February 4, 2014

**Respond to CWG-Internet**

**Japan**

**Introduction:**

The Internet has developed through participation of multi-stakeholders. Therefore, for further development of the Internet, the government of Japan believes that the multi-stakeholder approach, including not only the Member States of ITU but also participation from private sector, civil society, technical and academic communities, and other intergovernmental and international organizations, is the best way to consider the international Internet-related public policy issues.

In addition, free flow of information is indispensable so that all users can enjoy the maximum benefits of the Internet, and the Internet can continue to contribute to social and economic development. Therefore, Japan considers that free flow of information should be ensured to address international Internet-related public policy issues.

To deal with the issues on the Internet, the government of Japan thinks that observing the following points is important:

* To respect voluntary actions made by each stakeholder, such as establishing voluntary guidelines and promoting collaboration among businesses
* To establish frameworks to promote each stakeholder’s voluntary actions under the cooperation of government and the private sector etc.

To advance those measures, the following principles should be observed:

* No excessive intervention by governments;
* To ensure free flow of information; and
* Not to lead to regulations on contents and infringement of privacy

One of the outstanding characteristics of the Internet is its 'borderlessness', which gives extraordinary ability to the Internet. We support the open and bottom-up multi-stakeholder model so that the Internet continues to evolve and equally connects every corner of the world.

If intergovernmental organizations and/or national governments have “too much” influence to the public policy and technical development by means of international treaties and/or national laws/regulations, the speed of growth and development of the Internet would be seriously ruined. Governments need to avoid such kind of situation, and encourage to support private sector initiatives.

Based on that, governments should continuously support voluntary actions by multi-stakeholders including the private sector.

For example, governments could share best practices on examples made by governments to support each stakeholder’s voluntary actions.

The government of Japan is pleased to have the opportunity to respond to the CWG Internet Questionnaire. We support a multi-stakeholder approach, so we made our input following stakeholders consultation around in Japan.

