A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS TUNIS DISCUSSION V1

by pierre 23th november

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x>

Here is a personal contribution with elements for preparing for our discussions in Tunis

It is proposed after listening attentively and building a careful vision, through an effort of documentation, translation, and transcription (see [Annex4](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A4) -) of the status of discussion towards tunis, while assuming clear options about the future of WSF, exressed through signing a collective text “WSF as open space” <http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion>,

**SUMMARY**

**The 4 points below are a progression around getting possible consensus formulations "acceptable to all".**

* **1/ The WSF world social forum process facilitated by IC, that is based on a series of so far 16 world events editions of WSF since Porto Alegre 2001, is subtantially an open space of encounters, described in the WSF principles, and IC is subtantially its permanent facilitating body.**
* **2/ IC makes its decisions, that are facilitation decisions about wsf wolrd process, by consensus/consent decision method.**
* **3/ IC needs to be organized relevantly for its facilitating tasks, and be welcoming new membership in clarity of inclusion criteria and what they are coming to contributing to.**
* **4/ In parallel to "IC getting back to facilitation work", IC might have a consensus on proposing to other existing active "social forum processes facilitation committees" (at least to those that are member of IC or interested to become members), to sustain a "cohesive dialogue space" between themselves, with a dialogue about their vision and practice in developing "social forum processes".   
  Independently of IC, the building of a some new type of assembleary, self organized, autonomous and permanent processes, including a committee instance associated to each of them, and participating in wsf open space, can be started by some wsf participant organizations . There might be a perspective for said committees to join the cohesive dialogue space, that could include in its scope of dialogue " social assembly processes" that would become a new category of social processes**

Plan

[Point 1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P1)/ Confirm historical consensus that WSF is an open space and only an open space

[Point 2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P2)/ Confirm a consensus description of the consensus decision method

[Point 3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P3)/ Agree on how to prepare IC to its confirmed role of WSF facilitating body

[Point 4](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P4)/ Discuss how to Develop, through activities in and out of wsf space, a first assembly liable to become a global political subject connected to wsf idea

[Annexes](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A0)

[Annex1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A1) - Generic questions about wsf -

[Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2) - Proposed comments to the declaration “wsf as open space

[Annex3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A3) - 10 external description elements about a world social assembly

[Annex4](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A4) - Documentation of the discussion about future of the forum

[Annex 5](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A5) - World situation and wsf as open space

[Annex 6](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A6) - Contextualizing his contribution

[Annex 7](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A7) - About finalizing agenda and methods of Tunis meeting

[Annex 8](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A8) - Some consideration about WSF open space in space and time, conceptual, physical and digital

**Point 1/ There is a possible confirmation of historical consensus that WSF world process " is an open space and only an open space  and IC is its facilitating body and only this, as this seems a formulation that can be "acceptable by all" in IC.**

A/ There is difference between the World WSF process and the Global WSF process or context.

1/ World WSF process is based on the sequence of wolrd events process, or porto Alegre process, and is abiding by the WSF principles charter, as it is said in the preamble of the Carter *While the principles contained in this Charter - to be respected by all those who wish to take part in the process and to****organize new editions of the World Social Forum****- are a consolidation of the decisions that presided over the holding of the****Porto Alegre Forum****and ensured its success, they extend the reach of those decisions and define orientations that flow from their logic.*

2/ Global WSF process or context is a notion that designates all that is inspired by this World process and the WSF principles. So far it corresponds to a serie of social forum processes that **refer to the WSF principles in a explicit way** ( that is the WSF principles are "ruling" the considered social forum process, or in a less explicit way, through the use of the name "social forum", and an acknowledgement that this process has been **inspired by WSF,** and may have its own principles; more or less clearly formulated, more or less differing from WSF principles.

3/ IC has acknowledged this situation when issuing in 2008 Copenhaguen a document called **Guiding principles for organizing WSF events**,which deals in its part 7 with the other social forum processes, and it has been clear in practice that other social forum processes were autonomous and not reporting to the IC . From 2018 through a decision that was not taken with a written formulation of consensus, but validated through a series of moment of discussion in IC meetings between 2016 and 2018 and in practice , the "facilitating committees" of regional thematic and national scale social forum processes, that were so far observers in the IC, have been principally welcome as members, if they so wish, with a different identity than the member organizations. That is how, in the current lists of IC members entities available through secretariat or IC chat or IC mailing lists, **there are as member entities several "social forum faciltating committees"**, who come to co-facilitate the WSF world process, together with organizations, and the criteria for inclusion may be slightly different. **The fact that a comittee is in the IC does not imply that the process it facilitates is, in description or in practice, fully consistent with the WSF principles document.** Link to the wsf charter of principles, <http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-methodology/charter-fsm-wsf-en>  
Link to the 2008 version of Guiding principles for organizing a WSF event <http://openfsm.net/projects/organizingwsfevents/guiding-principles-en> the document announces that there will be a regular revision, but the first revision effort in 2011 in the methodology commission was not discussed in IC, as the commissions had stopped operating end of 2011, not through an explicit decision.

B/ Everyone or nearly everyone in IC is confirming agreement on WSF being an open space, and IC its facilitating body.

 Some would like WSF to be ALSO something else, and / or IC to be also something else, but they realize that a significant number of others do not want this

so, inasmuch we want to stay in the common wsf process, we can either agree or consent to this formulation 1.

This is the idea of "consensus in layers" : comparing stacked expectations :everyone has the expectation that "wsf is an open space" ,

but not everyone has the expectation that "it should be also something else". So the possible consensus ud " wsf is substantially an open space"

Link to the summarized discussion in the IC chat after the publication of wsf as open space <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c> Search the expression “open space” in the page

Contribution about comparing stacked expectations <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7h>

C/ The eagerness of those organizations expecting that “WSF or IC would act politically”, can be feeding their energy to explore existing ways that they have not been explored before, such as starting self organized working group about a self organized assembly. that can become a permanent process, able to sustain a continous political actorship, with an option to get inserted in a broader perspective of WSF global process/contexte. This is the focus of [Point 4/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P4) below.

