



United Nations



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



Global Centre for ICT in Parliament



World e-Parliament Conference 2008

25 - 26 November 2008 // European Parliament // Brussels



The State of ICT in Parliament: A Global Perspective

Global Centre for ICT in Parliament
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Topics

- Findings from the global survey reported WePR2008
- New and emerging technologies and practices
- World e-Parliament Conference 2008 – Responding to the challenges
- Goals for 2009 and beyond
- Conclusions

Critical Role of ICT in Parliament

- Fulfill legislative, oversight, and representative responsibilities
- Achieve the goals of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness
- Be active participants in the global information society

e-Parliament

- A legislature that is empowered to be more **transparent, accessible and accountable through ICT**
- **Empowers people**, in all their diversity, to be more **engaged in public life** by providing greater access to parliament
- **Connects stakeholders through ICT** to support law-making, representation, and oversight more effectively
- Fosters the development of an **equitable and inclusive information society** through adoption of **open standards** and supportive policies

World e-Parliament Report 2008



United Nations



Inter-Parliamentary Union

GlobalCentre  **ICTParliament**
Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament

Objectives of the Global Report

- Establish **authoritative baseline** of use of ICT in parliaments
- Provide opportunity for **sharing lessons learned and good practices** among parliaments
- Identify key areas for donors and parliaments to engage in projects to **enhance cooperation and collaboration**

Areas covered in the report

1. Parliament, ICT and the information society
2. Vision, innovation, and leadership
3. Management, planning, and resources
4. Infrastructure and services
5. Documenting the legislative process
6. Parliamentary websites
7. Knowledge bases for parliament
8. Parliaments and citizens: enhancing the dialogue
9. Cooperation and coordination

Participation by region



Geographical groupings:

European Union area (27 respondents + the European Parliament)

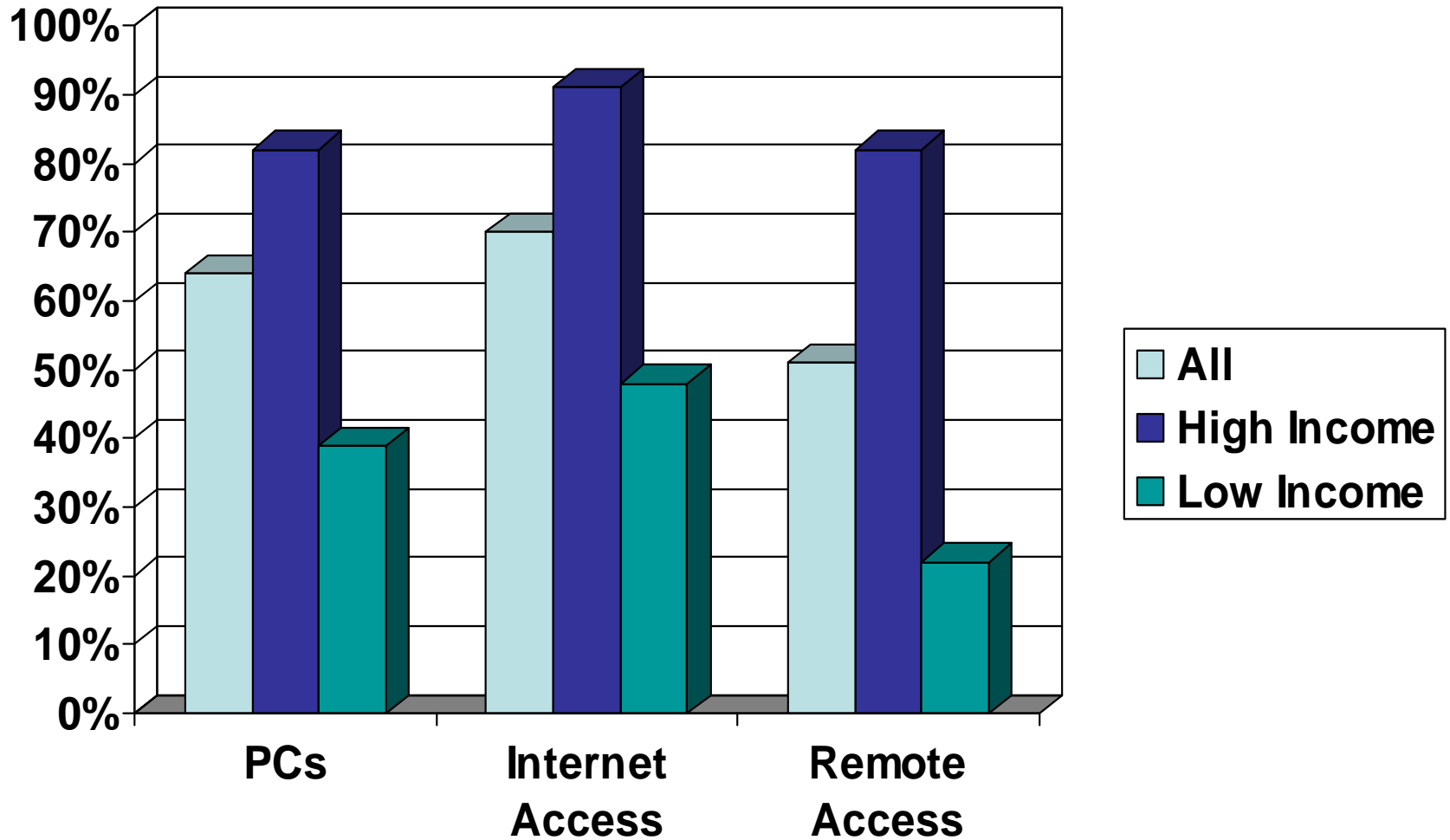
Sub-Saharan Africa area (29 respondents)

Latin America area (14 respondents)

