Timestamp

9/2/2013 20:28:31

The information solicited through this questionnaire will only be used in aggregate form, unless otherwise authorised by the respondent. Do you authorise us to cite/share your views individually?

Yes

Please enter your contact details:

LACNIC

Latin American and Caribbean Regional Addresses Registry

Rambla República de México 6215, Montevideo, Uruguay.

comunicaciones@lacnic.net

1. Which stakeholder category do you belong to?

Non-Government

If non-government, please indicate:

Technical and academic community

If non-government, please indicate if you are:

WSIS accredited

2. What do you think is the significance, purpose and scope of enhanced cooperation as per the Tunis Agenda? a) Significance b) Purpose c) Scope

- 2.1. "Enhanced cooperation", a concept introduced at the Tunis Agenda, recognizes the need for new models of cooperation between Governments and other stakeholders in international policy-making related to the Internet.
- 2.2. Its purpose is the facilitation of policy-making that increases the knowledge and coordination between all Internet stakeholders, respecting the roles and responsibilities of the different groups and the rights of all users, also recognizing the current day to day work in technical and operational matters.
- 2.3. The scope should not be limited to the development of globally-applicable principles on public policy issues associated with the coordination and management of critical Internet resources, but rather allowed to meet the changing needs, interests and roles of different stakeholder groups.
- 3. To what extent has or has not enhanced cooperation been implemented? Please use the space below to explain and to provide examples to support your answer.

It was implemented with significant interactions. Globally, the establishment of the IGF and the evolution experienced by other existing public fora (that become more open) should be mentioned. From the LACNIC regional perspective, there are several examples:

- LACNIC's leadership role in the LACIGF, a truly multistakeholder example of enhanced cooperation.
- LACNIC's Government Working Group, regularly debating and cooperating, online and face to face with more than 100 Government Officers.
- The increased importance of non-governmental members at CITEL (OAS) with LACNIC's leadership in related matters.
- The development and follow up of "eLAC strategy" with the recognition of the Internet Technical Community as a relevant stakeholder with LACNIC's representation.

- LACNIC's participation in inter-governmental organizations and the cooperation with CICTE at OAS, the International Telecommunication Union, the Summit of the Americas, Mercosur, Comtelca, etc.
- Constant efforts to inform and debate with our own community about Internet Governance Active engagement and also to create and support technical training programs, capacity building and other development initiatives (such as the Frida Program within the Seed Alliance).

It is important to stand out that the increased cooperative efforts have been achieved by a reciprocate willingness to interact from the different actors.

4. What are the relevant international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet?

Since the Tunis Agenda, there was a dramatic growth of public policy issues

From our perspective, some of them should be highlighted:

- Promoting broadband universal access. How to reduce the costs for the final user. How to promote more dynamism local digital content industries.
- Understanding the impact of regulatory approaches on the Internet's underlying architecture and administration.
- The balance between lack of Jurisdiction and risks for balkanization.
- Ensuring equal opportunity for all stakeholders, including Governments, to participate in and contribute to the bottom-up development of policies relating to Internet governance.
- Increasing the ability of all stakeholders, to participate in the Internet Governance Process thought Capacity Building initiatives.
- Addressing the legitimate security concerns of all Internet stakeholders while maintaining the open and interoperable nature of the Internet itself
- Developing and improving public-private sector cooperation to ensure the continued growth and stability of the Internet.
- Promoting a wise approach on cyber-security (CSIRTs) and robustness of the Internet infrastructure.
- Enabling Internet to continue the growth preserving human rights.
- o How to guarantee Freedom of expression. Importance of net neutrality
- o Privacy. Challenges related to Internet Surveillance and to avoid the false dichotomy with Security.

5. What are the roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders, including governments, in implementation of the various aspects of enhanced cooperation?

Enhanced cooperation can be seen as an attempt to ensure that a policy that meets the needs of one stakeholder group has also taken into account the perspective of other stakeholder groups.

There is a common responsibility on all stakeholders to actively engage across traditional stakeholder divisions. This responsibility clearly applies to the public sector, just as it does to the Internet technical community and other stakeholder groups. We would like to highlight some of the public sector groups that have been particularly open to substantive engagement with LACNIC and the LACNIC community, specifically:

- · The eLAC Strategy.
- The CITEL (Inter American Telecommunications Commission at OAS level).
- · The Summit of the Americas.
- The Americas Regional office of the ITU.
- Subregional forums and organizations such as Comtelca, Mercosur, CTU and Caricom.

