

Priorities stated by the group

- 1- Legal side: regulation, privacy, copyright
- 2- The way infrastructure is used: commonly?, personally?
- 3- Training: notion of "evangelismo"
- 4- Content: forms, culture, voice technology, language, co-ordination (links)
- 5- Costs: cost of access, equipment and hookup
- 6- Cross-cutting issues: culture and who? (civil society?)

Groups of priorities the group decided to study:

- 1- The way infrastructure is used: commonly?, personally?
- 2- Content: forms, culture, voice technology, language, co-ordination (links)

Although the workshop participants identified a number of key issues, including legal issues, use of infrastructure, training, content of sites, cost of access, & cross cutting issues, they decided to focus on only 2: use of infrast & content of sites. A number of recommendations were put forth.

1- Infrastructure - Defining universal access

- *That the Canadian government reiterate its support for the principle of equitable and universal access to new ICTs for individuals, communities and countries by actively promoting alternative models such as community telecentres and the use of ICTs by independent and community media.
- *That the Canadian government take the initiative by promoting and implementing similar alternative models within its own borders, with a view to ensuring that this universal access includes remote communities and marginalized populations. Canada should promote the exchange of experiences between its Community Access/Connecting Canada's Communities to the Information Highway program and similar initiatives in other countries in order to contribute to the evaluation and improvement of these models.
- *Canada possesses expertise in the development of policies for universal access. It should make this expertise available to both civil society and government in developing countries to assist in the development of national policies and regulations designed to make universal access a reality.
- *That the Canadian government recognize the importance of ensuring progress with respect to the implementation of policies designed to ensure universal access to ICTs; this could be done by supporting programs including the monitoring of this implementation by civil society players, with a special emphasis on individuals and the not-for-profit sector.

alternative models

Canada should make use of its own expertise re policies for universal access & promote the continued use of alternative models such as community telecentres & the use of ICTs by indep & community media. Monitoring of progress towards universal access should