCESS IN CASE OF FAILURES TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, PRINCIPALLY ASPECTS RELATED TO THE REVIEW BODIES AND THE BINDING DEGREE OF THEIR DECISIONS.*

 - *MITIGATE CAREFULLY PUBLIC INFORMATION WITHHOLDING, BY ENSURING MUTUAL CONSISTENCY BETWEEN RTI LAWS AND DATA PRIVACY LEGISLATION, ESTABLISHING A CLEAR TIMETABLE FOR UNLOCKING RESTRICTED INFORMATION, AND LEVERAGING DATA SANITIZATION TECHNIQUES, TO ENLARGE ACCESSIBLE PSID SCOPE.*

 - *ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT PSID PROACTIVE RELEASE, MAINLY BY CONDUCTING "HARM TEST" BASED ASSESSMENT THAT CHECK IF THERE IS A FORESEEABLE CLEARLY PROVEN DAMAGE IN DISCLOSING A GOVERNMENTAL INFORMATION*

 - *EXERCISE COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS RELATED TO THE MANAGEMENT OF DATA AND INFORMATION, IN A WAY THAT FACILITATES RE-USE AND INTEROPERABILITY*

 - *SET-UP AN OVERSIGHT AND APPEALS BODY FOR PSID DISCLOSURE, EMPOWERED WITH NECESSARY LEGITIMACY AND STRONG LEADERSHIP TO ACHIEVE ITS MISSIONS OF STEERING, HEARING OF APPEALS, INVESTIGATING COMPLAINTS, ISSUING EVENTUAL BINDING RESOLUTIONS, AND CONTROLS AND COMPLIANCE AUDITING.*

 - *REINFORCE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES NECESSARY TO CONDUCT PSID DISCLOSURE POLICY, MAINLY PSID DISCLOSURE PRACTICES FORMALIZATION, CUSTOMIZED TRAINING AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ABOUT RTI AND PSID DISSEMINATION, AT THE BENEFIT OF BOTH PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIONS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL INCENTIVE SYSTEM TO DRAIN FINANCIAL RESOURCES, SPECIFICALLY THROUGH PSID'S MONETIZATION STRATEGIES.*

 - *IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE PRACTICES FOR PSID RESOURCES GOVERNANCE, INTEGRATING THE APPLICATION OF FAIR PRINCIPLES TO MANAGE DATA VELOCITY AND COMPLEXITY, EFFICIENT RECORDS' MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING, MEASURES AND PRACTICES TO BUILD TRUST IN RELEASED DATA, AND PSID DISCLOSURE IMPACT ON ANY IT DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN.*
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