Primary conclusions - I

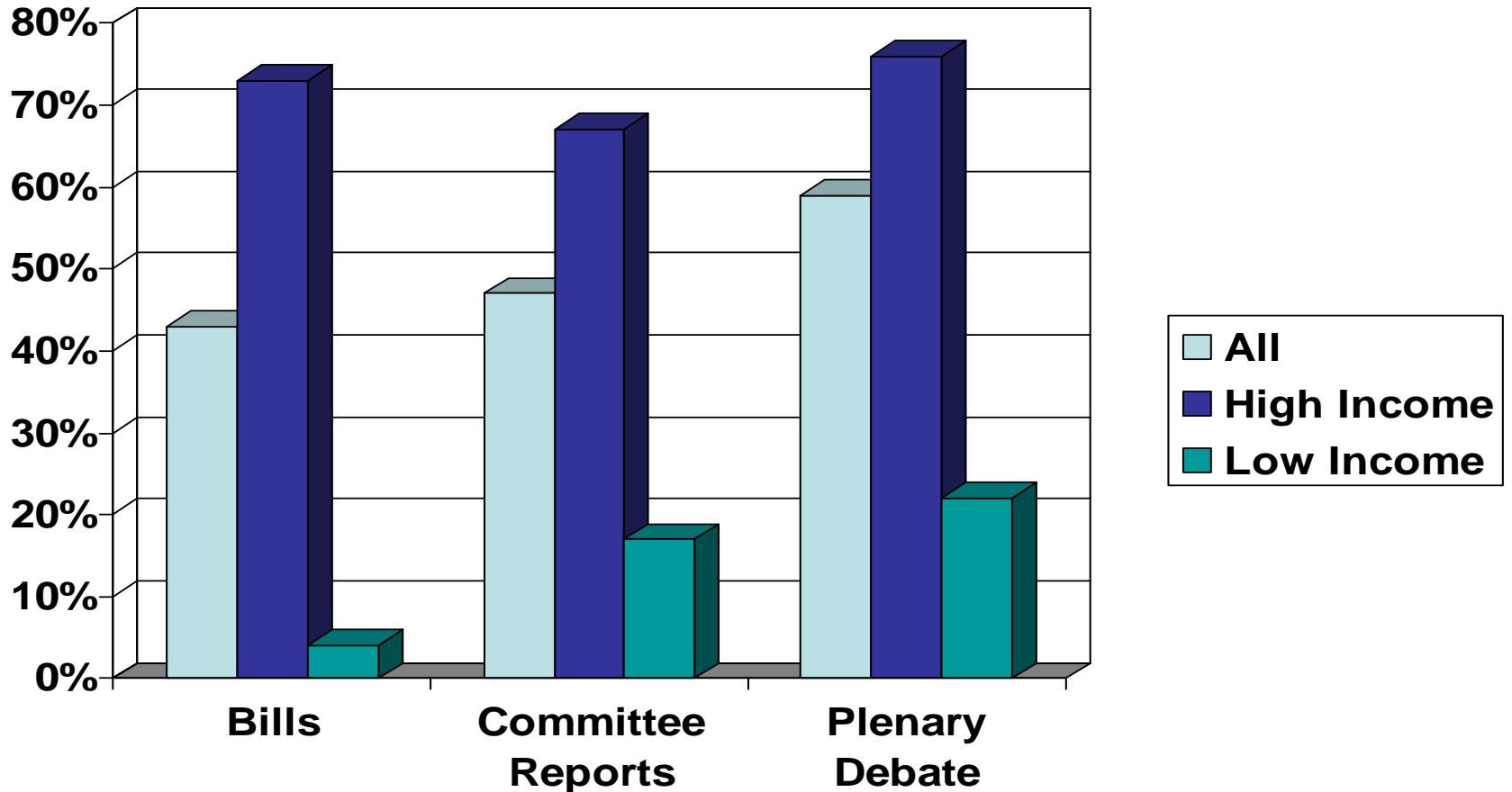
- **Some parliaments** have been **very successful** in their use of ICT to support and even enhance their most important activities.
- However, there is a **substantial gap in most parliaments** between what is possible with ICT to support the values and goals of parliaments and what has been accomplished
- This gap is especially pronounced among legislatures from countries with lower income levels. The **digital divide that exists between high income and low income countries is reflected in parliaments**

Infrastructure



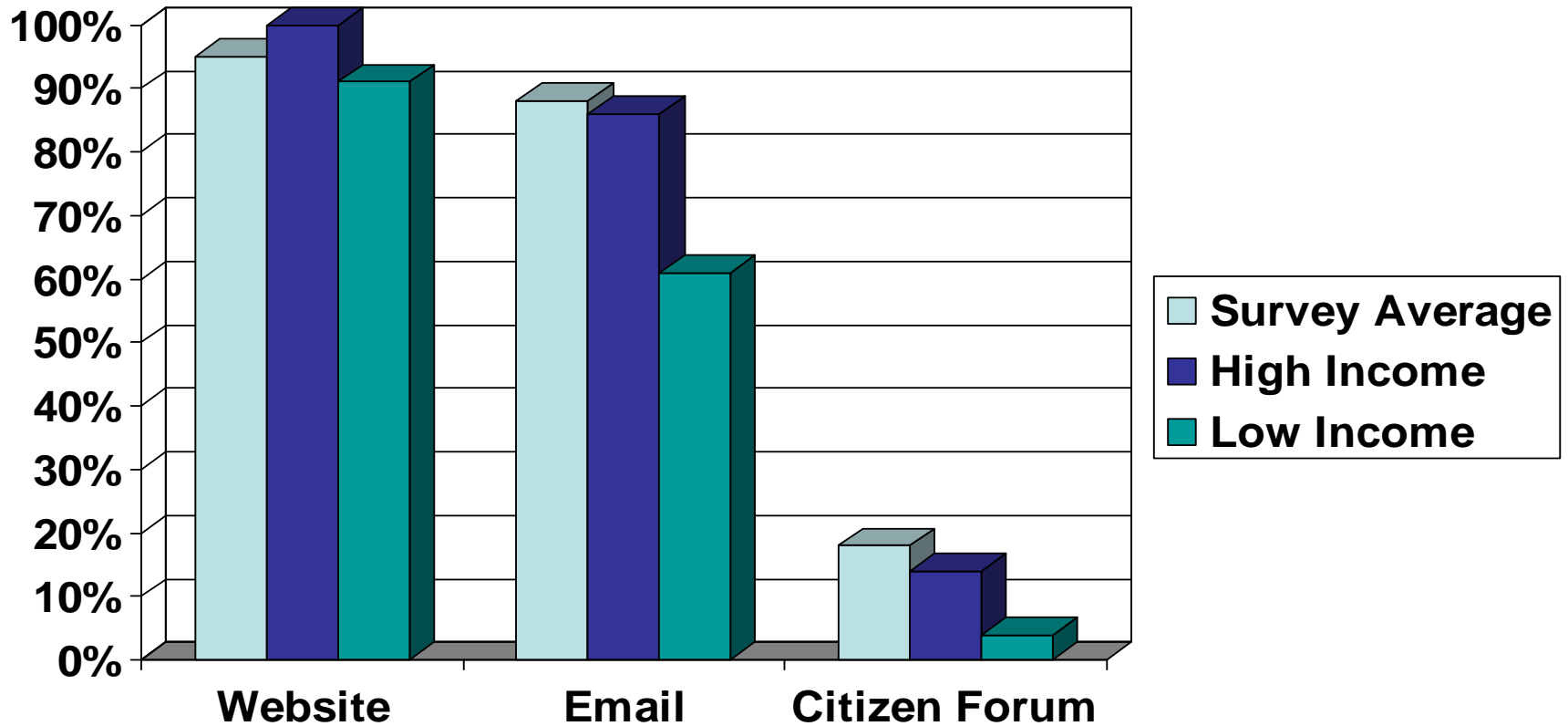
(Percentage of survey respondents who provide members with these elements)

Legislative Document Systems



(Percentage of survey respondents who have systems for these documents)

