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Yes

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1. Which stakeholder category do you belong to?

Non-Government

If non-government, please indicate:

Business community

If non-government, please indicate if you are:

Non-profit partnership

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

Increased international cooperation of all stakeholders is the only way to ensure the transparent and democratic Internet governance.

The purpose of enhanced cooperation is promote the further development of Internet according to its dynamic nature, to maximize the use of all the opportunities the Internet can give, and to promote national technological development.

The scope of cooperation should be as large as possible as Internet governance is not limited to technical field and encompasses policy, economic and public issues.

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.

For now enhanced cooperation has been implemented mostly at an intergovernmental level. World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) held in Dubai in December 2012 has shown that policy-making decisions about Internet governance are still the prerogative of national governments. This means that the important role of private and public sectors is underestimated and limited to the opinion instead of direct influence.

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

The international public policy issues include "governance of the Internet" (technical and infrastructure standards and policies) and "governance on the Internet" (the whole range of content policies). To guarantee the relevant treatment of different technical and content issues the public policy should comply with fundamental principles of freedom of information and other human rights and use collaborative and inclusive mechanisms to keep the Internet as the unique environment for innovation, competition and investment.

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

The roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders should be distributed in compliance of the relevant interests. The information security and cyber-crime issues are to be addressed at the intergovernmental. The private sector is the best to suggest advances solutions to different problems concerning technological and economic development. The role of civil society in the virtual environment is to protect and preserve human and civil rights. A special mission of academic and scientific communities consists in promoting and ensuring the shift from information to knowledge society, alerting each time when the political and economic interests do undermine moral, cultural and democratic values.

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?

It is possible to reach the equality of governmental participation and influence within the enhanced cooperation only on the basis of different forms of coordination and integration. World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and Internet Governance Forum (IGF) represent nowadays the main platforms for enhancing international cooperation to define the future development of the Internet. At the same time it should be stressed that those platforms fit especially to reveal the main weaknesses and controversial debate topics in the field of cooperation and reach the framework consensus. To ensure the systematic cooperation and real actions to treat the wide scope of concrete problems governments need to develop new forms of flexible cooperation on regional and international grounds.

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

The Internet governance should be based on the Multistakeholder Model and ensure its legitimacy and effectiveness. As the history of democratic societies teaches us legitimacy and accountability could be guaranteed only by means of open and transparent decision-making process. One of the crucial tasks is to make state and business actors accountable to the interests of the public. To fulfill this task it should be given powers and legitimate means to intervene in the decision-making and solution implementation process to the civil society actors.

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?

8. No new appropriate mechanisms seem to have emerged to fully implement enhanced cooperation since the adoption of the Tunis Agenda. That said, the existing ones need to be revisited to assess their viability, efficacy and proportionality. For example, it might be appropriate to review the IGF mandate to the extent of whether debate should result in specific recommendations which in turn should be examined at some later point of time for their realism and practicability, with an unsophisticated but very practical set of benchmarks established with regard to each specific public policy issue associated with coordination and management of critical Internet resources.

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

With reference to para. 8, that may further promote and solidify the relationship between enhanced cooperation and the IGF as mutually complementary activities, each taking stock of each other and propelling each other's advancement on the conceptual and organizational levels, allowing, at the same time, periodical reviews of respective activities underway.

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

While it is commonly recognized that developing nations must have their voice heard in global Internet governance fora, it is hard to concoct any other activities to complement the existing ones, which can be classified into awareness-raising and educational.

Specifically, the IGF and its local scions form the prime vehicle to raise awareness and “spread the word”, while the European Summer School for Internet Governance, the Latin American School for Internet Governance and the likes help bolster human capacity and level of expertise. Such efforts are in need for greater coordination, though, and more exercise and funding should be made available from the private sector, international organizations, such as OECD, IBRD, etc., and “I” organizations, such as ISOC, ICANN, etc., to replicate and localize this practice and make it ubiquitous and affordable throughout the developing countries. Such concerted and consistent actions would undoubtedly increase effectiveness of the developing countries’ participation in global Internet governance.

As well, it would be appropriate to review international development organizations’ record to date in regard to delivery of technical aid to put forward model respective projects in developing countries on the one hand, to bolster the said countries capacity in respect to articulation of their concrete needs on the other hand, and to secure organizational arrangements to have them shape local, country-specific projects in the area of ICT and Internet development

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?

Citing the list of barriers for all the stakeholders to fully participate in their respective roles in global IG seems to be a daunting exercise by its scope; however, there exist some common obstacles worth referring to in the context of the present document:

- Capacity-wise, there still exists a major barrier formed by insufficient capacity of stakeholders to engage in IG in accordance with the Geneva principles of multilateralism, transparency and democracy ;
- Conceptually, the stakeholders have so far fallen short of visualizing their respective roles – though regularly repeated as a main rationale for each stakeholder group’s actions, the mantra of multistakeholderism is construed in different, and sometimes, polar, ways;
- Clearly, in many parts of the world, civil society and user community remain nascent, thus not being capable of playing their respective roles. This upsets the balance of forces between different stakeholders and, in tandem with some governments’ strive to reaffirm their mandate of a “more-equal-than-other” stakeholder, results in the former groups abandonment of the IG arena. Academia, likewise have underperformed in some countries, which further aggravates the situation. The above once again proves an urgent need for a consistent global capacity-building program for these lagging constituencies.

Last but not least, there often exists the language barrier which impedes both their awareness of local needs and their formulation on the national level.

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

Providing access to the Internet and education. Development of a regional backbone infrastructure, regional networks of access points to the network and the establishment of appropriate regional projects designed to connect networks in neighboring countries and in economically disadvantaged regions.

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

Through partnerships where appropriate government and other stakeholders should promote education in the use of ICT by developing national strategies for ICT in education and training and the provision of adequate resources.

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

From the public policy perspective, clearly, it is Governments that have an upper hand as far as local-language content, and to this effect they should promote public e-initiatives, including, but not limited to, e-education, e-government, etc. which should become drivers for localized content development in a given country. As to other stakeholders, they can only play their complementary respective roles, provided Governments enable their contribution through a sound legal framework.

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

The need to maximize the participation of developing countries in decision-making regarding the management of the use of internet, which should reflect their interests and enhance their participation in the development.

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?

Consistent overcome of the "digital gap", increasing national capacities and facilitating the development of national technology.

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?

To ensure a maximum possible degree of development of the national government's capacities with regard to development Internet-related public policies it would be appropriate to consider: encouragement of creation and an IG academic research network and development of exchange programs with a special emphasis on basic and advanced training in IG for (senior) policy makers; development of special IG classes as a part of the university and high-school curricula; promotion and widespread of IGF as a platform for a nationwide dialogue on critical IG issues; engaging civil society organizations to mobilize support of such initiatives on a grass-root level by running awareness-raising campaigns; and to crown all this, tasking a reputable international organization to collect and review best practices and create a readily available multilingual free data pool under its auspices for all the nations to use. The modalities of the process should imply good faith, all-inclusiveness, commitment, and collaboration.

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

No.