**Question: 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?**

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|  | **Public Policy Issues** | **Actions undertaken by governments** | **Actions to be undertaken by governments** | **Additional Comments** |
| 1 | Multilingualization of the Internet Including [Internationalized (multilingual) Domain Names](http://www.itu.int/publ/T-RES/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-RES-T.48-2008) | Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) in ICANN has contributed from the perspective of universal connectivity, security/stability, robust development, transparency and non-discriminatory in order to facilitate the implementation of internationalized domain names through advising IDN ccTLD Policies and so on.  At this stage, 26 IDN ccTLDs are delegated into the root zone. | Governments should continuously contribute from the perspective of universal connectivity, security/stability, robust development, transparency and non-discriminatory through participating in ICANN/GAC for further implementation of internationalized domain names.  And also, governments are encouraged to be boosters of IDNs by using IDNs for their own websites etc.  Multilingualization of the Internet has been well developed by R&D, establishment of standards and formulation of policies led by private-sector-based initiatives so these initiatives should be maintained.  But still now, there are not enough applications for IDNs. So all stakeholders including governments are encouraged to promote IDN-aware applications. |  |
| 2 | International Internet Connectivity | International Internet Connectivity is based on negotiated deals between operators. | International Internet Connectivity should continuously be decided by negotiated deals between operators as before. |  |
| 3 | International public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses | GAC in ICANN has contributed to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses, from the perspective of universal connectivity, security/stability, robust development, transparency and non-discriminatory in multi-stakeholder model.  For example, GAC advised to ICANN Board on new gTLD applications, which potentially violate national law and improvement of Accountability and Transparency of ICANN. | As before, governments should contribute to considerations on operation and management of Internet resources, from the perspective of universal connectivity, security/stability, robust development, transparency and non-discriminatory, through participation of ICANN/GAC, in the multi-stakeholder system, as a stakeholder of the Internet. | Regarding domain names and IP addresses, we’ve already had existing mechanisms, such as ICANN and RIR, led by the private sector to consider those policies.  Since the beginning of the Internet, as it develops, those mechanisms have gradually been established and have been operated favorably.  These mechanisms should be continuously maintained to consider policies on organizations on identifers of the Internet which globally spreads.  As before, governments should respect the mechanisms led by the private sector to determine policies and should engage in the mechanisms as a member of the multi-stakeholders of the Internet. |
| 4 | The security, safety, continuity, sustainability, and robustness of the Internet | The government of Japan has undertaken various activities on security in the field of telecommunications such as establishment of a safe network environment, promotion of R&D, raising awareness of users and the promotion of international cooperation. under the initiative of headquarters for overall coordination on security policies. | Governments will continue to undertake these activities on security in the field of telecommunications under the initiative of the headquarters. | As the Internet rapidly grows and changes, demands on security and robustness of the Internet also grow. So, technologies and services should follow the movement of the Internet and should continuously evolve themselves.  Therefore, regarding security, sustainability and robustness of the Internet, technology community, which engages in technological development, standardization and operations, has consistently tackled those issues and has supported explosive expansion of the Internet.  Those efforts will also bring great achievements in the future too hence these issues should continuously be left to the technology community.  When the term "security" is used as a concept, the term includes many notions and tends to be multi-sense and ambiguous. Because of this ambiguity, constructive discussions have not been made.  Therefore, regarding discussions on the security and safety on the Internet-related public international policy, first of all, we should shed light on detailed items on security and analyse them, then carefully discuss them to determine proper policies. |
| 5 | Combating Cybercrime | The government of Japan concluded the convention on cybercrime (Budapest convention) in July 2012. Based on this convention, the government is to correspond with cybercrimes.  Besides, the government of Japan has established basic frameworks for this issue. Also the government has promoted voluntary actions taken by multi-stakeholders.  For example, to prevent illegal accesses, the government of Japan takes the following actions:   * Establishment of domestic law (Act on the Prohibition of Unauthorized Computer Access) | The government of Japan will continuously observe the convention to correspond with cybercrimes. The government of Japan will also continuously establish basic frameworks for this issue and promote voluntary actions by multi-stakeholders. |  |
| 6 | Dealing effectively with spam | The government of Japan has established basic frameworks for this issue. Then the government has promoted voluntary actions taken by multi-stakeholders.  For example, the government of Japan has undertaken several activities:   * The Act on Regulation of the Transmission of Specified Electronic Mail (the Anti-Spam Law) has been enforced in 2002. * The opt-out regulation was amended to the opt-in regulation in 2008. * Sharing information on spam with other country’s governments. * Recommendation of introduction of technical measures to prevent transmission and reception of spam. | Governments should steadily implement the national legal frameworks and to share information, knowledge and best practices with other countries.  More than 90% of spam in Japan comes from overseas, and it’s difficult to solve this issue in only one country. So international cooperation on anti-spam measures should be promoted. It is important that governments and public sectors from all countries have a meeting in a multi-lateral framework(ex. London Action Plan). |  |