Communication with Citizens

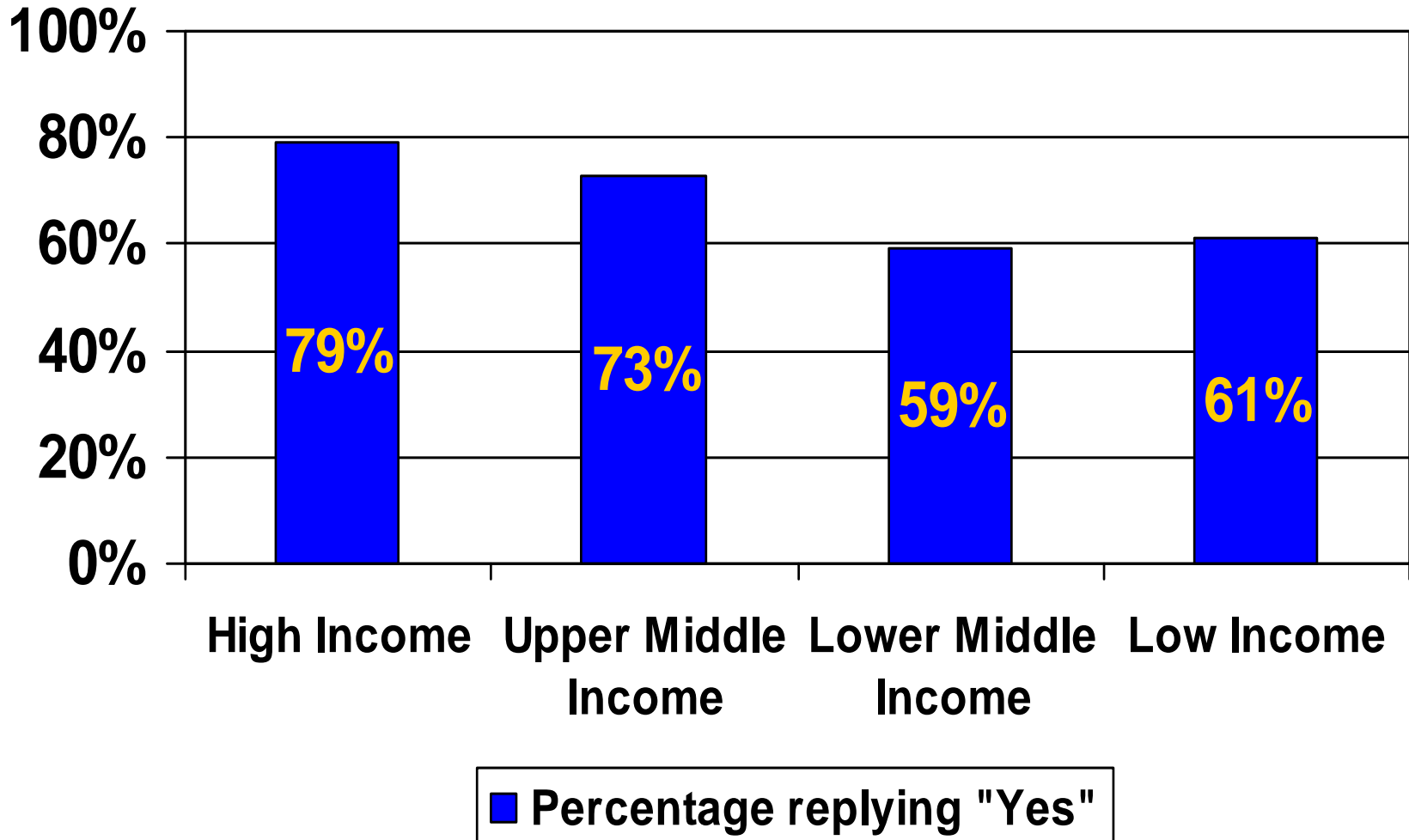


(Percentage of respondents who have these capabilities)

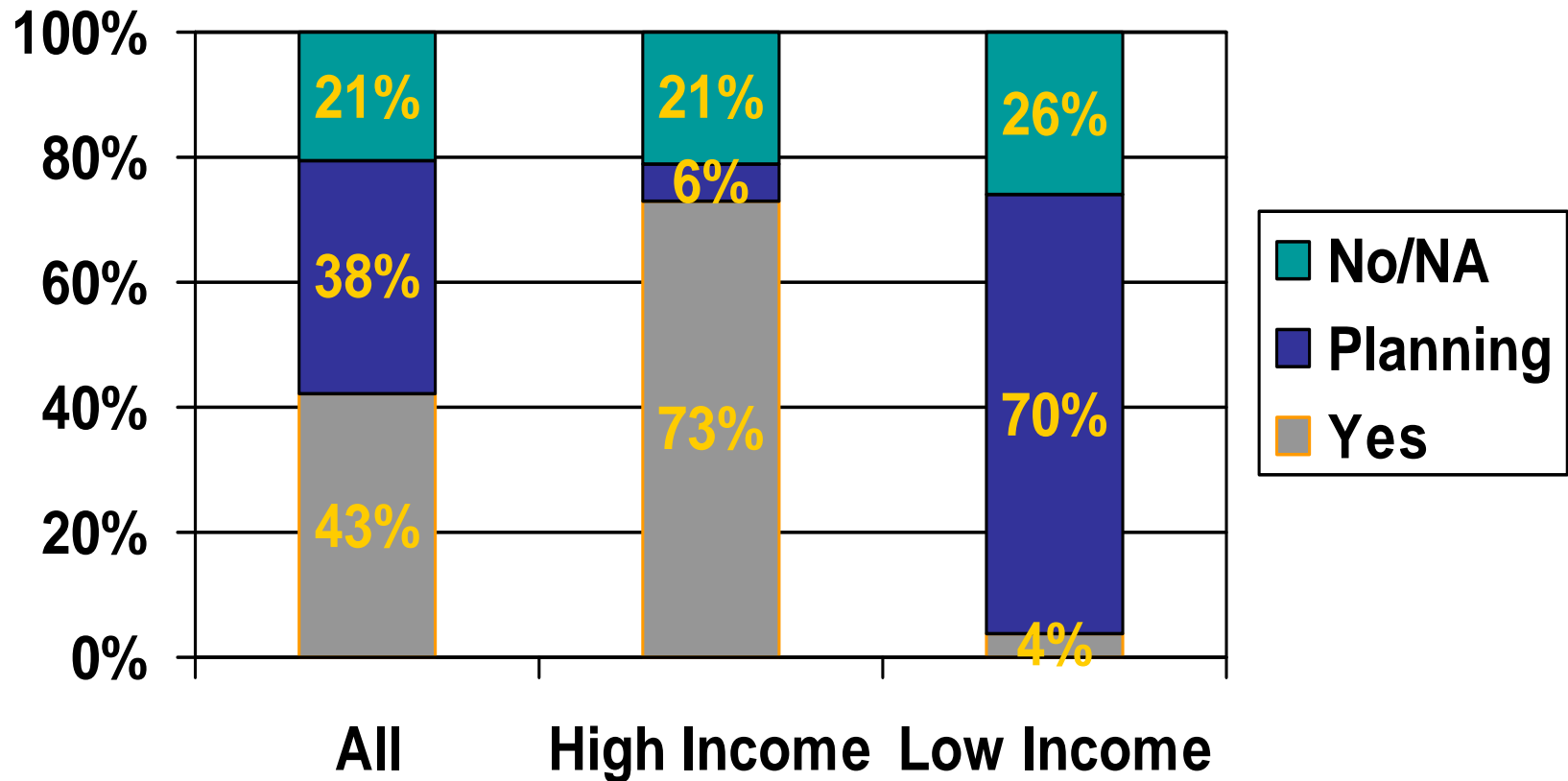
Primary conclusions - II

- Although many parliaments may not yet be employing ICT to its fullest, most have plans to improve their use of technology to support their stated values and goals
- With sufficient political will, the availability of resources, and increased collaboration there can be a far more effective deployment of ICT in parliaments in the future

Do You Have a Strategic Plan?

