

## GAC information document

### ITU Secretariat clarification on:

#### **INFORMATION DOCUMENT: INTERNET SOCIETY COMMENTS ON ITU 2009 COUNCIL DOCUMENTS 29, 49 AND INF/10**

ITU Council documents are not public documents and so the so called "factual errors" referred to in ISOC's information document therefore necessitate this clarification.

As a Sector Member of ITU, ISOC has full access to all ITU documents and to the webcast of ITU Council discussions. The misinterpretations in the ISOC document should not therefore have arisen.

The attention of GAC is drawn to the following statements in the ISOC document in particular:

1. "the Director of ITU-T (TSB) is recommending that the ITU take steps to become a Regional Internet Registry".

**Clarification:** This is untrue. The recommendation of Director TSB was to establish a group to further study various issues related to IPv6 that have been raised by Member States and resulted in the adoption of Resolution 64 at the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly in 2008 (WTSA-08). The recommendation was approved by ITU Council 2009 meeting 20-30 October 2009.

2. "The posted ITU officials' documents recommend that the ITU would be a source of addresses for developing countries, in addition to the existing RIRs".

**Clarification:** This is untrue as explained above.

3. "It is unclear which developing countries they are referring to".

**Clarification:** As an ITU Sector Member, and participant at WTSA-08 which adopted without reservation Resolution 64, ISOC can identify which Member States have made such proposals.

4. "The documents posted by officials state that the ITU believes that users of IP addresses could benefit by introducing competition".

**Clarification:** There seems to be an unfortunate tendency by ISOC to take statements contained in studies, or statements made by individual ITU Member States, to represent an ITU "belief", proposal, or position. This occurs throughout the ISOC document. ISOC should be aware that ITU has a membership of 191 governments and over 700 private sector entities and such statements can not be attributed to the whole ITU organization and its membership (which includes ISOC itself).

5. "Earlier this year, several Member States complained because they had not commissioned the NAV-6 work or approved it, and the ITU dissociated itself from the study"

**Clarification:** The ITU Secretariat did not receive any such complaints. ITU has not yet considered the study. This is the reason for establishing the new group referred to above.

6. "TSB-led initiative at Council 2009 is yet another step in the assault on the Internet's operational institutions which has been ongoing since the World Summit on the Information Society".

**Clarification:** Council Document C09/29 and INF/10 was produced pursuant to WTSA Resolution 64, and C09/49 was produced pursuant to ITU Plenipotentiary Resolutions 101, 102, and 133. Document C09/29 was not a TSB initiative, it was a TSB response to an explicit instruction from the ITU membership. The document is a response to concerns raised by ITU Member States and recommends these are addressed in a group open to all ITU-T and ITU-D membership (which includes ISOC). The recommendation was agreed by all 46 Member States which comprise the ITU Council. This ISOC statement misrepresents an ITU document which is not publically available.