LACNIC has also found many governments and national regulators in our service region that have been proactive partners in engaging the Internet technical community on issues of common relevance.

LACNIC has been pleased to work with these governments and organisations to establish new formats for cooperation and greater exchange of information between different sectors of the Internet community.

6. How should enhanced cooperation be implemented to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet?

Paragraph 69 of the Tunis Agenda lays out the rationale for enhanced cooperation.

Defining the roles of different policy-making bodies – a constant process that is facilitated by enhanced cooperation - is vital to ensuring that governments, acting in their legitimate public policy-making role, can find their own role and be able to address their concerns without duplicating or ignoring the community-driven, bottom-up policy-making mechanisms that have effectively facilitated the development of today's Internet. If fact, it is extremely important that the public sector can increase its ability to engage in those bottom-up policy processes, in equal footing with other stakeholders.

At the same time, enhanced cooperation is a means to ensure that in those areas where government is the appropriate policy-making organ, such policy-making draws on the knowledge and expertise of other stakeholders in order to improve the sources of information and the processes themselves, and also to minimize conflict between different policy layers.

Governments should also strengthen their contributions related to broadband access, public and private partnerships, promotion of IXPs and so on.

7. How can enhanced cooperation enable other stakeholders to carry out their roles and responsibilities?

It is important to stand out that Enhanced Cooperation processes are helpful building bridges, maintaining channels of communication, facilitating cooperative initiatives among stakeholders, establishing or evolving forums. There is no doubt about the benefit for all parties involved by helping to reduce the potential for conflicting or poorly thought out policy and by further establishing the legitimacy of stakeholder groups in their respective and appropriate roles.

The goals described above will only be achieved if those stakeholders, especially Governments, Civil Society and Private Sector from developing countries increase their ability to participate in the cooperative initiatives, not only by getting more knowledge and resources but also by improving their own coordination.

Capacity Building efforts are more important than ever.

8. What are the most appropriate mechanisms to fully implement enhanced cooperation as recognized in the Tunis Agenda, including on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and public policy issues associated with coordination and management of critical Internet resources?

The IGF has, over the last eight years, proved itself an important addition to the existing ecosystem of policy-making bodies and structures.

This network of open, multi-stakeholder, non-decision-making bodies (including events, mailing lists, websites and other forums) should be seen as the key element in effectively implementing enhanced cooperation.

Over the last few years, there has been increased importance of regional and national discussion. Latin American and Caribbean experience with LACIGF can be seen as a interesting example on how the regional interaction can be as important as the global stages

such as the IGF by providing new opportunities for stakeholders to interact and learn about each other's concerns and perspectives, at the regional level.

Also, International Public Organizations should keep their transparency and openness efforts in order to allow non-governmental entities, and individual users from the world to contribute in their processes.

9. What is the possible relationship between enhanced cooperation and the IGF?

Noted that the IGF is and should remain the key organ for furthering enhanced cooperation, subject to improvements and evolution that are in fact ongoing, this forum is defined by its status as a non-decision making, information sharing body. Its importance stems from the opportunities it provides for all Internet stakeholders to come together to discuss governance issues and attempt to find common ground and understanding.

The IGF and, especially, the regional and national processes will facilitate the development of these models and strategies through workshops, main room discussions, dynamic coalitions and corridor discussions. The improvement of all those national and regional discussions would contribute to creating an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles, as is established by paragraph 70 of the Tunis Agenda.

10. How can the role of developing countries be made more effective in global Internet governance?

The voice of developing countries in Internet governance is clearly linked to far greater levels of participation from developing country stakeholders. This presents numerous logistical, geographic and economic challenges, but the experience of the RIR communities offers some useful approaches to explore.

Recognising that any global structure is limited in its ability to engage all stakeholders, priority needs to be placed on fostering the bottom-up development of regional and national structures that can focus the specific concerns of stakeholders in those areas.

Availability of information, multilingualism, transparency and full remote participation for the multi-stakeholder processes such as the IGF but also for the Public International fora would allow participants from developing countries to build their capacity to engage with the key debates and processes.

11. What barriers remain for all stakeholders to fully participate in their respective roles in global Internet governance? How can these barriers best be overcome?

A distinction between barriers in terms of willingness and ability is of stakeholders to full engage with other Internet stakeholders is important.

In terms of willingness to engage, there has been a lot of improvement from the developing countries stakeholder, not only by Governments.