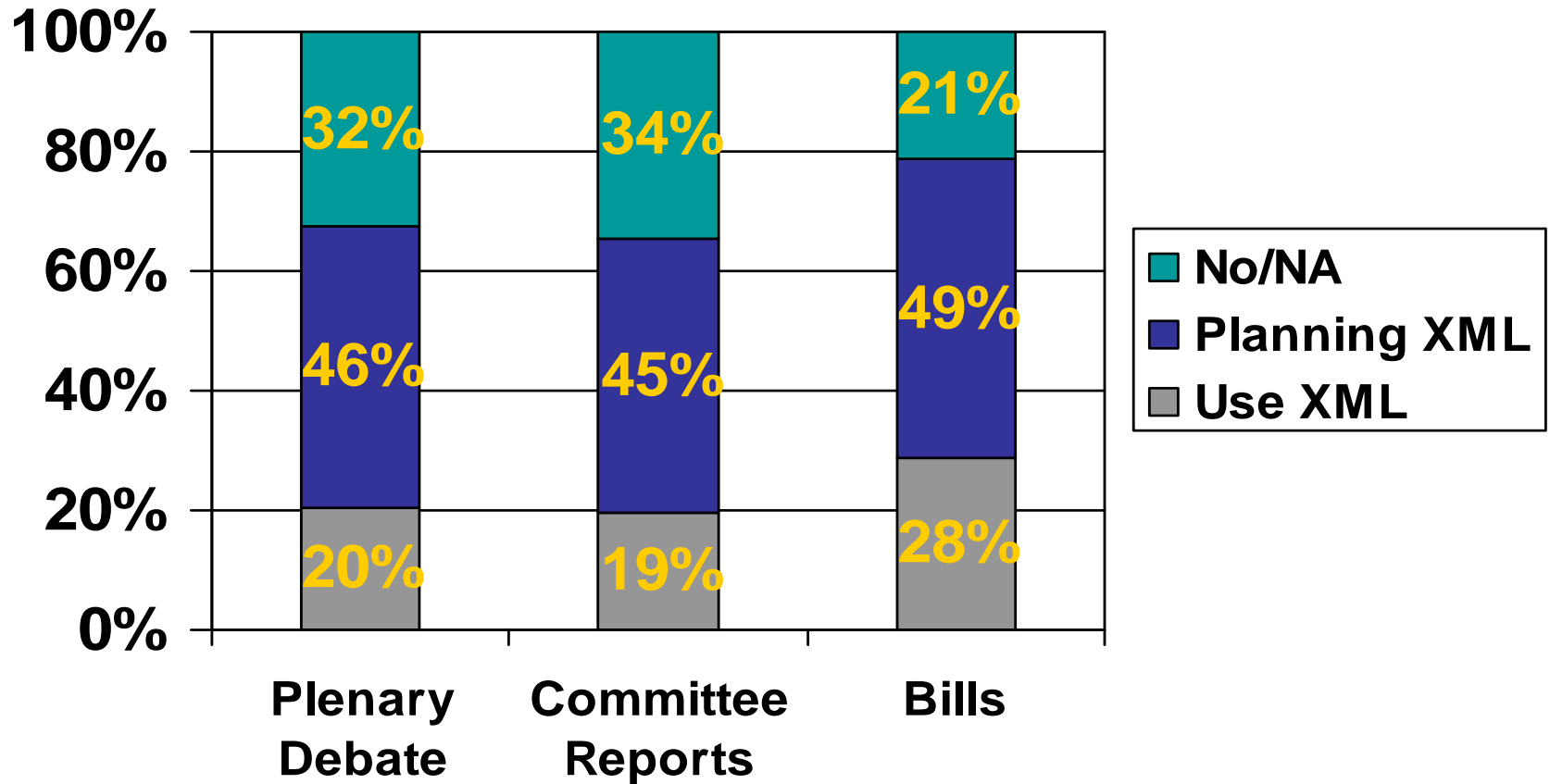


System for Managing Proposed Legislation



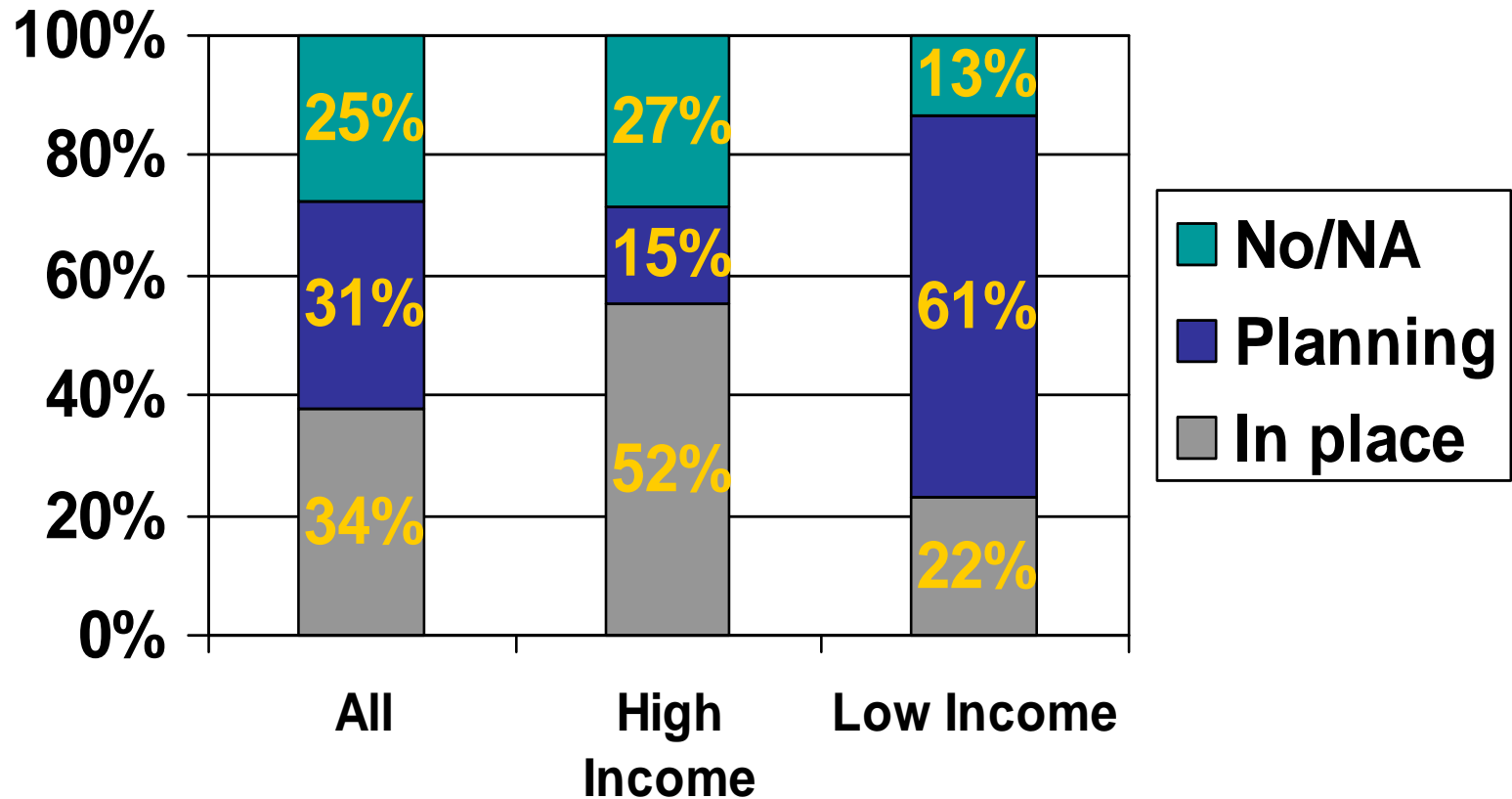
(Percentage of survey respondents)

Use or Plan to Use XML



(Percentage of survey respondents who have a system for each document)

Information Services Linked to Policy Issues and Legislation



(Percentage of survey respondents to question regarding information services)

New and emerging technologies and practices

What will have the most effect on
legislatures?

