The UN Perspective on Internet Governance

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Outline

- UN Global programs and initiatives

- World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)

- Working Group on Internet Governance

- Organizations involved in international public policy and Internet Governance

- Internet Governance processes

- Conclusion

UN Global Programs and Initiatives

2000   2003 2005   2015

2015

1992

World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)

- Before 1998 DNS managed by Jon Postel
- ITU was asked to be involved in the management of .int domain name
- The birth of ICANN 1998 – IANA functions
- ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 1998, Minneapolis – resolution about WSIS
- UN GA endorses - 2001
- WSIS PrepCom Meetings - 2002

WSIS phase 1, Geneva - 2003

- more than 11000 participants (175 governments, civil society, business, technical community, academia, int'l organizations)

- Geneva Declaration of Principles

- Geneva Plan of Action – roadmap

- 2004 UN Secretary General creates the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG)

WGIG – Terms of Reference

- Develop a working definition of IG

- Identify the public policy issues that are relevant to IG;

- Develop a common understanding of the respective roles and responsibilities of stakeholders from both developing and developed countries

- Produce report for WSIS Phase 2

- Main issue: USG oversight of IANA functions

WGIG Report: Definition of IG

- Definition of Internet Governance: "…the development and application by Governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet"

- Internet is open and globally unregulated - self-regulation

WGIG Report: IG Models

1. Create the **Global Internet Council** (GIC) consisting of governments and involved stakeholders to assume the U.S. oversight role of ICANN.

2. Ensure that ICANNs Governmental Advisory Committee is an official forum for debate, strengthening its position by allowing for the support of various governments.

WGIG Report – IG models (cont'd)

3. Remove the U.S. oversight of ICANN and restrict it to the narrow technical role, forming the **International Internet Council** (IIC) to manage most aspects of the Internet administration.

4. Create three new bodies:

- The **Global Internet Policy Council** (GIPC) to manage "internet-related public policy issues"

- The **World Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers** (WICANN) to take over from ICANN

- The **Global Internet Governance Forum** (GIGF), a central debating forum for governments.

WSIS phase 2 - Tunis 2005

- More than 19000 participants

- Tunis Agenda

  - Internet Governance Forum

  - Enhanced Cooperation

- Action line facilitators

- Annual review by UN CSTD

- Final review by UN General Assembly 2015
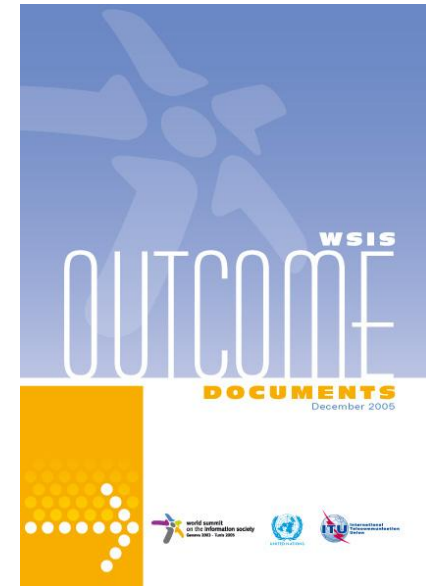
Internet Governance & UN Organizations

- UN: GA, First Committee, Second Committee, GGE

- ECOSOC: CSTD

- ILO

- ITU: PP, Council, ITU-CWG on Internet, ITRs

- WIPO

- UNCTAD

- World Bank

- WTO

- UN Human Rights Council

WSIS: Tunis Agenda

IGF Internet Governance Forum

Two distinct processes

Enhanced Cooperation

Diplomatic ambiguity

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

- Mandate - multi-stakeholder
  - no oversight function
  - neutral
  - non-duplicative
  - non-binding

- Organized since 2006; in 2010 extended to 2015

- CSTD WGIGF Recommendations for Improvements

- revision of the mandate in 2015: extended to 2025

- Annual event

- Regional and national IGFs

IGF: the agenda

- Main theme: different focus for each IGF
- Main sessions: - critical resources
                               - security and privacy
                               - access and diversity
                               - emerging issues
                               - taking stock

- Workshops (100+), Dynamic coalitions, Open Forums, IGF Village, Youth forum

Enhanced Cooperation - 1

69. **We further recognize** the need for EC in the future, to enable governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities, in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters, that do not impact on international public policy issues.

70. Using relevant international organizations, such cooperation should include the development of globally-applicable principles on public policy issues associated with the coordination and management of critical Internet resources. In this regard, we call upon the organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet to contribute to creating an environment that facilitates this development of public policy principles.

