

**REPORT OF THE
COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL INTERNET-RELATED
PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES**

1. Introduction

On behalf of the Secretary-General, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, Director, TSB, [welcomed the participants](#) to the third meeting of the CWG-Internet. He highlighted that this meeting comes at a time when Internet governance is very much under the spotlight globally. Mr. Johnson presented the results of the series of informal consultations called [“the Secretary-General’s Open Talks”](#) on international Internet public policy, focusing on the role of governments in the multistakeholder model of Internet Governance. As the key Group within ITU for International Internet-related public policy issues, the CWG was encouraged to formulate outputs that could guide these further discussions in the lead up to the Plenipotentiary conference.

The Chairman thanked the Directors of the TSB, BDT and BR for their participation in the meeting. On behalf of the Group, the Chairman thanked all the stakeholders who actively contributed to the online open consultations and encouraged all Member States to take the received input into account in the preparation of their contributions to the Group. The Chairman appreciated the contributions from respective Member States and noted the instruction from Council 2013 for the CWG to discuss the topic of the role of governments in the multistakeholder model of Internet governance.

2. Summary of Contributions

The contributions could be summarized as follows.

2.1 Contribution WG-Internet 3/2 from Sudan: “National IPv6 Training Center”

The Sudanese telecom regulatory authority, National Telecom Corp. (NTC), through the Sudanese IPv6 task force, has established a not-for-profit IPv6 training center with the help of the National Advanced IPv6 Centre from USM Malaysia. Twelve 5-day training sessions have been held with 182 participants being certified as IPv6 engineers.

With reference to WTSA-08 Res. 64 and other opinions and resolutions related to capacity building for the deployment of IPv6, NTC is requesting ITU to cover the costs of an additional 12 training sessions for participants from the MENA region.

2.2 Contribution WG-Internet 3/3 from the United Kingdom: “UK Paper on the Roles of Governments in Internet Governance”

The role of governments has become a key topic in global discussions on Internet governance. This paper sets out the United Kingdom’s view, arguing that the issue should be considered in a broad context. The roles of government are to empower Internet users, ensure a fair and consistent domestic legal framework, foster a robust global Internet infrastructure, and support and develop multi-stakeholder processes. Governments need to build partnerships in order to achieve public policy goals and to secure the economic and social benefits of the internet.

2.3 Contribution WG-Internet 3/4 from the Russian Federation: “Proposals on the Activities of CWG on Internet”

The Russian Federation proposes that the CWG contribute to the summary report on actions and achievements related to Res. 102 which will be submitted to PP-14. In particular, the CWG should elaborate reports containing the experiences and approaches of different countries related to: (a) the role of governments in Internet governance; and (b) approaches to and principles of Internet governance, particularly with regard to international public policy regarding the Internet. The CWG should also prepare proposals to the MPP based on developed documents related to those Action Lines for which ITU is the sole coordinator (C2, C5 and C6).

2.4 Contribution WG-Internet 3/7 from Saudi Arabia: “Contribution on the Role of Governments in Internet Governance”

Paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda and UNGA Resolution 67/195 are clear about the role of governments in the multi-stakeholder process of Internet governance. Governments have been unable to undertake their agreed role, primarily due to the fact that an enhanced cooperation mechanism, which is needed to enable this role, has never been operationalized. Saudi Arabia encourages all governments to undertake their full responsibilities as part of the multi-stakeholder model, in all forums and processes, and strongly encourages the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation to develop sound recommendations on operationalization of enhanced cooperation processes for international public policy development.

2.5 Contribution WG-Internet 3/9 from Japan: “National Public Policy Experiences with Respect to the Internet”

Japan highlights its national public policy experiences with respect to its multistakeholder approach to internet-related public policy making. Japan considers that free flow of information should be ensured to address international Internet-related public policy issues and highlights the principles it adopts in this regard. In accordance with the ideas above, the

government of Japan proposes that the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues share best practices on examples of governments to support each stakeholder's voluntary actions.

