



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Trade and Development Board

Sixtieth executive session

Geneva, 10–12 December 2014

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Other business

Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

Application from the Center for Democracy and Technology

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) requesting its inclusion by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board.

Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Board, CDT may be classified in the special category under the provisions of paragraph 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII).

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its sixtieth executive session.

Information concerning the Organization is annexed to this note.



Annex

Center for Democracy and Technology: Background information

History and scope

1. The Organization was founded in 1994 by a group of technology law and policy experts who opposed the application to the Internet of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act.
2. The scope of the Center's work covers a broad range of activities. These include protecting the Internet from design mandates; challenging the Communications Decency Act; defining the limits of deep-packet inspection; championing inclusive multi-stakeholder Internet governance; bringing human rights norms to global Internet policy; fighting for an innovative, neutral Internet; and advocating for government surveillance reform.

Aims and objectives

3. CDT is a non-profit research and advocacy organization that offers expertise in technology law and policy and builds bridges between the policy community and the technical community. The Organization supports policy outcomes that protect human rights and keep the Internet open, innovative and free. As a non-profit organization, the Center works to preserve the user-empowering nature of the Internet and to champion freedom of expression. It supports laws, corporate policies and technology tools that protect the privacy of Internet users and advocate for stronger legal controls on government surveillance. With offices in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, California, London and Brussels, CDT works inclusively across sectors and the political spectrum to find tangible solutions, respectful of human rights, to pressing Internet policy challenges.
4. For over 20 years, since the Internet's infancy, CDT has played a leading role in shaping the policies, practices and norms that have empowered individuals to effectively use the Internet as speakers, entrepreneurs and active citizens. It brings legal and technical expertise, thought leadership and coalition-building skills to its work with domestic and global policy institutions, regulators, standards bodies, governance organizations and courts. It provides in-depth analysis in response to emerging legal issues and new technological developments. The Center also engages by responding to open consultations, including through United Nations bodies. Further, it acts a convener on critical Internet policy issues. Through working groups, mailing lists and round-table discussions, it brings together stakeholders from the public and private sectors: government, academia, advocates, industry and the technical community. Its approach to policymaking is collaborative and inclusive, whereby stakeholders from different sectors openly share information and ideas to provide effective solutions.

Membership

5. CDT is not a membership organization and therefore has no members.

Structure

6. The Board of Directors manages the affairs of the Organization. The Board plays a vital oversight role, including financial oversight (budget approval, audit, control of investments), programme support, input into strategic planning and mission implementation, and performance evaluation of the chief executive. Board decisions are taken by a majority vote of the members present at a Board meeting at which a quorum is present. A quorum is defined in the by-laws as one half of the entire membership of the Board, but in no case consists of less than two members. Day-to-day operations are governed by the senior staff of the Organization, including the president and project directors.

7. The Board has eight members. A nominating committee appoints potential candidates to serve on the Board, and the remaining Board members vote on the candidates. Board members generally serve a three-year term.

8. The Board meets quarterly with all Board members generally in attendance. The next Board meeting will take place in early autumn 2014 at the Washington, D.C. office.

Financial resources

9. Funding sources of the Center in 2012 include the following:

(a) Software and services (6.7 per cent): Adobe, Drophox, Intuit, Microsoft, Salesforce.com and Verisign;

(b) E-commerce (12.7 per cent): Amazon, American Express, eBay, Facebook, Google, Linked in, Mozilla, Shopkick, Wal-Mart Stores and Yahoo! Inc.;

(c) Information services (1.6 per cent): Datran Media, IMS Health, Intelius, LexisNexis, Nielsen, Palantir and Rappleaf;

(d) Industry associations (1.7 per cent): Consumer Electronics Association, Entertainment Software Association, Business Software Alliance, and National Cable and Telecommunications Association;

(e) Communications service providers (4.9 per cent): AOL, AT&T, Comcast, T-Mobile, Time Warner Cable and Verizon;

(f) Hardware makers (4.5 per cent): Hewlett-Packard, Intel Corporation, Nokia, Pitney Bowes, Qualcomm and RIM;

(g) Center for Democracy and Technology and allocations: 11.3 per cent;

(h) Campaign Drawdown: 8.4 per cent;

(i) Foundations and non-profit organizations (33.5 per cent): California Healthcare Foundation, Ford Foundation, Global Network Initiative, Internet Education Foundation, Markle Foundation, Open Society Institute-Open Society Foundations and The Privacy Projects;

(j) Fellowship funds (1.45 per cent): Ron Plessner Fund;

(k) Annual dinner: 11 per cent;

(l) Other 2.3 per cent: Academy Health; Combined Federal Campaign; individual donations, interest and dividends; Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, LLP; and Union Square Ventures.

**Statement of activities and change in net assets for the year ended 31 December 2012
with summarized financial information for 2011**

(In United States dollars)

	2012	2011
Revenue		
Grants and contributions	\$ 4 220 809	\$ 3 962 242
Cy Pres awards	86 199	1 077 803
Contracts	92 115	86 833
Interest and dividends	7 663	7 668
Other revenue	5 645	3 778
Net assets released from donor restrictions	-	-
Total revenue	4 412 431	5 138 324
Expenses		
Programme services:		
Campaign for CDT's Future	328	9 691
Communications	145 404	35 987
Privacy	377 920	369 385
Fourth Amendment	709 974	611 395
Health privacy policy	578 403	443 242
Net neutrality	180 619	141 665
First Amendment	221 033	196 473
International human rights	790 045	360 222
Global Network Initiative	30 989	104 488
Internet Education Foundation	57 188	86 285
Copyright	267 428	257 706
Standards	1 975	15 986
Markle Capacity	-	171 254
Total programme services	3 361 306	2 803 779
Supporting services		
Management and general	463 389	498 050
Fundraising	514 736	525 627
Total supporting services	978 125	1 023 677
Total expenses	4 339 431	3 827 456

Relations with other international organizations

10. CDT has no working relations with other international organizations.

Publications

11. The Center has issued the following publications and press releases:

(a) The importance of Internet neutrality to protecting human rights online, 1 October 2013, available at <https://cdt.org/files/pdfs/internet-neutrality-human-rights.pdf> (accessed 30 September 2014);

(b) Systematic government access to personal data: A comparative analysis, 13 November 2013, available at <https://www.cdt.org/files/pdfs/govaccess2013/government-access-to-data-comparative-analysis.pdf> (accessed 30 September 2014);

(c) Press releases, available at <https://cdt.org/press-events/> (accessed 30 September 2014).

Liaison

12. Liaison with UNCTAD will be carried out by:

Mr. Matthew Shears, Representative and Director
Project on Global Internet Policy and Human Rights
Tel: 1 202 637 9800
Tel: 1 202 637 0698
E-mail: mshears@cdt.org

Address

13. Headquarters, registered legal address and postal address:

Center for Democracy and Technology
1634 Street NW 1100
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Language

14. The working language of the Organization is English.