| 7 | Issues pertaining to the use and misuse of the Internet | The government of Japan has established basic frameworks for this issue and the government has promoted voluntary actions taken by multi-stakeholders.  For example, Inviting Internet users’ attention on these issues:  Regarding illegal access on net banking, the government of Japan requested cooperation for telecom-operators associations to announce to their users to take basic anti-virus measures.  For example:   * The government of Japan participates in private-led voluntary meetings on measures against goods violating intellectual properties, as an observer. | Regarding judging the legality of specific Internet usages, governments should well organize technological aspects of the legality and judge whether those usages are legal or not according to existing laws.  Therefore, regarding the legality, governments should develop national frameworks that can properly judge their legality through multi-stakeholder consultations. |  |
| 8 | Availability, affordability, reliability, and quality of service, especially in the developing world | The government of Japan has undertaken to conduct ODA projects in the field of ICT, such as technical cooperation and establishment of ICT infrastructure and to implement international cooperation, such as capacity building, best practice sharing, and cooperation towards literacy improvement and awareness-raising activities, in cooperation with other stakeholders, to developing countries. | For the affordability of the Internet, governments are encouraged to support the reduction of prices for ICT networks, and services should be evolved by the further liberalization of the telecommunications market, enhancement of competition, and promotion of investment.  Taking account of the recent increase in penetration of mobile communications in developing countries, it is effective to implement policies that realize broadband communications with mobile communications and expand mobile services corresponding to broadband mobile communications. |  |
| 9 | Contributing to capacity building for Internet governance in developing countries | The government of Japan has implemented ODA projects regarding human resource development in the field of ICT. The government also has implemented international cooperation, such as capacity building, best practice sharing, and cooperation towards literacy improvement and awareness-raising activities, in cooperation with other stakeholders, to developing countries. | The government will continuously implement international cooperation, such as capacity building, best practice sharing, and cooperation towards literacy improvement and awareness-raising activities, in cooperation with other stakeholders, to developing countries.  Recently, ways to learn without charges are increasing on the Internet. For example websites like the “MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses)” are expected to bring a new opportunity to learn for developing countries. It would be effective for governments to offer information and support implementation on these helpful mechanisms through multi stakeholder model. |  |
| 10 | Developmental aspects of the Internet | The Internet has been developing smoothly under private initiative in Japan.  The Internet community in the private sector has been conducted continuously support activities to the community in developing countries since early days of the Internet, and governmental assistance to developing countries have also brought many good results. | It is indispensable to maintain the multi-stakeholder approach for the Internet to continue contributing to economic growth and innovation in the future.  In order to promote further free flow of information on the global Internet and to promote economic development that will be brought by free flow of information, governments and the private sector should promote their support activities and they should implement more effective supports through their mutual collaboration. | We suppose that various problems related to the Internet may occur in the future. Under this assumption, governments should discuss the role of both private sectors and governments, taking into consideration of the fact that many issues had been solved mainly by private sectors. |
| 11 | Respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data | The government of Japan has established basic frameworks for this issue and the government has promoted voluntary actions taken by multi-stakeholders.  For example, as smartphones diffuse, applications to extract user information illegally increase. The government of Japan established a study group to consider ensuring appropriate handling of user information through smartphones.  The study group established a report ‘Smart Phone Initiative (SPI)’ which recommended to　establish privacy policies for each application.  Then the group established another recommendation, ‘Smart Phone Initiative II (SPI II)’ in which mechanisms to validate applications by third parties should be promoted by private sector’s initiative. | The government of Japan is expected to follow-up actions on SPI and SPI II.  For example, private and public sectors will work together to establish and announce privacy policies for each application and periodically examine the situations of those establishment and announcement. In addition, the government of Japan will conduct demonstration experiments to find out what technological challenges exist for establishing private-sector-driven mechanisms to validate applications by third parties. |  |
| 12 | Protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation | The government of Japan has established basic frameworks for this issue and the government has promoted voluntary actions taken by multi-stakeholders.  For example, to improve Internet literacy in young people, the government of Japan intends to uncover the actual state of the Internet literacy. To that end, Japan develops an indicator (Internet literacy Assessment indicator for Students), conducts tests and utilizes their results for educational activities to improve literacy.  In addition, the government of Japan supports several voluntary actions implemented by the private sector:  For example,   * The government of Japan established “Act on Development of an Environment that Provides Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People” in order to support private sector’s voluntary actions and promote diffusion of filtering technologies. * The government of Japan participates in private-led voluntary meetings on measures to prevent the distribution of child pornography　(ICSA oversight committee), as an observer. | As basic principles, governments should review the implementation situation of past policies and establish basic frameworks and promote voluntary actions by multi-stakeholders.  So, governments should continuously implement programs on online youth protection. |  |