2.6 Contribution WG-Internet 3/5 from the USA: "Resource Roadmap to the Council Resolution 1305 and Openness of CWG IIRPPI"

The United States notes that the comments reflect that technical and policy discussions related to Internet public policy issues should recognize the roles and responsibilities of all relevant and interested stakeholders. The United States agrees with commenters who note that Internet-related public policy issues should be discussed in a multi-stakeholder environment. This allows all stakeholders to bring in unique perspectives they may have each in their respective roles and responsibilities.

The United States therefore proposes that the CWG request, in its final report to the Council, that the Council officially request PP-14 to consider permitting the CWG to conduct its meetings and deliberations in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, enabling participation by all stakeholders and ensuring that documents are freely accessible. Further, the CWG should undertake a study to develop an informational resource roadmap to serve as a companion to Res. 1305 documenting other entities and their roles and responsibilities in Internet-related public policy issues.

2.7 Contribution WG-Internet 3/8 from Saudi Arabia: "Policy Statements on the Issues in the Open Consultation"

Saudi Arabia encourages all Member States to consider their positions on the issues in the open consultation, taking into account the 32 responses, and to prepare proposed policy statements on these three issues for discussion at the next meeting of the CWG.

3. Discussions

The CWG examined the various contributions which were appreciated by the Group.

3.1 Contribution WG-Internet 3/2 from Sudan: "National IPv6 Training Center"

1. Sudan could not be present at the meeting, and expressed concerns that the tools provided for remote participation were not accessible. The following statement from Sudan was requested to be included in the report and was read by the Chairman on Sudan's request.

"The Sudanese contribution was not presented at the meeting because the online virtual meeting tool used by the ITU is not available from Sudan."

Adobe Connect among other Web Services are blocked in Sudan and some other countries due to the US Sanction. This discriminatory access affects the Sudanese participation on ITU and many other important events worldwide.

Sudan submits several complaints to the ITU but they even didn't get any reply from the US part. It's very clear that Internet is still managed by a single administration, every things is controlled by US corporations which called Internet Stockholders. Internet Stockholders should include all individuals worldwide regardless of the differences in political views.

This discriminatory access is totally destroyed any arguments about Internet Eco-system, the bottom up policy development processes, multi-stakeholders co operations, open access and non-discriminatory access, and other catchwords used.

Sudan ask the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet) to support our request to the ITU Secretary General to adopt ICT support tools and communication platform that not operate under US or other administration, and not restrict the accessibility of ITU Member States."

2. The Group noted the request contained in the contribution and the request is being forwarded to the BDT for further action as appropriate. In this regard, Sudan was also encouraged to directly approach the BDT for assistance.

3.2 Contribution WG-Internet 3/3 from the United Kingdom: "UK Paper on the Roles of Governments in Internet Governance"

1. Some delegates were of the view that the role of governments highlighted in the document reflects their own views in this regard and could form a basis for further discussion on the topic of the role of governments.
2. Some raised the point that while the principles are appropriate at the national level, it was unclear as to how the principles listed could be implemented at the international level.

3.3 Contribution WG-Internet 3/4 from the Russian Federation: "Proposals on the Activities of CWG on Internet"

1. On the issue of submitting an input to the WSIS+10 MPP, some raised concerns of duplications in the work of the CWG and the WSIS +10 MPP process; and some suggested that an information document could be provided to the MPP if necessary.

3.4 Contribution WG-Internet 3/7 from Saudi Arabia: “Contribution on the Role of Governments in Internet Governance”

1. Some delegates highlighted that the role of the governments is defined in the Tunis Agenda and it was the implementation of this role that required further action. In this regard it was emphasized by some others that they believe that the role of governments should be viewed in conjunction with the role of other stakeholders.
2. Some delegates were of the view that the topic of enhanced cooperation is currently under discussion at the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation and that the Group should be allowed to complete its work so that the CWG can benefit from it. In this regard, it was stated that the CWG has its own mandates and the CSTD WGEC has a specific mandates on enhanced cooperation.

