UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

Contribution to the guiding questions agreed during first meeting of the WGEC

Submitted by

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In the first meeting of the WGEC in Geneva on 30th Sep 2016, two guiding questions were set by the group as follows and the members were asked submit their contributions by e-mail to the CSTD Secretariat until 7th Dec 2016:

1) What are the high level characteristics of enhanced cooperation?
2) Taking into consideration the work of the previous WGEC and the Tunis Agenda, particularly paragraphs 69-71, what kind of recommendations should we consider?

First of all, Turkey would like to extend her thanks to the CSTD Chair of the WGEC and the CSTD secretariat for this opportunity to respond to those questions given above and in advance to all distinguished members of the Working Group for their contributions. We believe that the group will provide a platform to improve the global Internet governance processes going on. The response of Turkey to the questions is given below.

1 - What are the high level characteristics of enhanced cooperation?

- **Multistakeholder:** Although "governments-only" reading of enhanced cooperation may be possible by looking at the words in paragraph 69 of the Tunis Agenda, paragraph 70 and 71 indicates that enhanced cooperation should be carried out through multistakeholder processes where all relevant stakeholders are involved within their respective roles and responsibilities.

- **Transparent:** Enhanced cooperation processes should be transparent and publicly and properly documented for future reference.

- **Flexible:** Enhanced cooperation processes should be flexible enough to adapt to changing public policy issues pertaining to the internet.

- **Effective**: Enhanced cooperation processes should be effective to achieve concrete results and avoid unnecessary procedural matters.

- **Collaborative**: Enhanced cooperation processes should be collaborative and take into account all points of views from all stakeholders.

- **Consensus-based**: Enhanced cooperation processes should proceed with consensus-based decisions to the possible extent.

- **Inclusive**: All relevant parties should be allowed to participate on an equal footing in enhanced cooperation processes, bearing in mind the nature of some intergovernmental processes.

2- Taking into consideration the work of the previous WGEC and the Tunis Agenda, particularly paragraphs 69-71, what kind of recommendations should we consider?

Recommendations should;

- Be related to the international public policy issues pertaining to the internet identified by the previous WGEC and the CSTD as listed in the document named "*Mapping of international Internet public policy issues*", but there should be room for adjustments, additions or deletions of those issues considering the fast pace of changes of the internet.
- Describe how better flow of information among relevant actors can be achieved.
- Describe how governments are enabled on equal footing.
- Describe among who and how enhanced cooperation should be furthered.
- Involve indicators to measure whether the objective of the enhanced cooperation is reached where applicable.
- Not duplicate if a certain issue is covered by an international organization in an effective and appropriate manner.
- Focus on the priority areas to be defined by this working group where no action causes immediate negative effects on enjoyment of internet equally and effectively by all humanity.
- Allow flexibility since a "one-size-fits-all" approach may not be suitable for all countries where different cases may be at stake.
- Take into consideration specific needs of developing countries.
- Involve a mechanism to periodically test the validity of each recommendation made by this group so that recommendations are still relevant in future.
- Address national best practices regarding the internet governance to be mapped to the international level.