D/ Proposed ways forward to consensus formulation - in plenary or starting an IC adhoc working group on a short declaration about the nature of WSF and the mission of IC, that would be adopted in IC by basic consensus /.consent

Various members can prepare draft wording for such a formulation

Contribution facilitation perspectives in the “wsf as open space” declaration see [Annex 2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2)



**Point 2. Once this formulation of point 1 is confirmed as consensus in IC, it is possible to confirm the consensus on consensus decision : that IC makes its decisions, which are only facilitation decisions, by consensus/consent, which is realistic based on experience.**

A/ - It is the issue of deciding to turn IC into "also" a political body that has been problematic, and this issue is not included in point 1 consensus formulation . Facilitation decisions are about how to implement and develop the wsf process, and it has been possible to find formulation of consensus for those decisions throughout the 20 years of existence of IC.

B/ Suggestion of Way forward to consensus formulation: there can be an IC working group formed for clarifying the protocol for such decision making by consensus, taking as basis the brief text  about consensus described in the declaration “wsf as open space”, and better describe it

Better description is detailing for clarity and also including new elements staying in coherence with the rest of the text, eg consultation of non present at the moment of decision,- Elements added in black in the text below are an example of such more detailed description .

*Consensus in IC is understood as the acceptance by all its members of every decision deemed significant by some members to be taken, clarified through a written formulation formulated through discussion. This does not mean unanimity: a minority of IC members not “agreeing” with a given decision, after a careful discussion adjusting the formulation of decision in order to get to a broad majority of agreement can very well “accept to give in”, because it does not feel deeply aggrieved.*

*If it refuses to accept, it is because something fundamental for it is at stake and the sensitivity of all the stakeholders in IC must be respected, this is the very principle of consensus. If no formulation "acceptable to all" is found, after adhoc small group exchange between some agreeing accepting and non accepting members no decision can be taken and the IC needs to proceed with the discussion in another occasion*

Contributive texts about consensus decision protocol <http://openfsm.net/sitesearch?search_for=ICconsensus>

in particular

Contributive text by Chico <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f>

Contributive text by Pierre (see point 5) <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7p>



**Point 3/ Once this consensus on point 2 is principally confirmed , the discussion can focus on  preparing IC, through facilitation decisions, to its confirmed role of facilitating body and there are several elements to consider :**

A/ What can be the facilitation tasks of IC ? this is a question that has been very seldom discussed, with a mental tendency to describe the tasks of a secretariat of the IC, and not the tasks of IC members that come in IC not to represent a "constituency", but to contribute to Word WSF facilitation. Also the difference between facilitation and participation seems to be fuzzy for some members who think their organizations political positions about what is happening in the world could or should be reflected in political positions of the IC , whereas IC is just a facilitating body sustainnig the WSF world process open space of encounter

See a page of the historical web site describing IC and the report of the Casablanca IC meeting in 2013 where 30mn where dedicated to list tasks of the IC <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7u> A discussion on these tasks may include a series of concerns mechanisms, practicies such as some mentionned here :-- solidarity maecanisms for equitable access and information for full participation in the open space and possibilties to contriution to its facilitation, - mutual visibiity mechanisms for showing diversity , practices for using the diffuse power possibly associated with being a wsf participant , inclusion mecanisms in IC, et

Contribution [Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2) some perspective for discussing facilitation that are contained in the WSF as open space declaration

B/- How to organize IC, in order to **give many organizations the possibility to contribute to effective facilitation of WSF in commissions and working groups,** and not comfortably subcontract implementation of facilitation tasks to a secretariat ? Focusing first on the secretariat, which is only an element of the organization of IC is not a relevant approach. **Commissions are principally the main tool for iC work and operation.**

See theme IC organizing <http://openfsm.net/sitesearch?search_for=ICorganizing>

Contributive text pierre

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7m>

Contributive text Ronald

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.8f>

Interventions about secretariat 13th august

<http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202208-extension-en/#7> @45 to @55

*C/* With which “facilitation narrative, and outlines, and criteria for IC application, invite organizations to come and contribute in IC?

See theme “ IC composition” <http://openfsm.net/sitesearch?search_for=ICcomposition>

Contribution [Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2) some perspective for discussing facilitation that are contained in the WSF as open space declaration

D/ A consensus building approach can be worked on by an IC adhoc group formed with the purpose of  describing “how to get IC back to facilitation work” , evolving a “package” including : formulation of generic tasks of facilitation, formulation of criteria for inclusion in IC membership,  formulation of some elements of reference for restart, creation and operation of commissions, and clarification of role of the secretariat in relation to those commissions and working groups.

Written formulation on Criteria for inclusion would be reflecting the IC consensus of point 1 and 2 above, which clarifies the context of participation in IC. Also the formulation would be distinguishing the case of organizations and the case of “facilitating committees of social forum processes” , and possibly opening fo the case the “facilitating committees of social assembly process” in relation with [point 4](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P4).

Contributions ( before start of tunis discussion

Contribution of Sheila in mexico IC <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input1.4>

Contribution of Pierre april 2021 <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/ol21feb-input5>

Written formulation on commission operation and task can be prepared as input in the same IC working group, with invitation to announcement of which organizations are interested to contribute in the commission, and how. Being careful with too quick appointment of “ facilitators” for such restarting commissions.

There is to overcome ten years of inactivity of ic commissions with their respective space idle since 2011 in general

Commission communication <http://openfsm.net/projects/communication>

Commission expansion <http://openfsm.net/projects/expansion/>

Commission methodology <http://openfsm.net/projects/metodologia>

Commission resources <http://openfsm.net/projects/ressources>

Commission strategy <http://openfsm.net/projects/strategy> (with a fuzziness about its scope)

In 2020 there was a temporary activity of a Communication commission for some months up to wsf2021 <http://openfsm.net/projects/cifsm2021/cifsm2021-comunicacion>

Also Articulation group has been a positive experience of voluntary operation in 2020 <http://openfsm.net/projects/cifsm2021/cifsm2021-articulacion> This can inspire a commission focused on organizing IC meetings with relevant participation of commissions and working groups and relevant support of secretariat to those

Contributions about articulation group and secretariat in 13th august meeting <http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202208-extension/#7>

Resources commission did not achieve much : <http://openfsm.net/projects/cifsm2021/cifsm2021-finanzas>



**Point 4/ there are possible way forwards to develop through activities in and out of wsf space, ad hoc initiatives to make visible global solidarity between wsf participants, and/or one or more permanent assembly process liable to become a global political subject, possibly part of a WSF community of processes/global WSF context.**

A/ an assembly ,“officialized in wsf structure, parallel to IC, and having “of wsf” in its name, that some may have imagined , hence with a privileged central participation status, would be distorting wsf as open space, acceptable with regard to consensus formulation point1

See overview of IC chat <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c>

B/ There is a proposal for starting from the experience of a ‘world social movement assembly (WSMA) ’ or ‘world peace and climate assembly’(WPCA) as in wsf2021 and make it evolve into a continuous process.