Enhanced Cooperation - 2

71. The process towards EC, to be started by the UN SG, involving all relevant organizations by the end of the first quarter of 2006, will involve all stakeholders in their respective roles, will proceed as quickly as possible consistent with legal process, and will be responsive to innovation. Relevant organizations should commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and responsive to innovation. The same relevant organizations shall be requested to provide annual performance reports.

CSTD WGEC: UNGA Mandate

- Several consultations between 2006 & 2012
- UNGA " invites the Chair of CSTD to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation (WGEC) to examine the mandate of WSIS regarding EC , through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement this mandate;"
- report to CSTD in 2014
- multi-stakeholder WG

CSTD WGEC Results

- 5 meetings, questionnaire: 18 question 70+ responses; **no agreement on recommendations**

- Chair's report during CSTD session May 2014

- ECOSOC session July 2014

- Mapping exercise on issues and mechanisms

- Results presented during CSTD annual meeting in May 2014

- Contribution to WSIS review in December 2015

WSIS Forum

- Since 2006 organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCTAD; hosted by ITU in Geneva in May

- Participation from all stakeholders

- Presentation of projects

- Progress report on Action Lines

- Opportunity to get engaged and create joint projects in the WSIS context

- Outcome document

Internet Governance – controversy

UN Human Rights Council – rights off-line apply on-line

- How to regulate applications, content, etc. without infringing universally accepted rights?

- How to strike a balance between rights and regulations?

- How to ensure permissionless innovation?

Internet Governance – controversy

- What are the roles and responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders in public policy?

- How to implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in Tunis Agenda: to ensure participation of governments on an equal footing in Internet-related international public policy?

WSIS +10: Review

- June 2015, UN, New York
  Start multi-lateral consultations about High Level Event in NY during UN GA

- Align with the post -2015
  [Sustainable Development Goals](#)

- July 2015, ECOSOC, New York

- December 2015, UN GA, New York:
  - extension of the mandate of the IGF
  - continuation of WSIS Forum
  - endorsement of the multi-stakeholder model
  - CSTD Chair to create WGEC 2.0

WGEC 2.0 Results

- 5 meetings: no agreement on recommendations
- Chair's report during CSTD session May 2018
- CSTD WSIS draft resolution takes note of the outcome and calls for continued dialogue and work on the implementation of enhanced cooperation as envisaged in the Tunis Agenda
- ECOSOC session July 2018 endorses WSIS resolution

WSIS: new challenges

- Depletion of IPv4 – transition to IPv6
- Social networks, fake news
- Mobile applications
- New gTLD-s, IDNs
- New dimensions of ICTs – IoTs, Big data, AI
- Economic and social impacts
- Cyber intelligence, cyber warfare, cyber propaganda, Cyber criminality

Cyber Issues and Institutions

Global Processes and Conferences

1998   2011   2018

2006

2014

Confidence Building Measures

- UN Group of Governmental Experts
reports in 2013 and 2015 results, 2017 failure

- Organization for Security and Confidence in Europe (OSCE) - Confidence building measures to enhance cybersecurity

- NATO – Tallinn Manual

- Geneva digital convention (Microsoft)

- Facebook US Congress Hearing

- GDPR   - in effect from 25 May 2018

Conclusion

- Assess & analyze new developments of ICT technology

- Identify potential issues & impacts on regulatory environment

- Review regulatory environment

- Apply multi-stakeholder approach

  (N.B: inherent contradiction – rapidity of changes in technology & relatively slow policy development process)

Resources

- WSIS: [Basic Facts](#)
- [Outcome Documents 2005](#) (ITU website)
  [WSIS Forum](#) (ITU website)
- IGF: [Internet Governance Forum](#) website
- UN: [Resolution A/70/125 on Information and Commununication Technologies](#) (2015)
  [UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development](#)
- [ICANN](#) (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers)
- [Internet Society](#) (ISOC)

Glossary

- ECOSOC – UN Economic and Social Council
- ICANN – Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers
- ILO – International Labour Organization
- ITU – International Telecommunication Union
- UN – United Nations
- UNCTAD – UN Conference on Trade & Development
- UNDP – UN Development Projects

Glossary (cont'd)

- UNESCO – UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- UNGA – UN General Assembly

- WHO – World Health Organization

- WIPO – World Intellectual Property Organization

- WTO – World Trade Organization