3.5 Contribution WG-Internet 3/5 from the USA: “Resource Roadmap to the Council Resolution 1305 and Openness of CWG IIRPPI”

1. Some delegates supported the recommendations contained in the proposal for opening up participation and documentation of the Group to all stakeholders. They were of the view that this would enable all stakeholders to bring their own unique perspectives based on their unique roles and responsibilities; and would improve the functioning of the Group and also bring openness and transparency in the ITU process.
2. Some others were of the view that this was a forum for governments to discuss international internet-related public policy issues, and also pointed out the process is already sufficiently open and transparent, as an open consultation process was in place to consult with all stakeholders, and that Member States could be more inclusive and include any stakeholder in their delegation.
3. A view was expressed by some that it would be useful to open the Group to all stakeholders however it was concluded that the participation and modalities of the Group is an issue within the mandate of the Plenipotentiary Conference.
4. Some supported the creation of a resource roadmap to reflect the roles of various entities in the items listed in Council 2009 Res. 1305 Annex 1. Some others noted that this work was being undertaken by the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation and the Group could benefit from the conclusion of this work.

3.6 Contribution WG-Internet 3/9 from Japan

1. The Group agreed that such sharing of national experiences would be very beneficial as a reference to the other Member States in their own efforts. The Group also noted the previous contributions from Brazil and Rwanda on their own experiences.

2. It was suggested that the Group should serve as a repository for sharing of national experiences and best practices and encouraged other Member States to share their own experiences.

3.7 Contribution WG-Internet 3/8 from Saudi Arabia: “Policy Statements on the Issues in the Open Consultation”

1. In responding to a request for clarification, it was indicated that the outcome of the CWG on matters related to the three issues already under open consultation would be reflected in the report of the Group.

4. Conclusion and Actions

- 4.1 The Group noted the request contained in the Sudanese contribution WG-Internet 3/2 and the request is being forwarded to the BDT for further action as appropriate. In this regard, Sudan was also encouraged to directly approach the BDT for assistance.
- 4.2 Member States are encouraged to submit their national public policy experiences with respect to the Internet so that a repository of national experiences can be established for the benefit of all Member States.
- 4.3 The CWG approved the following question to be sent to all ITU Member States for their response.

"Recognizing the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Council Resolution 1305 Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council Working Group on International Internet Related Public Policy invites Member States to provide their position on following question:

Q1. What actions have been undertaken or to be undertaken by governments in relations to each of the international Internet-related public policy issues identified in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305 (adopted by Council 2009 at the seventh Plenary Meeting)?"

In this regard, ITU Secretariat is asked to:

1. Send a Circular letter to all ITU Member States informing them about the questionnaire, and also invite Member States to consult wide with their stakeholders in the formulation of their responses. Responses are solicited by 31 January, 2014.
2. Compile the responses received in a convenient format, without edits, for the benefit of the Group.

3. The information on the questionnaire will be made publically available on the ITU website.

The CWG will hold an open multistakeholder consultation on the role of governments immediately after its next meeting in March 2014, based on contributions by Member States.

- 4.4 The report of the CWG meeting will be forwarded to the WSIS+10 Multistakeholder Preparatory Process (MPP) for information, and invites Member States to contribute to the MPP taking into consideration the reports of the CWG meetings.

5. Summary of the Meeting

- 5.1 The report of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues was approved by the CWG and was posted on the CWG website (<http://www.itu.int/council/groups/CWG-Internet/index.html>).
- 5.2 On behalf of the Secretary-General, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, Director, TSB, [thanked](#) the Chairman for his able leadership and the delegates for their participation, and their efforts to move forward on the sensitive issue of the role of governments. He noted that the next 12 months will be intense, and this topic will be high on the agenda at various events over the next 12 months. Mr. Johnson hoped that the consultations and report of the Group will help Member States to understand and respect each other's views. He emphasized that having this better understanding will help to build trust and partnerships between governments as well as other stakeholders and will encourage the compromises that will be necessary to achieve consensus.
- 5.3 In closing, the Chairman thanked all the ITU Member States who made contributions and participated in the work of the CWG, Ms. Natalia Timofeeva from the Russian Federation for ably leading the informal drafting group, the ITU elected officials, especially Mr. Malcolm Johnson, and the Secretariat for their efficient assistance during the meeting.

Chairman: Eng. Majed M. ALMAZYED (Saudi Arabia)