The proposal mentions a “contact group” that can be described as a “committee for a permanent WSMA / WPCA ”- that would prepare assembly meeting sessions during wsf events and outside wsf events , as deemed fit to be a credible a political subject with an agenda and a communication in its own name, and with signature of decisions by those willing to commit to them.

This proposal implies no privilege of participation and visibility in the wsf space for the participations of this processualized assembly , in relation to other self organized assembly-meetings proposed by other articulations of organization, an objective criteria is success, when the size of a self organized assembly meeting would be realistically expected over a certain threshold.

Its to be noted that assembly-meetings, self organized in wsf by this WSMA/WPCA emerging continuous body /process are clearly distinct of the “assembly of assemblies” common format which is a format managed by the IC and facilitation committee at the end of a wsf event , next to other common format such as agora /square of initiative.

Contributive text by tord <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9f>  <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9y>  ( see @10) Comment on text by tord by Pierre <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9z> (see @10)

C/ There is the idea of **“external description of an assembly proces**s”, not focusing on the how it would be built and would operate, but rather on “where” it would be located in a broader wsf community of "social processes" ( social forums and social assemblies)( see [point 1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P1)) . That is adding something to proposal such as B/, as there is the idea to build **a process that would be self locating in a global wsf process as a “social assembly process**”, distinct from, and connected to, social forum processes, through participation in their respective open spaces -  **So in this case “parallel to WSF” means “inside wsf community of processes", and "connected with WSF process" through participations "inside wsf space” .**

Contributive text chico 20th july   
[http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f /#ENB](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f)

Contributive text chico 22 august

[http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/mexico22-input3-8q-en/#18](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3-8q-fr/#18)

Contributive text meena 226th november <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.10a>

Contributive text meena 29th october <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9e>

Contribution by Pierre about external description elements of a social assembly, inspired by Meena's see [Annex3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A3)

Contribution by Chico <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.10a>

D/ There is also the format of an initiative of action , that is announced by a group of organization that describe goal and an action plan with up 3 action dates , thay may at first not usean asembleary format see the idea of initiative for global solidarity in WSF

As an example using the format of intiative of action, Contribution by Pierre about a proposal of "initiaitve of political articulation in the name of those who want it" proposed by Francine in december 2020 [http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/ol21feb-input15.2 and more gnerically occupy the wsf space with initiatives](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/ol21feb-input15.2) https://join.wsforum.net/initiatives

E/ Possible ways forward - 1/ IC may decide to propose to other existing active "social forum processes facilitation committees" (at least to those that are member of IC or interested to become members of IC ), to sustain a "cohesive dialogue space" between themselves, with a dialogue about their vision and practice in developing "social forum processes" and an IC working group might be formed to invite this following up on the meeting of septembre 2020 ( http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202009-ampliado2-extension) 2/ An autonomous working group, not a working group of IC, may be formed, among organizations willing to "build a permanent assembleary process connected to WSF", to discuss some "external description elements" on B and C, or a mix of the two in the frame of the consensus 1 and 2. There would be energy to develop one or more self organized build up of an assembly process according to B or C or a combination of the two

3/ The format of some initiatives of action may also be explored between a group of organisations, independently from IC, that may not have at first an assembleary format. For instance, one could imagine a group of organisaiton developing an **"initiative#1 for global solidarity in WSF process"** ( a name leaving space for other such initiatives) whereby the group proposes at the rhythm of felt necessities declarations of solidarity to be signed by wsf participants -( something like Avaaz for instance) - This may or may not evolve in an assembleary process ( for instance if there is need to deliberate on action prposed beyond a declaration .



**Annexes To The text “elements for the discussion about future of the forum”**

[Annexes](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A0)

[Annex1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A1) - Generic questions about wsf -

[Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2) - Proposed comments to the declaration “wsf as open space

[Annex3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A3) - 10 external description elements about a world social assembly

[Annex4](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A4) - Documentation of the discussion about future of the forum

[Annex 5](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A5) - World situation and wsf as open space

[Annex 6](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A6) - Contextualizing his contribution

[Annex 7](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A7) - About finalizing agenda and methods of Tunis meeting

[Annex 8](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A8) - Some consideration about WSF open space in space and time, conceptual, physical and digital



**Annex 1 some basic generic questions about WSF**

These basic questions can be formulated first in the following way :

A/ “ What is, and what is not, a”politically positioned permanent open space of encounters” ( principle WSF #1) ,with manifestation of the space that may go beyond centralized in person big events, taking place 5 days every two years.

*This connects with the consideration about other manifestations of the wsf process*

*As an example of other manifestation then events One mention also an extension* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/extension/*](http://openfsm.net/projects/extension/)*.A format of extension dynamics* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/dynex1-fsmwsf*](http://openfsm.net/projects/dynex1-fsmwsf) *was explored as a manifestation of wsf process different from event*

B/ “What is it to “facilitate” the building and maintenance of that WSF open space and the intercommunication processes taking place in it between participants ,through the "encounters", and “how to make those intercommunication processes, reach counter hegemonic impact and scale, implementing the WSF generic functions of "reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action".

*This connects with the reactivation of commission in the international council, and some perspective on this are in the wsf as open space declaration* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion*](http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion)*and the comments about it in* [Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2)

C/ “How to make wsf an evermore inclusive accessible and useful open space for those already acting for another possible world, and also for those wondering whether such a world is possible, and how.

*Some reflections about WSF principles are visible here ;* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-methodology/charter-fsm-wsf-en*](http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-methodology/charter-fsm-wsf-en)*See colorized version and the 3 columns version*

*This reflection has led me to sign in personal capacity the declaration “wsf as open space”* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion*](http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion)

These 3 questions can be reshuffled and formulated in a more formal and operative way. :

1/ What are the guidelines and references for those participants willing to contribute to facilitate the WSF space and process, beyond participating in it, while at the same time not requesting a central place and status in it, because they would be contributing to its facilitation.

