

**WTPF-IEG/3/16**

**OPINION (n+3) Multi-stakeholder Involvement in Internet Governance**

The fifth World Telecommunication Policy Forum (Geneva, 2013),

 *recalling*

1. Paragraph 34 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (Tunis Agenda) which provides a working definition of Internet governance as 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:
2. That the multi-stakeholder model has been recognised in paragraph 35 to 37 of the Tunis Agenda, as the global model for Internet governance and WSIS sought to improve the coordination of the activities of international and intergovernmental organizations and other institutions concerned with Internet governance and the exchange of information among themselves, and that a multi-stakeholder approach should be adopted, as far as possible, at all levels:
3. That paragraph 83 of the Tunis Agenda notes that building an inclusive development-oriented Information Society will require unremitting multi-stakeholder effort;
4. That the WSIS outcome documents provided a set of framework principles for the multi-stakeholder model and that paragraph72 of the Tunis Agenda called for the creation of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) to (among other things):
	1. Discuss public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet.
	2. Facilitate discourse between bodies dealing with different cross-cutting international public policies regarding the Internet and discuss issues that do not fall within the scope of any existing body.
	3. Interface with appropriate intergovernmental organizations and other institutions on matters under their purview,

 *considering*

1. Resolution 101 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010); Resolution 102 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and Resolution 133 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2012) each of which r*esolve* to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between ITU and relevant organisations (including, but not limited, to ICANN, IETF, RIRs, ISOC, W3C) on the basis of reciprocity,

*noting*

1. The development of the Internet is today essentially market-led and is driven by both private and government initiatives, enabling a remarkably stable, open and innovative network of networks, which is the Internet today;
2. That in the rapidly changing technological, economic and social environment within which new policy challenges emerge, multi-stakeholder processes have been shown to provide the flexibility and global scalability required to address Internet public policy challenges;
3. That to ensure informed decisions are taken, all relevant organisations need to encourage the engagement and participation of all relevant stakeholders in decision making processes;
4. That many stakeholders from developing countries do not have the resources to take an active part in the international IGF, but that there has been a useful development of national and regional IGFs helping to promote national and regional multi-stakeholder engagement; and
5. All stakeholders should have equal and full participation in all multi-stakeholder organisations.

*Invites ITU Secretary General and ITU Directors of the Bureaux*

1. To identify how to improve ITU’s multi-stakeholder engagement and, in particular to look at how to work with other stakeholders more effectively to inform the decision-making processes;
2. To explore ways of improving the engagement of governments and other stakeholders from developing countries in the IGF and in the relevant organisations involved in different aspects of Internet governance (including, but not limited, to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the regional Internet registries (RIRs), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the Internet Society (ISOC) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), on the basis of reciprocity);
3. with relevant stakeholders, to help Member States to establish and engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue through national and regional IGFs, operated on multi-stakeholder principles,

 *invites Member States*

1. To engage with all stakeholders in developing national Internet governance policy to help ensure effective decisions which help the local Internet economy to develop;
2. To engage in the IGF and with the relevant organisations to ensure their views are well represented globally,

 *invites all Stakeholders*

1. to explore ways and means for greater collaboration and coordination between governments; the private sector and civil society to ensure that the governance of the Internet remains bottom-up, multi-stakeholder process that enables all parties to continue to benefit from the Internet;
2. To foster global sustainability of IGF that is operated on multi-stakeholder principles as opportunities for all stakeholders to debate issues of global political/ economic/ technical importance; and
3. To focus in particular on how to improve the participation of developing country stakeholders in the initiatives, entities, and institutions involved in various aspects of Internet governance, including participation in entities like ICANN, IETF, ITU, regional bodies like APEC, as well as targeted initiatives like the Messaging Anti-Abuse Working Group (MAAWG) and the Anti-Phishing Working Group.