

**Internet Governance – preparation for the Ninth  
internet Governance Forum (IGF), Istanbul 2-5 September 2014**

DG Connect of the European Commission held a debriefing meeting for European ICT Industry, in the Commission premises on 24 July, 10.00-11.30.

The meeting was Chaired by Madame Megan Richards (MR), Principal Advisor. Several other Commission staff participated including Michael Niebel (MN), Cristina Monti (CM), Silvia Viceconte (SV), and Eddie Hartog.

The agenda is attached. A List of participants may become available in due course. Many participants represented members of the European Internet Foundation (EIF). Participants included Nigel Hickson, ICANN (NH), Wolfgang Kleinwaechter (WK) and Frédéric Donk, ISOC European Bureau, (FD)

The meeting had been called specifically in preparation for the IGF in Istanbul, but also in the context of several other recent and forthcoming events including Net Mundial, WSIS+10, ICANN50, ICANN51, and the ITU Plenipotentiary.

**1. Introduction and 2. Stocktaking**

MR: The EU will be well represented at the IGF: four MEPs. The Commission delegation will be led by Vice President Kroes, with Md. Richards and three staff. In spite of this effort, it will be difficult to cover all the relevant events and activities in Istanbul. Coordination will be facilitated on the spot. A significant level of representation from European entities would be very welcome to back up the political position of the EU and the Member States present. Companies and other entities sending delegates to the IGF are invited to inform the Commission beforehand to facilitate coordination: <[silvia.viceconti@ec.europa.eu](mailto:silvia.viceconti@ec.europa.eu)>

Participants are also invited to communicate who they will send to the IGF and with which IGF Workshops they are associated.

CS: There is pressure in the MAG to facilitate IGF preparation (a) to take full account of the outcome of Net Mundial and (b) to follow up on outstanding issues such as Net Neutrality, the roles of stakeholders and questions of jurisdiction.

More generally there is a clear move to strengthen the IGF beyond a talk-shop, but this would not go as far as seeking to produce a negotiated text of the outcome of the IGF.

### **3. IGF Istanbul**

There will be a meeting of the EU High Level Group in Istanbul. This might take up Human Rights issues in the Turkish context. There will also be a meeting the day before the IGF to recapitulate the São Paulo Net Mundial and the way forward.

Several Best Practice (BP) forums are planned in the IGF. e.g. Spam, CERT, Children etc.

Safer Internet: Ministries of Education should be concerned about the problem of online advertising accessible to young children.

Nominet hoped that there would be a delegation of UK Members of Parliament and that in any event, Nominet would again support a UK youth delegation.

CENTR noted that there would be about 15 ccTLDs represented at the IGF. Workshops would address National IGF initiatives and Cyber-security.

There will be a session on the IANA transition (on the last day) and a meeting of the Coordinating Group.

### **4. Role of European Industry**

MR: It is extremely important that European Industry participates effectively in person in the IGF context. Other (mainly US) private sector participants were ubiquitous.

Adequate funding of the IGF is equally important. The IGF Secretariat; in cash or in kind; for instance through the IGF Support Association which will contribute to the UN IGF Trust Fund.

FD: At the IGF, the proposed IGF Support Association would be launched. This would be based on a Geneva-registered NGO. Markus Kummer (ISOC Policy Vice President) is organising a governing body. Contributors would be recognised on a website. MR: 'In kind' contributions could include fellowships for staff employed in developing areas. CW drew attention to the relatively successful remote hubs employed in Net Mundial and suggested that some of the companies present could emulate, providing infrastructure and connectivity. CENTR noted that there had been little take-up for the NetMundial Hub in Brussels.

Regarding Funding of the IGF, Wolfgang Kleinwaechter noted that the ICANN CEO had evoked the Alliance in the GAC in London. He also asked why the Commission had 'stepped down' from the Dynamic Coalition on Internet of Things?

## 5. **Other issues**

The representative of the Spanish Internet users association recommended consultation among the national IGFs. MR: That is for EuroDIG. He also raised the question of the interoperability of the human interface with social media: “at present, if you change your social media, you loose all your 'friends'!” MR: That should be taken up by IETF.

Philip Shepard: Will there be a followup discussion of the Geographical Indications?  
MR: there will be a GAC session in Istanbul

EBU: discussion of Content is missing in the IGF. The Commission should address that.

## 2. **Followup:**

There was an exchange of views about future events:

A further DG Connect meeting in the form of a Webinar, oriented towards European Civil Society participants has been announced for 7 August 2014.

Following the IGF:

- ICANN51 Los Angeles
- ITU Plenipotentiary, Busan S. Korea.

NH and SV: Parallel discussions at the UN, New York, about the WSIS review are “not going the right way”. This is essentially an Inter-governmental process (in the UN CSTD).

We were also informed that a followup to NetMundial could be organised in Germany in 2018.

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Annexe:      Agenda.

Annexe: **Meeting with European Industry on Internet Governance**

Date: 24 July 2014

Time: 09h45 – 12h30

Venue: DG CNECT BU33 – room 0/54, Av. de Beaulieu 33

**Agenda:**

1. **09h45 - Registration of participants, welcome coffee**
2. **10h00 - An intense year for Internet governance - taking stock of Internet governance developments**

*Debrief by the European Commission and exchange of information and views with participants*

3. **10h45 - Preparations for the Internet Governance Forum in Istanbul**

*Debrief by the European Commission and exchange of information and views with participants*

4. **11h15 - How can the European industry play a bigger role in Internet governance discussions, and in particular in the IGF?**

*Debrief by the European Commission and exchange of views on on-going fundraising efforts for the IGF Trust Fund and other possibilities for in-kind contributions.*