*There could be some work in crafting and approving a compact document terms of reference of IC as facilitating body of WSF process*

*The WSF open space does not have a center. Those contributing to its facilitation are not in the center of the space they are supporting it ,. and, as participants, they have no privileged status of participation*

*It is to be noted that in “renovators” narrative the renovators are implicitly at the center of the wsf, through some statutory assembly where declaration are made - There seem to be a identification with the WSF idea, and the decentering mental operation leading to focus on self organized initiative inside the forum space seems just no an option*

*There has been work to document the process of wsf through keeping in operation, once wsf funding has exhausted, the website openfsm.net which has been originally proposed in 2008 by the IC communication commission*

*The documentation effort has focused on ;*

* *1/ keeping track of social forum processes and events through a wsf calendar edited since 2012* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/wsf2012-support/wsf2021-calendar/#lista*](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsf2012-support/wsf2021-calendar/#lista)
* *2/ documenting the IC meetings that are public* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended*](http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended)
* *3/ documenting the recent build up of discussion towards tuniz* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/wsficindex/#mexico22*](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/wsficindex/#mexico22)

2/ What are the formats of participation in such an open space”, that are relevant means to implement the announced various“functions” of WSF, co produced by the participants, “reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action”, with a specific attention given to the last one.

*There has been contribution to the emergence of the mutual horizontal visibility participatory platform join .wsforum.net,  meant to be permanently available in a processual perspective*

*The platform shows :*

* *who is participating* [*https://join.wsforum.net/organizations*](https://join.wsforum.net/organizations)
* *what are the self organized encounters / activities made visible in the common space* [*https://join.wsforum.net/wsf-activities*](https://join.wsforum.net/wsf-activities)
* *what are the self organized initiatives of action made visible in the common space,*
* *w initiatives of action by wsf participantsand ,with outlined action dates , that are gathered in in a shared calendar* [*https://join.wsforum.net/actions-calendar*](https://join.wsforum.net/actions-calendar) *( that can be filtered according to several criteria)*

*There has been contribution to the prototype site* [*https://news.wsf2022.org/*](https://news.wsf2022.org/)*, where participants are invited to draft and send for publication their “news from the wsf space”*

see [Annex 8](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A8)

3/ What is the “narrative of participation in wsf” that can be developed around the concretely projected or implemented open space, in order to spread convincingly an invitation to more groups to come in and use this space, through broad communication and also through specific one to one outreach efforts by facilitators.

*the participation guide of wsf 2021 is an interesting achievement* [*https://wsf2021.net/guia/*](https://wsf2021.net/guia/) *there is a lot to do in this direction ,the narrative of participation can also feed a political identity of “wsf participant”*

4/ How to keep reasonably cohesive the “ horizontal community” of various processes inspired by the WSF idea, each of them autonomous, next to the original WSF process Porto Algre.

*Dialogue between the facilitating committees for each process seems the simple and straightforward way to produce reasonable dialogic cohesion effect - not much has been done so far .*

*In 2012, along with the set up of the wsf calendar of events* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/wsf2012-support/wsf2021-calendar/#lista*](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsf2012-support/wsf2021-calendar/#lista)*- a space for organizers of events have been prepared* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/espacios-oe*](http://openfsm.net/projects/espacios-oe)*but has not been owned by a working group.*

*In 2020 ,there were two meetings organized by a little ad hoc working group of ic members gathering presence from 20 groups of facilitators or former facilitators of social forum processes*[*http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202009-ampliado2-extension*](http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202009-ampliado2-extension)*which was followed ba a second meeting* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202010-ampliado1-extension*](http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202010-ampliado1-extension)

*There has been no follow up to these meeting,partly because one of the adhoc working group member, having his own views on what is a social forum, took the initiative in the heat of wsf2021 event  to propose a conversation to some thematic  processes facilitators,The only public outcome of which was a strange document  on may 2021 visible and commented here. -* [*http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/ol21feb-input7*](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/ol21feb-input7)

*This “cohesive dialogue “ about a global wsf context process also can include “ social assembly processes, that would be self locating in a family of social assembly process and in the global wsf context and this self location would be acknowledged by the others processes in there . This is the reason for the items 8 and 9 in* [Annex3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A3)



Annex 2 proposing **comments to the declaration “wsf as open space”**

In the IC chat [http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9b](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c) following the publication of the declaration “ wsf as open spac” <http://openfsm.net/projects/waos/declaracion> one can find invitations made to “signatories” of the declaration, to comment on their declaration ( input 10 and 30). And one of the signatories said there were other proposal than the social assembly present in the declaration (input 83).

These 3 inputs are summarized here <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c>   
10/ PLEASE SIGNATORIES SHOW AND PUNCTUATE THE CHANGES PROPOSED IN YOUR DECLARATION TEXT

30/PLEASE SIGNATORIES GIVE CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS ON HOW TO READ YOUR DECLARATION

83/ >>>>WE PROPOSE IN THIS DECLARATION WAYS TO IMPROVE THE WSF PROCESS OUTSIDE THE IDEA OF A [ SOCIAL] ASSEMBLY THAT YOU HAVE NOT CONSIDERED YET

here is a personal contribution giving elements in answer or comment to 10 30 83

A/ First let us make a list

LIST OF 10 SIGNIFICANT ITEMS IN THEWSF AS OPEN SPACE DECLARATION

* 1/ Confirm the consensus that wsf is an open space, as affirmed in wsf principle 1 that IC is a facilitating body
* 2/ Confirm the consensus that IC is using the consensus/consent method to make facilitation decisions
* *( 1 and 2 are in part 1 of the declaration while the other points are in part 2 of the declaration, in the order they appear in the text)*
* 3/ Welcome the building of new social assembly processes, deliberative and action oriented, parallel to the World Social Forum and connected with it - as new World Political Subjects that could take political positions, and propose planetary actions
* *4/ Work on the notion of broadened wsf process/ context and make contact with other facilitating committees on this( this element is implied through the use of the word “parallel to wsf “, and with reference to earlier elements given in the discussion around the notion of social assembly)*
* 5/ Maintain as IC a cooperative and constructive relation with the facilitating committees of such Social Assembly processes
* 6/ Prepare ICto receive contributions about facilitation from many organizations via commissions and working groups, assisted by an efficient secretariat, and other possibilities.
* 7/ Strengthen the WSF as a permanent process connecting participants between the events
* 8/ Reflect and cooperate for better implementation of the various functions of WSF,
* 9/ Reflect and cooperate for better implementation of the mutual horizontal visibility of announcements made by participants in WSF open space;
* 10/ Deepen decolonial and feminist practices in the WSF process.

B/ Now proceeding to comment and clarify on that list of items.