- Social networks
- User generated content
- Ubiquitous connectivity
- “Smarter” data
- Greater computing power

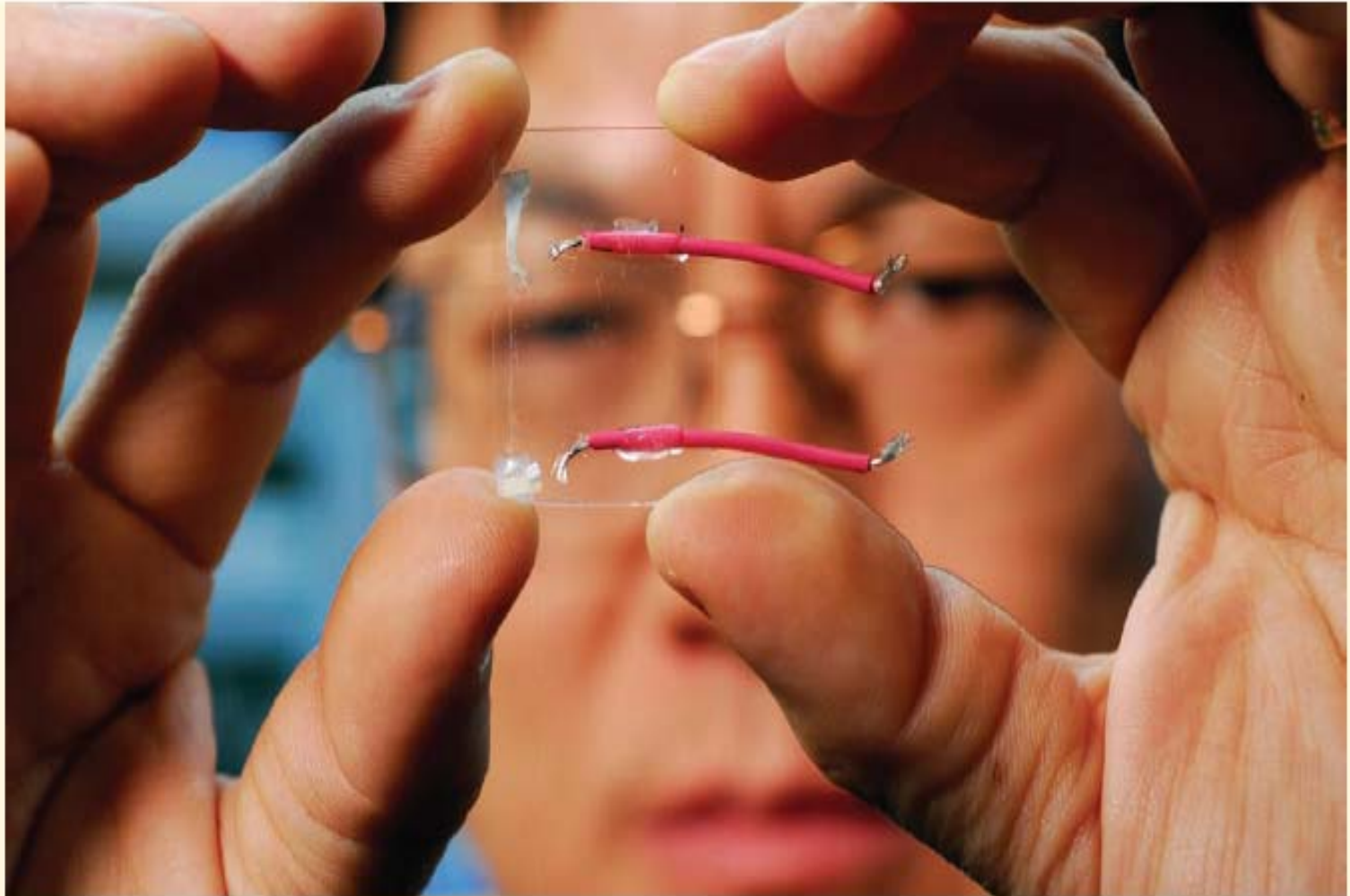
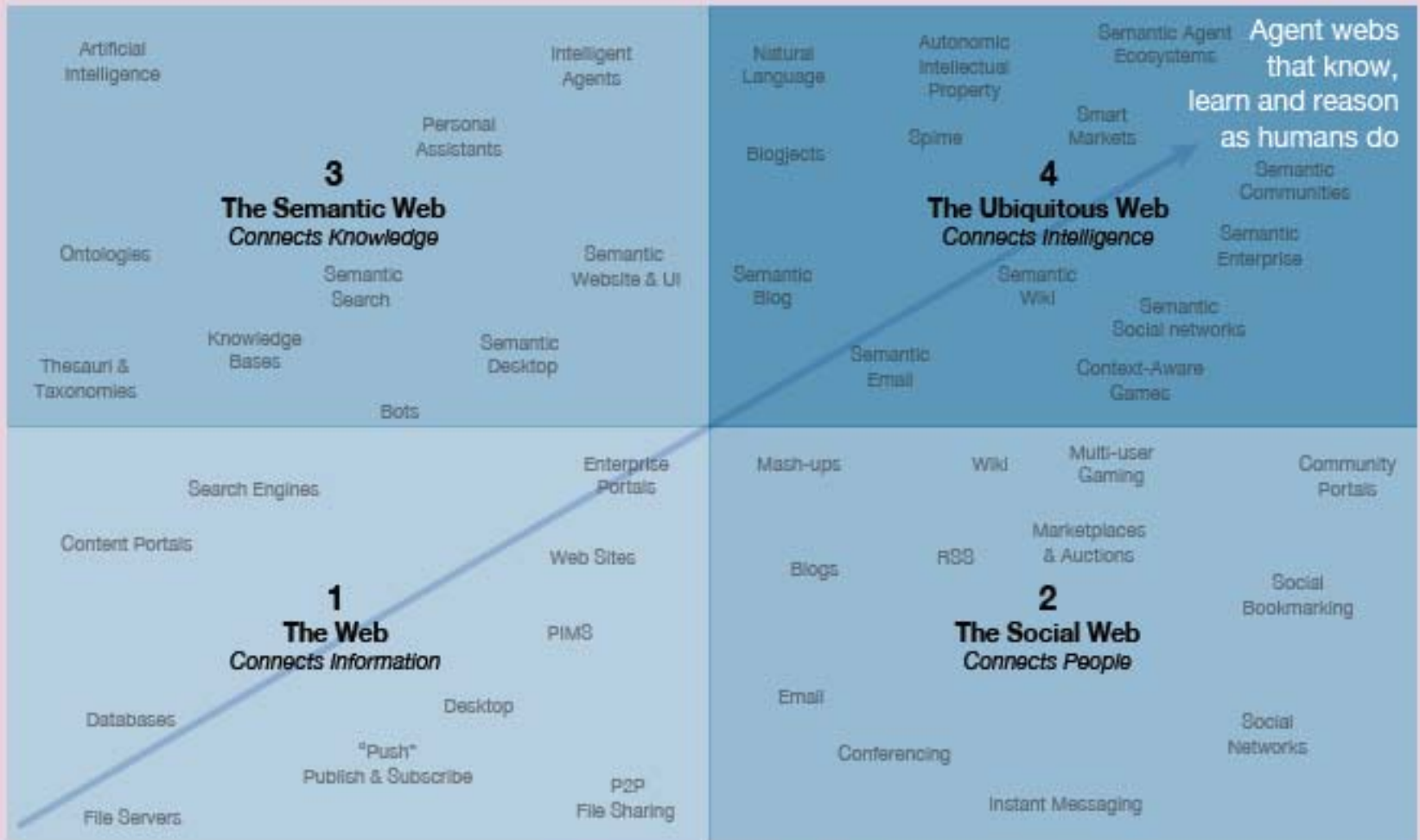


Figure 37 Georgia Tech Regents' Professor Zhong Lin Wang holds a prototype microfiber nanogenerator. The nanogenerator is being woven into shirts to harvest electrical energy from the wearer's movement to power portable electronic devices. *Source: Georgia Institute of Technology*