In terms of ability to engage, resources, knowledge and language barriers, are still a challenge for developing country stakeholders. Enhanced cooperation emphasizes the importance of all stakeholders having the opportunity to engage in Internet governance processes, but all stakeholders have a responsibility to make this a reality. As noted before "increasing the availability of information, multilingualism, transparency and full remote participation at the multi-stakeholder processes such as the IGF but also for the Public International fora" is not a task that needs to be done but developing countries only.

LACNIC has been fully committed since its creation to help the regional community with that challenge, not only to their own processes but also to other discussions. The training, capacity building, development oriented efforts described above are just a little example of that commitment.

12. What actions are needed to promote effective participation of all marginalised people in the global information society?

The first step to achieve effective participation of marginalized people Efforts to build open governance structures that recognize the challenges that remain for many people is to recognize the problem. Also, without promoting access to broadband connectivity to the 5-billon inhabitants that are not yet connected is impossible to think about effective participation.

With that said, there is a need to address these participation challenges in creative ways. No single strategy will address all of these challenges. Rather, an evolving collection of strategies will be necessary, including improved remote participation facilities, funding for travel by stakeholder group representatives, and broad organisational structures (like the ecosystem of IGF events) that facilitate the injection of specific issues and perspectives into Internet governance discussions.

13. How can enhanced cooperation address key issues toward global, social and economic development?

Enhanced cooperation offers the means to identify and more effectively address (though multi-stakeholder participation) the challenges facing Internet stakeholders in the developing world. By adopting strategies that bring stakeholders from different sectors and regions together, best practices can be more easily identified and solutions identified or adapted.

14. What is the role of various stakeholders in promoting the development of local language content?

There are many aspects related local development of networks: Keeping local traffic local, hosting local or regional content in the same region, and promoting local language content.

Many stakeholders have been committed with different aspects of local and regional development of the network, such as the establishment of Internet Exchange Points. LACNIC promoted since the beginning of its existence the IXPs thought its Napla program. Governments of the LAC region are also aware of the need for promoting IXPs.

Regarding local content, also the public sector of developing countries is aware of the importance of avoiding their local traffic to connect overseas, especially when that traffic is trying to find local content and some public private partnership shall be implemented.

Regarding local languages content, this element has little connection with the development of the Internet, being more related to cultural matters. Governments and Civil Society might evaluate this issue.

15. What are the international internet-related public policy issues that are of special relevance to developing countries?

The issues raised by IP address management, including limited access to IPv4 address space and the need to deploy IPv6, will potentially have significant impact on developing countries. As noted by the RIRs in many contexts, including the recent ITU WTPF-13, meeting these challenges will involve a range of policy solutions.

Other public policies issues can be identified:

- Promoting broadband universal access. Focus in how to reduce the costs for the final user.
- Promotion of local digital content industries.
- Reduction of International Connectivity Costs.
- Increasing the ability of all stakeholders, to participate in the Internet Governance Process thought Capacity Building initiatives.
- Enabling Internet to continue the growth preserving human rights.

- o How to guarantee Freedom of expression. Importance of net neutrality
- o Privacy. Challenges related to Internet Surveillance and to avoid the false dichotomy with Security.
- The balance between lack of Jurisdiction and risks for balkanization of the Internet.

16. What are the key issues to be addressed to promote the affordability of the Internet, in particular in developing countries and least developed countries?

Despite some references have been provided above, it is important to stand out the need of Public Private partnership in order to increase broadband connectivity, and also to recognize the existing asymmetries between one developing country to the other, or even in different regions of the same developing country. Promoting the affordability of the Internet in least developed countries will require, among other strategies:

- Broadband strategies at national level, including mobile broadband
- Regional coordination for access to broadband connections
- Providing access for remote and disadvantaged locations.
- Using and managing the radio-frequency spectrum to increase access
- Understanding the political, economic and technical challenges of installing IXPs and providing regional interconnection
- Understanding and taking actions regarding the challenges of IPv4 exhaustion and the need of IPv6 deployment
- · Invigorating the local digital content industry

17. What are the national capacities to be developed and modalities to be considered for national governments to develop Internet-related public policy with participation of all stakeholders?

Public sector engagement with and support for national and regional IGF events is an important first step for governments in developing good Internet-related public policy. Such events provide the chance for all stakeholders affected by national public policy to meet and share perspectives and concerns.

It is important, however, that the starting point of an IGF event be used to develop and implement forums, structures and mechanisms that can more directly refine and develop effective public policy. Many national governments have already had great success with such models, including multi-stakeholder task forces and advisory groups. One successful example would be Brazil with its Comité Gestor da Internet.

18. Are there other comments, or areas of concern, on enhanced cooperation you would like to submit?

-