COMMENTING ON HOW TO READ THE SIGNIFICANT ITEMS AND WHERE ARE THE CHANGES PROPOSED BY THIS DECLARATION

**1A/ Confirm the consensus that WSF is an open space, and only an open space and IC is its facilitating body, and only a facilitating body.**

This consensus in IC has been existing since 2001.

It seems that WSF being an open space is not questioned in the recent conversation in IC chat after publication of the declaration

( see <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c>

and <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9i> and,<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9k>)

However, some organizations in IC (where the “tunis discussion” is taking place for the time being ), have expressed their view considering that WSF could “also” be a political subject, with some concrete officialized manifestations of this ( some extreme proposing a wsf general assembly, some other proposing an assembly “with the word "of WSF' in its name”  and with an officialized status “parallel to IC” ).

This view is not acceptable to others in IC.

It appears that the view “acceptable by all” in IC is that:

WSF is substantially an open space with various functions :reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action,as affirmed in current WSF principle 1,

An open space where one comes freely declaring to abide by the WSF principles and value positioning, and

An open space where volunteer intercommunications between participants feed WSF, as a process of seeking alternatives ( principle 2) , an interrelating context( principle 8 and 13), a movement of ideas (principle11), a framework for exchange of experience ( principle 12)

**1B/ Confirm the consensus that IC is the facilitating body of WSF as open space ,**

Again here some IC member representatives, may consider that IC could ALSO be a political body with qualified majority vote on political decisions, but this view is not acceptable for others.

It appears that the view “acceptable by all” in IC is that:

WSF IC is the self instituted facilitating body of WSF, conceived of as open space of encounters, and an intercommunication process.

This is its only self assigned mission

IC can be in co responsibility with possibly other committees, for WSF event related periods, or for “inter WSF event periods.

This confirmation invites to exchange on what is facilitation and possible written “terms of reference of IC”, approved by it, formulating some generic missions, tasks, and procedures of IC.

See [Point 1/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P1) in the main text

**2/ Confirm the consensus on how decisions of the International Council are taken by consensus**

The protocol for consensus decision making, used by IC in its decision, is minimally described in the declaration text “ WSF as open space” to clarify that this protocol is not unanimity in IC, ( everyone agrees) nor vote ( a majority agrees) nor veto (anyone can block any decision without discussion). The protocol could be further described and included in a terms of reference of the IC.

Using consensus decision is consistent with the fact that this is done for WSF space and process facilitation related decisions, inside a facilitating committee, where member organizations are sharing the broad generic values and goals of participants described in the WSF principles, and are together in the IC for the specific mission of creating and sustaining the open space, and they have no pressure, nor commitment to align or converge politically between themselves on any particular statement.

See more elements in [Point 2/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P2) in the main text

This consensus decision protocol used for facilitation related decisions, has no relation with participation practices in WSF space. Some articulations of participants can propose activities to others participants, focused about “converging” on some issues, for instance in “assembly meetings” - Participation in these convergence sessions are voluntary in the wsf space, and these sessions have no central or general status beyond the existence of a format assembly which is given a specific logistic and visibility. Also, silent participation of an organization in such a session is not reputed to be agreement with the outcome presented by those who organized it .

**6/ Prepare IC to receive contributions about facilitation from many organizations** .

Once IC is confirmed as a facilitating body for wsf process, and there is an effort to formulate its generic missions and tasks , the context is established for discussing **the organizing of IC, via commissions and working groups, assisted by an efficient secretariat, and other possibilities**

Participation in IC is for contributing to WSF facilitation, it's not meant for political representation of their "constituencies"

This corresponds to restart of commissions and working groups and including new members in IC to contribute to reaffirmed missions and tasks of IC

The commissions and working groups make proposals to be approved by IC, and the secretariat is a technical assistance for the work of commissions . Commissions are generally open to non IC members participation and facilitated by IC member organizations.

See [Point 3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P3) in the main text

**7/ Strengthen the WSF as a permanent process connecting participants between the events**

**WSF becomes a permanent process of seeking and building alternatives, which cannot be reduced to the events supporting it.**(Principle 2)

Implementing WSF process out of the event centered imaginary remains a challenge after 20 years of WSF .

This imaginary can be combined with decentralization and online participation.

IC can directly facilitate the inter event periods orFormats of facilitating committee for inter-event period may be explored and other possibilities.

Experience of WSF 2021 has been also useful.

The platform [www.join.wsforum.net](http://www.join.wsforum.net/) is showing concrete possibilities such as

-differentiation event activities and calendar of activities in the non event period <https://join.wsforum.net/wsf-activities>

-continuous process of announcing initiatives of action <https://join.wsforum.net/initiatives> and action dates gathered in an action calendar <https://join.wsforum.net/actions-calendar>

How to develop and sustain such platform in connection with IC ?

Issues and perspectives for the for the possibly reactivated methodology commission , communication commission , ressource commission  with issues of decentralization and sustainability for the platforms see elements text [Point 3](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_ZLMcKzrXo4JPuys7HG1jeWyL4uCw1fu1TZDrsCSvzM/edit#bookmark=id.y0lbg2wlg0v3)/

**8/ Reflect and cooperate for better implementation of the various functions of WSF**,

Through the work of commissions and working groups in IC, and other facilitating committees,the generic functions of WSF , reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action, can be implemented and presented in a “wsf participation narrative” for coming in wsf as open space

There is an accumulate of formats of participation with experience of associated tools and a concern for staying light and decentralized - see the participation guide of wsf 2021 <https://wsf2021.net/guia/>

“interlinking for effective action” -There is also the dimension of facilitation which can consist in stimulation of articulations- here are some ideas

[**http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/ol21feb-input15.3**](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/ol21feb-input15.3)

Issues and perspectives for the possibly reactivated IC methodology commission , communication commission , ressource commission  see elements text [Point 3/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P3)

**9/ Reflect and cooperate for better implementation of the mutual horizontal visibility of announcements made by participants** in WSF open space;

**THIS IS A PROPOSED DIMENSION FOR FACILITATION WORK**

This is about principle 7 of WSF affirming the horizontal mutual visibility,in the relation to actions of participants for another possible world and news from participants about what they do in the open space and what they expect from their active participation in it.