Source: *Digital Disruptions*. CSC (Computer Science Corporation). 2008

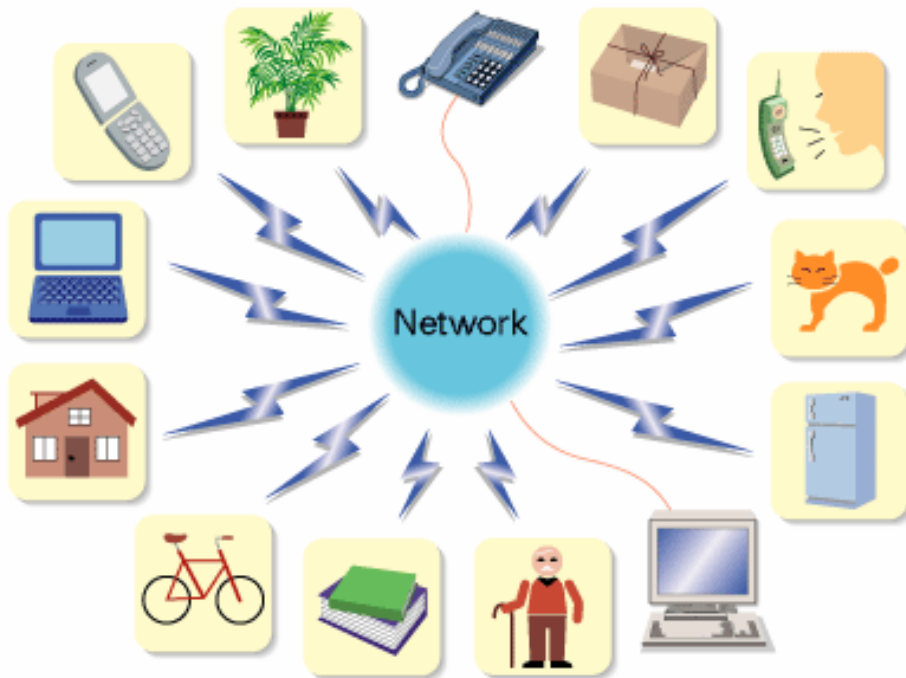
Increasing Knowledge Connectivity & Reasoning



Increasing Social Connectivity

Source: Nova Spivak, Radar Networks; John Breslin, DERI; and Mills Davis, Project 10X

Connectivity Everywhere in the Digital Ecosystem



Ubiquitous computing will enable diverse wireless applications, including monitoring of pets and houseplants, operation of appliances, keeping track of books and bicycles, and much more.



Source: **Roumen Trifonov, PhD**, Secretary of Coordination Council for Information Society at Council of Ministers and **Boyan Jekov**, ICT&E-GOV Coordinator at CCICMT(CoM&UNDP). **E-Parliament & E-Governance @ U-Society**. Modified.

FAST COMPANY

AT&T wireless download speeds (in Mbps)

