

Timestamp

9/11/2013 10:19:34

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Yes

Please enter your contact details:

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1. Which stakeholder category do you belong to?

Government

If non-government, please indicate:

If non-government, please indicate if you are:

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

(a) Significance:

The process leading towards enhanced cooperation was one of the major outcomes of the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society and should be seen as an important part of the package agreement.

(b) Purpose:

The purpose of the concept was to describe the relationship between governments and other stakeholders in relation to Internet governance and, specifically, public policy issues pertaining to Internet governance. At the same time, it was clearly stated that governments should not be involved in day-to-day operational activities related to the Internet and its critical resources.

(c) Scope:

The scope of enhanced cooperation extends to all aspects of Internet governance according to the WGIG broad definition of Internet governance. This includes infrastructure development, the regulatory environment, spectrum allocation, technical standard development, enhancing freedom on and freedom of the Internet, including freedom of expression, promotion of all aspects of use of the Internet, prevention of misuse of Internet, insuring interoperability, and multilingualism, just mention a few.

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.

Enhanced cooperation is an ongoing process and it has been implemented with variable intensity. There are many excellent examples of the results of enhanced cooperation in different areas. At the same time, one can identify issues where progress could have been more substantive.

The organization of an annual multi-stakeholder dialogue at the international level and proliferation of such practices at the regional and national levels around the world should be considered as a successful manifestation of enhanced cooperation. Substantive multi-stakeholder participation at important intergovernmental conferences since 2005 should also be applauded. The evolution of ICANN's relationship with the U.S. government and the

increased role of the Government Advisory Committee within ICANN are also major results of enhanced cooperation.

At the same time, there has not been sufficient progress in identifying the scope of public policy issues, especially given that there is a public policy component in all important questions pertaining to the Internet. An attempt has been made by the ITU Council to create a list but the document hasn't been discussed and endorsed by other stakeholder groups. Hence, the concept may still have different interpretations by different stakeholder groups.

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

Public policies that ensure that the Internet evolves as a secure, open, free, interoperable, multilingual and trustworthy (from user perspective) communication and information system.

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

The most important responsibility of each stakeholder group is to demonstrate the will and determination in engaging with other stakeholders in addressing challenges that bring evolution of the Internet. Collaboration is a key in finding right answers to all questions pertaining to the future of the Internet.

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?

One needs to remember the context in which such formulation was adopted as part of the WSIS compromise. In 2005 ICANN had an agreement with the U.S. government and was asked to report annually on implementation of the provision of this agreement. Since then, the MoU has been replaced with a Letter of intent (2007) and Affirmation of Commitments (2010) which removes unilateral oversight of the U.S. government over ICANN. All governments are working on equal footing in the Government Advisory Committee.

Intergovernmental organizations, by definition, provide equal footing to all member states. Debates on Internet related issues are taking place in ITU, UNESCO, UN CSTD, UN regional Economic Commissions, UN GA and its subsidiary commissions, Council of Europe, and OECD.

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

As Internet governance covers wide range of issues and many of them are interlinked, enhanced cooperation allows all stakeholders to make well informed decisions with full understanding of the various perspectives and concerns of other stakeholders. Engagement, dialogue and the willingness to hear the concerns of others are important to enable all stakeholders to carry out their roles and responsibilities.

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?

Internet critical resources are managed in a collaborative way by number of organizations, including IETF, IAB, ICANN, RIRs, W3C, root server operators. Intergovernmental organizations such as ITU, UNESCO, OECD, as well as number of specific regional initiatives contribute to the safety and security of operations. ISOC plays important role in supporting IETF work and building Internet related capacity at the regional and national levels. This

cooperation should be preserved and developed in order to ensure the Internet develops as an open, free, multilingual and interoperable system.

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

IGF is a successful manifestation of enhanced cooperation. The proliferation of IGFs at the regional and national level proves its usefulness and the need for systematic multi-stakeholder engagement.

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

Developing countries have to define Internet governance as one of the policy priorities and build the necessary capacity to contribute to the international debate. Intergovernmental organizations can play a role in this respect in cooperation with industry organizations.

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?

Acceptance of the Internet multi-stakeholder governance model by some governments remains a serious obstacle to enhanced cooperation. As the Internet develops in an open, dynamic and creative manner (which is not necessarily result of the governmental action), it is unimaginable that the traditional regulatory framework would be able to address and resolve all challenges that are linked with the development and use of the Internet. Political willingness to accept an emerging multi-stakeholder policy making framework is needed for countries to fully participate in their respective roles in global Internet governance.

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

Appropriate public policies including sufficient fund allocation is needed to build an inclusive information society. Those would include development of websites, portals, databases and other e-services adapted for marginalized groups and people with disabilities, allowing them not only access information by using the assistive technologies, but also enabling them to create their own content. Likewise, such actions should concentrate on the development of educational resources for people with disabilities.

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

Enhanced cooperation can facilitate the development of the Internet as a free, open, multilingual, interoperable, secure and trustworthy system that drives socio-economic development and brings unprecedented opportunities in all spheres of human social and economic life.

Already existing applications in education, health, environment, media, and the economy proves the enormous potential of the Internet and Internet based services and applications.

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

Local language and local content are important elements of digital inclusion. A UNESCO, OECD and ISOC study on the economic aspects of local content creation came to the conclusion that there is a positive correlation between local Internet infrastructure and content development.

IAB, IETF, ICANN and individual Internet pioneers have contributed to the development of a multilingual Internet, including Internationalized Domain Names and e-mail protocol

supporting non-ASCII characters just to mention two. Governments should create an enabling environment that leads to individual creativity and free flow of information and ideas.

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

Developing countries are the best placed to answer this question. Addressing multi-faceted issues related to Internet policy development, are of importance, drawing fully on local sources of knowledge and expertise.

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?

The WSIS outcome document provides clear guidance to this question.

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?

Establishment of a National framework in which all stakeholders can engage and seek answers to emerging challenges is a necessary first step. International and Intergovernmental organizations can assist national governments in this task. To maximize the benefits of the Internet and Internet-related public policies may simultaneously be accompanied with measures to nourish user confidence and improve cybersecurity.

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

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