Here again the platform [https://join.wsforum.net](https://join.wsforum.net/initiatives) **is prefigurative,**

**and also the news platform here** [**https://news.wsf2022.org/**](https://news.wsf2022.org/)

Issues and perspectives for the possibly reactivated IC methodology commission , communication commission , ressource commission.See elements text [Point 3/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P3)

**10/ Deepen decolonial and feminist practices in the WSF process   
THIS IS A PROPOSED DIMENSION FOR FACILITATION WORK**

This is in connection with the generic values and goals of participants affirmed in principles 1, 4, 10, 11, 12 <http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-methodology/charter-fsm-wsf-en>

Issues and perspectives for the possibly reactivated IC methodology commission , communication commission , ressource commission. see elements in main text [Point 3/](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#P3)

**4/ Work on the notion of broadened or global wsf process**

**THIS IS A NEW CONCEPTUAL ELEMENT**

This notion is not explicitly mentioned in the declaration text, however it comes along with the notion of “social assembly process “ as presented by chico in earlier verbal inputs- july [http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f /#ENB](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f)

[http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic\_fsmci/mexico22-input3-8q-en/#18](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3-8q-fr/#18)

“Global WSF process/context” designates a cohesive community of processeswith :World WSF process , different existing Social forum processes (SF) willing to contribute to WSF process with their facilitating committees present in IC, and Social assembly processes (SA). All autonomous.

Formalization effort.

At this stage a formalization effort and clarifying a vocabulary around wsf is useful or even crucial, when thinking about way forwards for building the wsf process as open space, and giving shared description of the notion “ the broad wsf process/ context”,as a collection of autonomous social forum and Social assembly processes and discussing the idea of broadened wsf process

( see an input in 2019 <http://openfsm.net/projects/gti-and-wsf/gtiandwsf-farewelltowsf-discussion-input7>)

See the meeting of september 2020 *http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202009-ampliado2-extension*

“Next to” WSF-IC, there can be a space for “cohesive dialogues in autonomy” between those various committees, that locate their processes in the “Global/broadened” WSF process / context”.

IC can make contact with other facilitating committees of social forums already present in IC about creating the space for cohesive dialogue in autonomy

**3/ Welcome the building of new social assembly processes,**

**THIS IS A NEW CONCEPTUAL ELEMENT**

**These are deliberative and action oriented processes, parallel to the World Social Forum and connected to it - as new World Political Subjects that could take political positions, and propose planetary actions**

The plural is used because this is a new category of process. As Word social forum has inspired a diversity of social forum processes ,a World social assembly is build in a slow and inclusive perspective can inspire a diversity of social assembly processes.

Those new processes can have a participation and presence in the WSF event and process as they deem fit through activities -assemblies, initiatives of action.

A Social Assembly process, is of a different nature than a Social forum process, with different types of principles.

Chico and Meena have given a series of “external description points” about how such a firstsocial assembly , that would be world social assembly could be inserted in the global wsf context.

See chico’s inputs : chat in theconsensus group chat in july <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.7f/#ENB> ( introducing the notion of social assembly and intervention in theconsensus group meeting in august <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3-8q-en/#18> ( focusing on the broadened wsf context/process and place in it the world social assembly parallel to wsf process and not parallel to IC as proposed in <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.8g>

See draft input by Meena.

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9e> giving external description elements

A version inspired by Meena’s input is joined in [Annex3](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A3)

**5/ Maintain, as IC, a constructive relation with the facilitating committees of such Social Assembly processes**

**THIS FITS IN THE VISION OF GLOBAL WSF CONTEXT CONCEPTUALIZED IN 3**

In the context framed by elements4 and 3, Social forum and social assembly processes are built and facilitated by a specific self instituted Committees.

Those Committees caring about a social forum or social assembly process can come in IC as “member entity”, in order to contribute to facilitating, along with organizations and movements, a common “world” WSF process.

In the context framed by elements4 and 3, the relationship between IC and the committee of a first attempt to develop a world social assembly process can develop.



Annex 3

**10 external description elements about world social assembly**

***building a global political subject through a permanent autonomous World Social Assembly with presence in WSF events and process***

*This text is directly inspired by the draft proposed by Meena and the elements proposed by Chico. See item 3 of*[Annex3](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Fwsbl4tpVrxBWN4Q0taTqWp8UydSlDEOqjU_wqxTOtA/edit#bookmark=id.xqazhsq7xzky)

***Internal description*** *the text is not pretending to describe how the building and operation of the assembly process would be done.which would be internal description, which would be done by those who actually get involved in building WSA*

***External description*** *means formulating what seems consistent with /*

*1/ The participations of WSA, in the wsf space ( see items 1 to 6)*

*and relevant with*

*2/ Some criteria for the further acknowledgment, from a IC point of view, of the self inclusion of a WSA process inside a “global wsf process/context” , sustained through cohesive dialogue between independent social processes ( see items 7 To 9)*

PREAMBLE

The discussions towards the building of a “global political subject” in connection with WSF will be long if this building is to be inclusive. This building is strategically important, and it is urgent to start that discussion, between those ready to cooperate.

There have been several obstacles in starting this. Some of those who have been stressing

importance on building a political subject connected to WSF have been seen to be ambiguous on preserving the WSF as open space. Those who have been stressing the importance of preserving the WSF as an open space, have seen a contradiction in the position, held by some, that the WSF would be “both” open space and political subject.

In the recent discussions, there seems to be a good solution emerging, coming out of the concerns and positions of both or several sides in the debate.

**This possible solution is**: The creation, through action of a self starting “committee for it” , of a World Social Assembly, WSA, with presence and participations in the WSF, yet parallel, independent process, albeit connected wiht WSF in several ways; self located and acknowledged in a “broadened WSF frame/context”.

**What would the WSA look like?** This needs to be left mainly to those who will cooperate in the committee to initiate it. However, their agreeing on the following points will allow clarity in the connection of WSA and WSF, participation in WSF space, and in the inclusion of WSA in a broadened WSF process.

This clarity in turn will help WSF participants and IC member organizations, depending their respective views and decisions, understand the context of this building, and include it in their perception of a broadened WSF process,support it, contribute to the committee, and participate in the WSA process.

1. NAME. WORLD SOCIAL ASSEMBLY. WSA is expected to be an autonomous permanent and continuous assembly process, so that it can be an effective political subject . It will be connected to the social forum idea,in various ways mentioned below.( see points 3 4 5 7 8 9)

2. FUNCTION OF WSA is expected to be a deliberative and action oriented autonomous process, where positions and actions will be evolved, and proposed in the name of the WSA to its participants.

3. PARTICIPANTS. WSA is expected to mainly be a worldwide space and process for social movements and movement networks but not only those organizations: NGOs, academic policy groups may also be involved. it is assumed that most of the WSA participants will also be participants in WSF or other social forum processes. Hence the broad name “World Social Assembly”, which echoes“World Social Forum”.