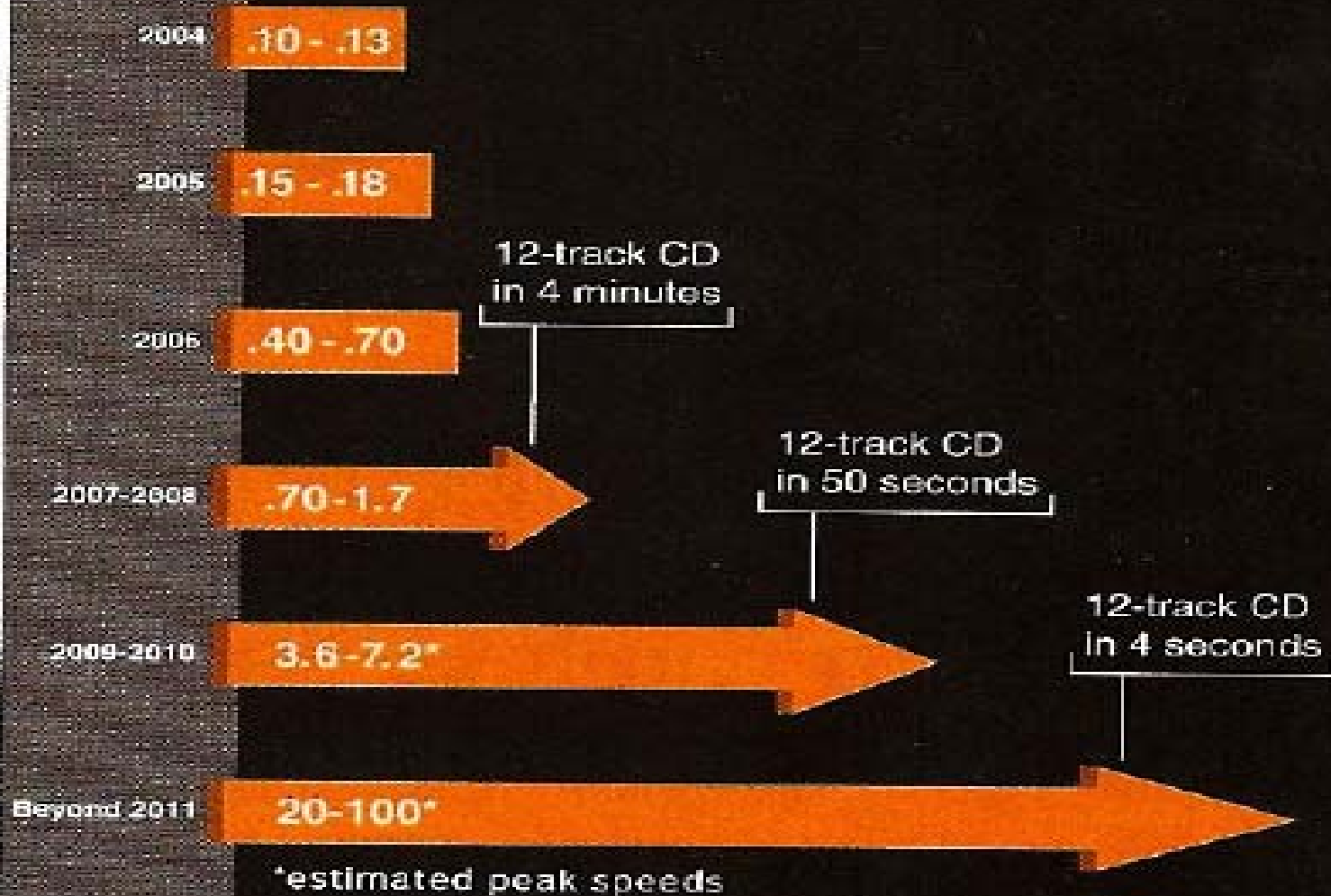
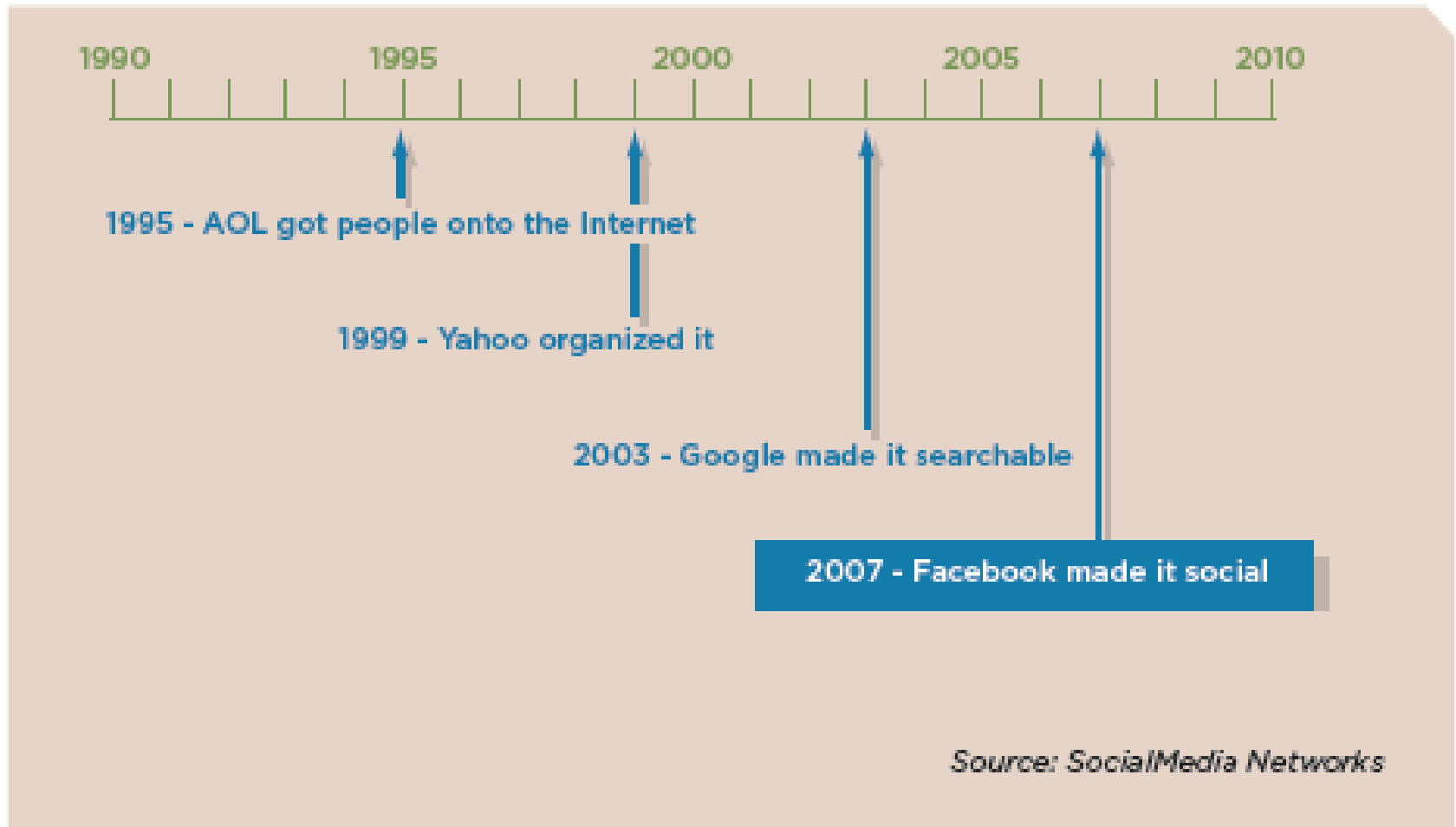
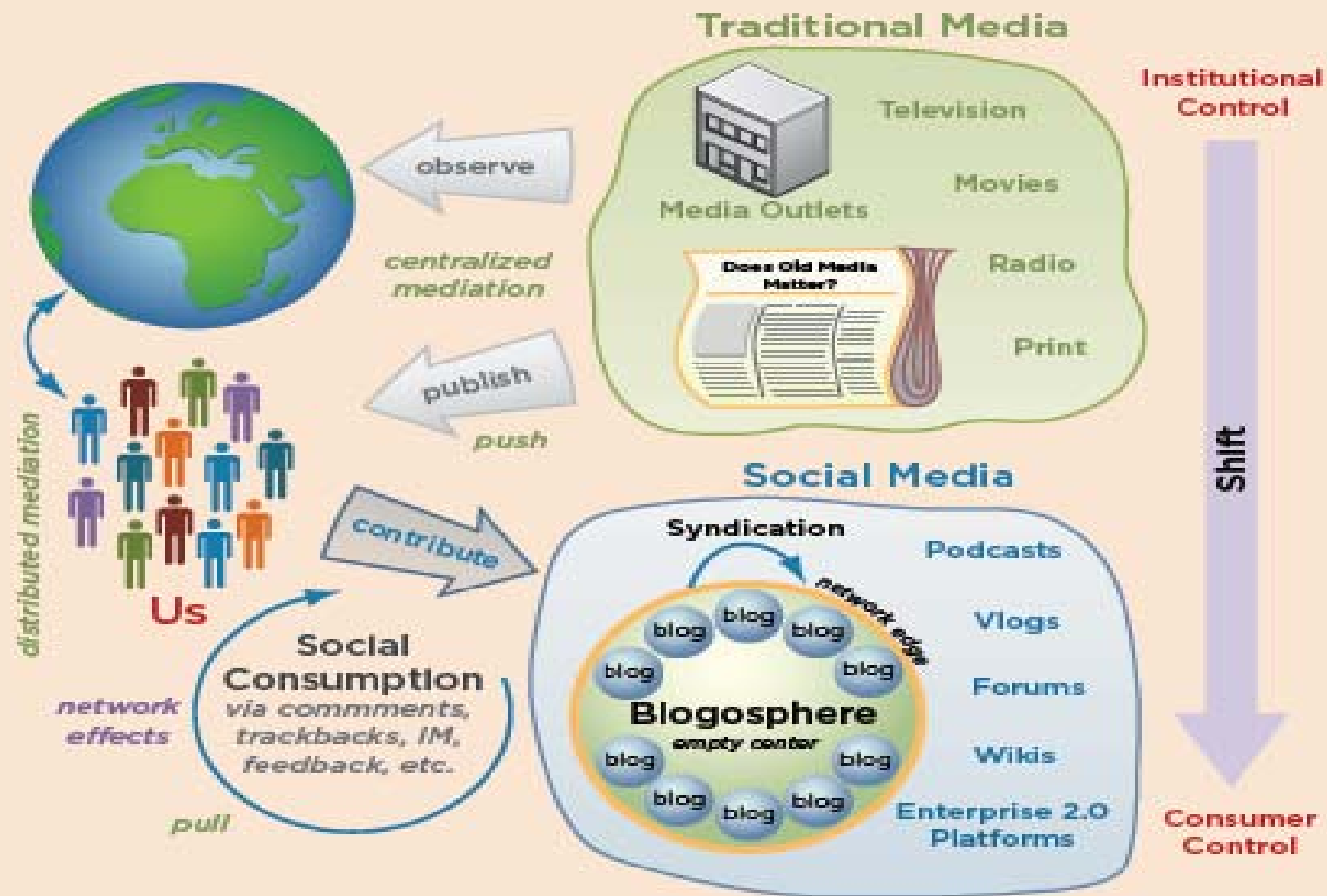


Figure 18 EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE INTERNET



Source: *Digital Disruptions*. CSC (Computer Science Corporation).
2008

Figure 1 THE EMERGENCE AND RISE OF MASS SOCIAL MEDIA



Source: Dion Hinchcliffe's Web 2.0 Blog, Social Computing Magazine. Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported License. <http://web2.socialcomputingmagazine.com>

Lessons from the U.S. Presidential Campaign...and Questions

- Citizen involvement *through the web*
- Information sought *through the web*
- In the next four years...new techniques
- Permanent (?) engagement
- Challenges and opportunities for the legislature

Obama's First Weekly "Radio Address" on YouTube

President-elect Obama is making sure people actually pay attention to the weekly radio address by putting it on YouTube.

Here's the first one:



Bookmark/Search this post with:



Think Progress:

[Record numbers seek last-n President Bush.](#)

As President Bush enters his a record number of felons a pardons or commutations fr the largest backlogs in clem

Political Wire:

[Just Like Lincoln](#)

USA Today notes another L President-elect Obama prep John McCain today: "Early i outbreak of the Civil War, L the ...

First Read:

[First thoughts: Busy week o](#)

From Chuck Todd, Mark Mur Montanaro, and Carrie Dann tap: Two weeks removed fr election, the political activi busy -- we, of ...

