**Open Consultation of the CWG-Internet on the “Developmental Aspects of the Internet”**

1. **What are the aspects that generate development of the Internet (for example, economic, social, regulatory and technical aspects), especially for developing countries?**

In developing countries, some of the factors that boost internet development, could be:

* Development of a public policy that organizes not only its needs but also the activities established to promote a digital environment. In Colombia, we have had two policies named *Plan Vive Digital (2010-2014)* and *Plan Vive Digital para la Gente* (2014-2018), elaborated by the ICT Ministry of Colombia-MINTIC, that let to the recognition of a particular environment that our country had to evolve into,the deployment of an infrastructure needed to make this echosistem possible, the proper conditions for usage and access of internet, and the need to educate through appropriation programs in order to take advantage of the internet to generate economic growth. This has been the most important development aspect of Internet inside our country.
* The improvement of a market with supply and demand of web and mobile apps that allows a quicker, safer and more affordable internet usage.
* Internet of Things, Big Data and E-commerce boom are also factors to take into account in relation with development
* Adoption and implementation of the Internet protocol IPv6.
* Count with a Digital Security Policy, which in the Colombian case is developed by the Document - CONPES 3854, that includes actions oriented to inhibit malicious activities and to assure protected usage without risks.
* Social media boom.
* Market globalization.

1. **How can Governments and other stakeholders promote the developmental aspects of the Internet?**

Governments are the principal actors and they should carry the orientation in relation to developmental aspects of Internet by the establishment of public policies, adoption of standards and facilitating network access. The deployment of a Public policy is important because it identifies the most accurate infrastructural needs and appropriation programs to each development level inside countries.

Other important aspects where the Goverment intervenes are:

* Veil for connectivity assurance.
* Raise awareness related to the importance of treating ICT as necessary components of the daily life among society and not only as technological gadgets without any sense for everyday people, inside each level of the Government.
* Encourage content development that grants adequate leverage for ICT infrastructure.
* Watch ICT appropriation among government and citizenship.
* Raise awareness about the responsibility of ICT usage, in subjects such as:
* Cybersecurity
* Privacy respect
* Responsibility regarding received and created information
* Others

In addition, Governments are progress leaders and they must stay at the forefront of internet advances; therefore, they are important actors inside national, regional and international Internet Governance Workshops, where multistakeholders gather to discuss guidelines for internet development in every sector: Manufacturing and Commerce, Entertainment, Education, Finance, Health Care, Security, among others.

Within these spaces, they participate in every sector who is relevant for internet, from a multistakeholder perspective like civil society, private sector, Academy and others.

**3. What are the challenges and opportunities?**

**Challenges:**

* The definition and implementation of a public policy with clear objectives.
* Promote universal access as the first step to start accomplishing the objective of closing the “Digital Gap” through public-private associations and other type of collaborations.
* Activate and engage collaborative actions of Government, Civil Society, Academy, Private sector and global authorities of Internet (ICANN, IGF, IETF, etc.)
* Deploy actions to restrict and correct security problems that are harming Internet trust and generate awareness about ICT usage risks, especially for minors.
* Raise awareness about the need of setting up infrastructure for a good availability for ICT.

**Opportunities**

* Infrastructure Development that allows to expand Internet Access,
* Multistakeholders engagement that create a shared responsibility and mitigate efforts for internet development,
* Massification of Online procedure as a mechanism for time and efforts saving for citizens and also for public employees.
* To support in the long term, the creation of citizenship spaces that contributes to the country’s development.

**SUMMARY OF THE CONTRIBUTION**

Internet development inside countries, depends on two complementary lines, one that includes external factors related to market disruptions inside international internet sectors and the intervention of collaborative actors (ICANN, IGF, IETF, Civil Society, etc.) involved and constituted as actors inside ICT policy-making process and another, a domestic one represented by a ICT public policy implemented from the national government. For developing countries, the role of the National Government is presented as the one with the most preponderance, since its performance is not only focused in ensuring integral deployment of the infrastructure that enables ICT connectivity within the territory, but also in the training and education of society to boost their usage of benefits of internet development. The inclusion of activities that promote these two government roles inside the public policy generated for the ICT sector will facilitate the adjustment and the coordination of domestic decisions with the digital advances that are carried out daily on the global basis.