4. OPERATION. It is expected thatSessions of WSA and meetings of its committee will be organized when and where deemed relevant for its operation as political subject to sustain the process; Some may be at the time of WSF events, some may be in the periods in between WSF. events.

5. PARTICIPATION IN WSA. it is expected that Those who wish to be part of the “WSA process can join, inasmuch they abide by the “WSA principles” that would be evolved by the committee building WSA process and would locate the WSA process inside the broad global wsf process context ( see point 9).

6. WSA COMMITTEE. It is expected that a “Committee for WSA” would discuss what can be WSA and would possibly decide to launch the process and somewhere along the line, could adopt its “WSA committee terms of reference” for its mission related to WSA, next to proposing a formulation of WSA principles. ( see point 5) .

7. PARTICIPATIONS FROM WSA IN WSF.It is expected that WSA relation to WSF space during a WSF event would be somehow similar to that of a Parliamentary forum, sessioning during WSF events parallel to it, with the difference that WSA, being built by entities that qualify to participate fully in WSF space,would have full access to all formats of participation existing in the WSF space.

From there, self organized Activities, assembly-meetings and announcement of initiatives of action, may be organized from WSA or its committee inside the WSF space, during WSF events, and their build up and follow up periods, or during intervenevent WSF process, as seen fit “by WSA”.

These activities would use the logo of the local WSF event, as all other self-organized and parallel activities.They would not use the WSF official logo that WSF OC and IC can use.

The assembly-activities held by WSA during a WSF event would be considered by IC like the other activities qualifying for being self organized assembly-meetings, while their possible size, according to a criteria discussed in advance, would possibly give access to a specific treatment, such as being organized “in the evening of the city/country where the wsf event would take place”, if be the case (another case being an online WSF event as wsf2021) .

8. RELATION BETWEEN IC AND WSA-COMMITTEE. Some IC member organizations may be part of this “committee for WSA”. IC and this committee, which would be evolving into a “WSA committee” after the consolidation of WSA process, can have a cooperative relationship, the same way IC may have relationships with committees of other social forums. The WSA committee might also apply for membership in IC to come to contribute to WSF process facilitation, as some social forum facilitation committees have done to date.

9 . WSA SELF LOCATION IN A BROADENED/GLOBAL WSF PROCESS/CONTEXT. Other “social assembly processes” might appear, inspired by the hopefully successful building of WSA. In this incipient category of social assembly processes, WSA would sustain a worldwide scope process, among other social assembly processes, like WSF porto alegre has been doing among the national thematic social forum processes.

Social forum facilitation committees and social assembly committees that would decide to be participating in IC as members,could also decide to have a permanent conversation in a dedicated “Global WSF cohesive dialogue space”, next to IC WSF, and not confounded with it. In this space, they would maintain dialogically some relevant level of cohesion of an “horizontal WSF community of processes”, thus describable as a “broadened or global WSF process/context”.



**Annex 4 Tunis documentation effort**

Texts since ic meeting in Mexico

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/wsficindex/#mexico22>

working groups for tunis

<http://openfsm.net/projects/tunis-sem-onwsf-0922/tunisfofmeeting-doc1>

<http://openfsm.net/projects/tunis-sem-onwsf-0922/>

IC chat after the publication of wsf as open space declaration

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9c> 26 28 october

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9i>29 oct - 4 nov

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9k>5nov+

**Continental meetings ( each one being an exercise among many other possible)**

Ic meeting 10th september discussion of continental meetings

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.8u>

Continental meeting americas

session 3 november manana <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9q>

session 3 november tarde <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9r>

sesion 17 noviembre <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9s>

Continental discussion europe in florence 10th november<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9p>

continental meeting asia 18 nov <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9t>

Continental meeting maghreb mashrek 19th november <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9u>

Continental meeting europeo 23 de noviembre [mexico22 input3.9V](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9v)   Continental meeting africa 26 de noviembre  [mexico22 input3.9W](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9w)



Annex 5 World conjecture and wsf as open space

Inasmuch wsf as an open space can be a confirmed consensus, it means it is relevant to those committing to facilitate the wsf as a political innovation.

The discussions on the state of the world are largely independent from the discussion about what is WSF, the basic questions in annex 1 remain largely unchanged whatever the context . It is more in the final implementation of a WSF event that the political outreach for inviting to the WSF space is influenced by the perception of the situation and the organizations it is “partcularly” relevant to invite in the space and process.

Contributive Text From Gus on situation of the world without indications about future of WSF <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9l>

Contributive [Annex1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A1) about generic questions about facilitation related to wsf as open space

Contributive documentation from continental meetings organized towards tunis ( see [Annex4](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Fwsbl4tpVrxBWN4Q0taTqWp8UydSlDEOqjU_wqxTOtA/edit#bookmark=id.2q6m926o5x99))

There have been less than 20 people interviewed-in the 5 continental meetings and their expression related to what wsf is what they could do in it has not been generally elaborate, which is normal, as the participation narrative effort from IC in a popular education perspective has been weak.

In the case of Americas, from where the idea of continental dialogue meeting about situation and relevancy of wsf emerged, (see <http://openfsm.net/projects/ic-extended/online-202209-extension>)

 There is a “systematization effort” for production of written text, that is made by a somehow cohesive group of IC members representatives, that have been regularly expressing, in tunis perspective, expectations about WSF, or IC, or an officialized assembly in WSF, playing a “central” political role.

Sharing here some comments:

* 1/ This group being proactive in the set up of this meeting is not representative of opinion of other IC members present in this continent
* 2/ It is with the unquestioned option in mind that they “interpret” what they listen to from the invited speakers, and would produce the written report .
* 3/ This option for identifying somehow themselves with a “central location” in the WSF open space, or confusingly next to it, appears to be non critically discussed between them as an option among other possible, and this seems to prevent them from exploring the other option, consistent with WSF as open space, of focusing on the possibilities, existing in WSFopen space, and invest in self organized available formats of participation in WSF open space.
* 4/ This opening to other options would probably stimulate other perspectives such as self organized initiatives for sustaining global solidarity, or self organized assemblies-meetings being persistently transformed into recognized continuous processes, and maybe aspiring to develop an identity of “social assembly process” inside a “global wsf context” which are perspectives that remains to be worked on as part of a global facilitation effort



**Annex 6 Contextualizing this contribution**

I am part of a generation having spent half of its life expectancy in the XX century, and spending the other half in the XXI century with a quite different context.