TPM Election Central:

[Bill: Hillary Would Be "Great State"](#)

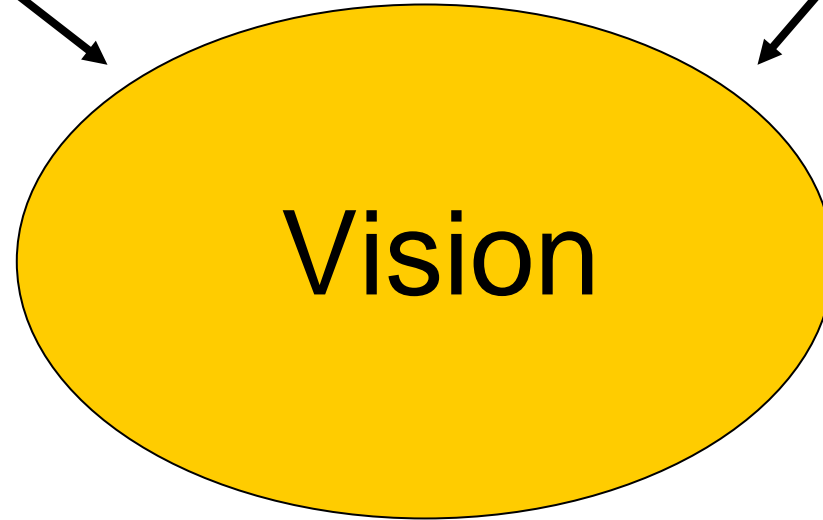
Bill Clinton is weighing in on could end up being appointe giving her a strong but cau Speaking yesterday to a bu

Recommendations: managerial

- Engage all **major stakeholders** – both internal and external
- Develop a **strategic planning** process
- Promote **strong management**
- Invest in **staff**
- Advocate **collaboration at all levels**

Leadership

Members



Strategic Plan

Governance

Speaker

*Oversight
Committee*

Transparency

Access

Dialogue

Members

Privacy

Security

*Strategic
Plan*

Staff

Efficiency

CIO

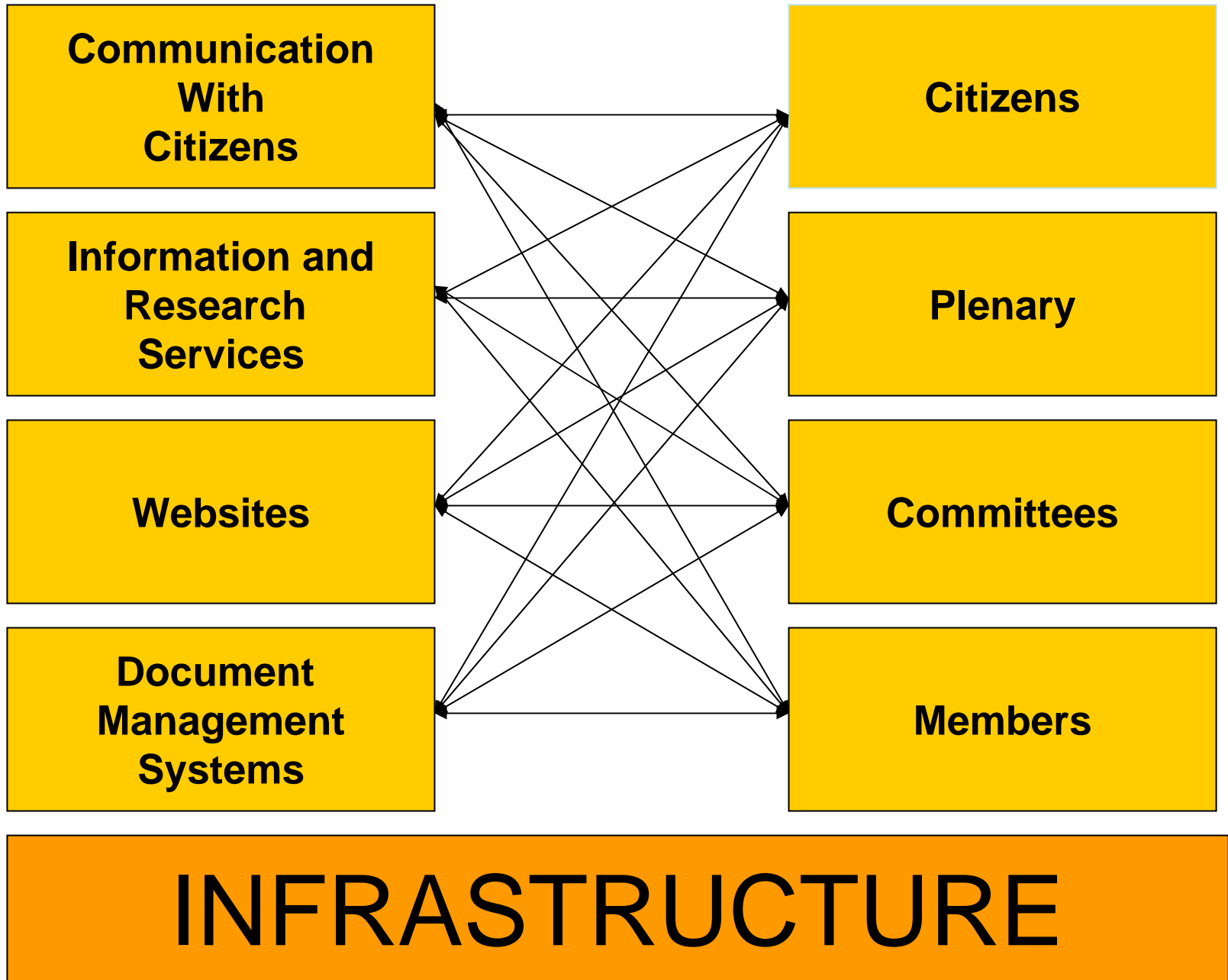
Accountability

SG

Management

Recommendations: technical

- Implement a **parliamentary document and information system**
- Create an **engaging website** that is authoritative, accessible, and timely
- Adopt **open standards** for all legislative documents
- Build a coherent **knowledge base**
- Continue to explore ICT tools to **engage citizens**



Staff

...must be well trained

...must be supported

...must understand the nature
of a legislature

WePRC2008: Responding to the Challenges

- Selection of the topics
- Opportunities for sharing
- A learning event
- Emphasis on cooperation and collaboration
- Importance of leadership and the engagement of members

WePRC2008: Responding to the Challenges

Cooperation and Coordination

- Globally we are intertwined - a parliament that is less effective because of the state of its technology affects us all.
- Cooperation and coordination among legislative bodies can help greatly to level the playing field.

WePRC2008: Responding to the Challenges Leadership and Engagement of Members

*Regardless of the technology and the competence and energy of the staff, parliaments cannot advance the state of their ICT until there is sustained **leadership** and **support** at the top and **engagement** among the members.*

Goals - I

“We call on all parliaments to make all possible efforts to ensure that, by 2020, authoritative, timely, and complete information on all stages of the legislative process in every country is publicly accessible on the Internet”

Statement of the Board of the Global Centre
2nd Annual Meeting, UN Headquarters
New York, 28 February 2008

Goals - II

What goals are possible in the coming year and how can we use the 2009 global survey to measure them?

- More legislatures working with the Global Centre, attending the 2009 conference, and sharing information through the 2009 survey
- More legislative document systems
- Greater use of open standards and collaborative use of open source software

Goals - III

- Improved websites
- More effective information services
- More opportunities for citizens to engage parliament through the use of ICT tools
- A technical infrastructure that can support these goals
- A greater number of staff training opportunities

Goals - IV

A commitment to greater cooperation by parliaments, governments, international organizations, and the donor community, in collaboration with the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, to assist all legislatures, especially those in developing countries, achieve the goals just described.

Conclusion

- Through the effective use of ICT, parliaments have a unique opportunity to lead the way in making public institutions transparent, accessible, accountable, and effective and to engage citizens in all their diversity to participate in public life.
- Parliaments may therefore become proactive agents in creating an equitable, inclusive, and open society.
- The starting point is leadership and the commitment of members – the topic of our next plenary session.



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