

Volume 28, Issue 19**Conference Announcement****World Forum on Information Society**

Location : Renaissance Tunis Hotel, La Marsa, Tunisia

Organizers : International Research Foundation for Development, Inc. (IRFD)

Major Topics : Digital Divide, Global Development, the Information Society

Conference Dates : 11/14/2005 to 11/14/2005

Submission Deadline : 3/31/2005

Send Submissions To : wfis2005@irfd.org

Sponsoring Organizations :

For further information contact : World Forum Secretariat, IRFD, wfis2005@irfd.org, <http://www.irfd.org>

Web Page : <http://www.irfd.org/events/wf2005>

The major focus of the Tunis Phase is to find concrete ways of using ICT (Information and Communication Technology) as tools for development, and to improve the quality of life around the world. It is noted that particular attention should be given to the challenges facing the Least Developed Countries and marginalized segments of the world population. Issues and considerations pivotal to three major areas: internet governance financing mechanisms and the issue of media which had difficulty during the Geneva Phase negotiations must be carefully examined and debated during the preparatory process of the Tunis Phase. Furthermore, IRFD recognizes the complex and intricate nature of these remaining issues and the importance of conducting continuous research and policy dialogues in the broad context of information technological revolution and global transformation. To this effect IRFD will organize a series of professional events to contribute to the United Nations' World Summit on the Information Society, its preparatory process, and its aftermath effort of implementing the final plan of action. Therefore, IRFD invites all stakeholders, and provides a forum to examine all relevant issues and considerations pertaining to the information revolution and knowledge society in a comprehensive and scientific manner which will pave the way to commitments being made by all stakeholders to find solutions, share best practices and experiences, and launch new action programs.