From the start of my participation, and because half of my life was rooted in the XX century, i have been taking seriously “wsf” as a “political innovation”, rooted in the expectations of the youth of the sixties of this century, and implementable thanks to the emergence of digital communication at the end of the century.

Next january, will be 20 years of personal participation accumulated in the WSF process since WSF2003, and have participated since 2004 in literally all the meetings, in person or online, of the IC WSF, which is the self assigned “facilitating body for the WSF process”, the word WSF understood basically as the process of successive organizing of a series of 15 events since porto alegre 2001.

In this participation in connection with Caritas organization as a volunteer person, I have been trying to balance”, around a series of basic questions see [Annex1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A1) ( A B C1 2 3 ) , a service of documentation in [www.openfsm.net](http://www.openfsm.net/) website, a hands on” practice of contribution to facilitation of events and process, accross the wsf calendar of events <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsf2012-support/wsf2021-calendar/#lista> and a formal /conceptual reflexion, visible for example in <http://openfsm.net/projects/gti-and-wsf/gtiandwsf-farewelltowsf-discussion-input7>



**Annex7/ about Finalizing agenda and methods for tunis meeting**

A/ the exchanges on the state of the world reflect the multiple challenges staking up for those who are acting towards another possible and necessary world. However those considerations on the state of the world are not going to be useful or decisive about the discussions on the question of confirming wsf as open space, IC generic tasks as wsf facilitator, and possible building of an action oriented assembly process, distinguished from open space, which is where discussions can progress.

IC is not a political body liable to directly sway on the world situation. However be said that IC, through its insufficient activity of facilitation of WSF process as open space, has been not up to its self assigned role of WSF facilitation in the past decade.

Contributive [Annex5](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A5) conjecture and wsf as open space

B/ issues towards an agreement on the way to organize the Tunis meeting

Combining moments of break out groups and moments of plenary on 2 and 3 december, after general discussion giving everyone occasion to be on the same level of information.

Report by written of groups and identification of decision items and action item

Case by case there high or low possibility to draft consensus formulation , and action formulation in plenary

with possible option to entrust this to a working group

C/ Towards a common preparation   
Meeting of methodology group in person in tunis on 29th

proposed Agenda in august By Marcela/ole <http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.8j>

proposed Agenda hamouda/marcela 10th november

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9m>

Contributive text by Meena  and Isabelle

<http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9o>

Contributive [Annex1](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A1)- some basic questions about WSF facilitation that can be discussed in the second day seminar and first day of IC meeting

Contributive [Annex2](http://openfsm.net/projects/wsfic_fsmci/mexico22-input3.9x/#A2) - documentation elements



**Annex 8 Some Consideration about "WSF open space" , conceptual, physical, digital, in time and space**

CONCEPTUAL OPEN SPACE

* **Open space of encounter :**horizontal space, bordered by the acceptance of WSF principles , who are positionning the space with values and goals of those present into it open.
* space is without a center , facilitators are sustaining the space, expanding it and preventing its fragmentation, their are "under" it, they are not at the center of it.
* **Permanence of the space in time**: the conceptual open space is permanent, and exists inasmuch there is mutual understanding of what it is and how to participate in it and visibility of who is present and doing what in it -Events are accumultation of encounters in time, One can distinguish event related periods and inter event periods.
* **Intercomunication in the wsf space - wsf as process of intercommunications in an around encounters in the open space** -- there is mutual visibilty and a space map indicating where to come in dialogues - There are meeting squares  for infirmal encounters -  There is dialogue and possibity inclusions and decisions in activities , there is dialogue and possibly inclusions and decisions around initiatives of action .
* **Methodological clarity**: the fact that facilitators of the space are announcing somehow that they will discuss and implement self organized format of participation and common moments of participation that are clearly coherent with the WSF principles. Not doing this maintains an uncertainty, sometimes up to the very end of the event build up about the intentions and options of the facilitators as to how they understand /interpret the WSF principles.

BROADER NOTION

* community of more or less "open space" social forum processes stemming of out WSF porto alegre

IMPLEMENTING THE OPEN SPACE

* **Mutual visibility of who is doing what in the space - space maps There**needs to be some **common directories and calendar** fed by the participant themselves this is implementation in the**join wsforum.net platform with many improvement possibities**
  + Directory of participants in the process , directory of participants in an event , <https://join.wsforum.net/organizations>
  + Directory of self description of dialogic activities ( **program in a event** ,<https://join.wsforum.net/activities>, **permanent activity calendar** in the process <https://join.wsforum.net/wsf-activities>),
  + Directory of self description of initiatives of action <https://join.wsforum.net/initiatives> , permanent action dates calendar with a sliding time window ( eg - past 3 months and next 18 monthes) <https://join.wsforum.net/actions-calendar>
  + Directory of participants self drafted news from the wsf space ( prototype platform <https://news.wsf2022.org/> could also be linked with join.wsforum platform).
* **Dimensions of the space**, muliple, with a limited number, established by facilitators in order to maintain common navigation in the space . An activity or an initiative can be related to one or more dimension of the space - they are like layers or filter in a common digital map of the space.
* **Participation narrative invitation and guide** why and how use the space - rights and duties of participants - eg wsf2021. guide <https://wsf2021.net/guia/>

PHYSICAL IMPLEMENTATION

* **Physical implementations of  open space**during WSF centralized events : There is a Social territory and it can be extended to all venues where activities are held outside the Main social territory , and outside the date of the event.
* **Part of physical space** : eg thematic physical space part of the main social territory.
* **Mutual visibilty  given to in person participants through Paper program of an event - Paper Map of Agora of initiatives**
* **Meeting spaces** : proposed and "moderated by the facilitators.
* **Face to face dialogue/ encounter**in physical places , and hybrid dialogue encounter.

DIGITAL VISIBILITY TOOLS

* **Mutual visibility** : A web platform offering **mutual horizontal visibility of participations in wsf conceptual space** - Who is in there,  who is dialoguing with who about what when and where - Who is acting with who about what when and where.
* **Digital meeting space**: thematic geographic specific **connection spaces**, online groups with moderation from facilitators, where participants can come show the activities they propose, the initiative they assume, the meeting proposal they mak- and make connection with those that give them feeback and attendance ( example thematic connection spaces in APSF process <https://www.asiasocialforum.net/tfgs> )
* **On line dialogue /encounter**in online rooms, and hybrid dialogue encounters.