

**THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT**

**MEETING ON ENHANCED COOPERATION ON PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES
PERTAINING TO THE INTERNET**

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Contribution by

ICC BASIS

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The views presented here are the contributor's and do not necessarily reflect the views and the position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

ICC BASIS intervention at CSTD Consultation on enhanced cooperation, 18 May 2012, Geneva

Delivered by Ayesha Hassan, ICC BASIS

Thank you Chair.

My name is Ayesha Hassan. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute today on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce and its Business Action to Support the Information Society initiative. ICC BASIS includes companies and business associations from across industry sectors and geographies and sizes and serving users and customers globally.

Any actions that are taken should be guided by the Tunis agenda and build upon the work on enhanced cooperation initiated by the UN Secretary General. Enhanced cooperation is more than just intergovernmental relationships. The Tunis agenda clearly refers to greater cooperation among existing organizations, not the creation of new entities or processes. It references the importance of existing institutions and organizations engaged in Internet governance to improve their interactions and cooperation across and between such organizations/institutions.

Over the last 6 years, the UN Secretary General has developed a well established process for enhanced cooperation through outreach to relevant UN agencies and also relevant multistakeholder and technical organizations, including all stakeholders. We welcome the thoughts shared today on how things have evolved and how there are now more living examples of multistakeholder processes.

We concur with previous speakers who emphasized that the Internet , its usage and the Internet governance landscape have evolved since the WSIS in Tunis in 2006. This is important to remember as we look at enhanced cooperation today. Focusing on the definition of enhanced cooperation in the abstract would be counter-productive and would not be informed by the complex reality of what is happening and the evolutions since Tunis.

Many examples of enhanced cooperation have been highlighted today by several governments and speakers. The IGF, the WSIS action lines Forum and many other forums have catalysed enhanced cooperation efforts. It is a fact. Our common goal should be to further the assessment and discussion bearing in mind the multistakeholder word and spirit of the Tunis agenda—the role of all stakeholders is woven into all aspects of it. In addition, the evolutions since 2006 underscore the critical role of cooperation between stakeholders to accomplish these goals.

