COUNTERING SPAM IN A DIGITAL WORLD

EU SPAM SYMPOSIUM 2006
15 June 2006
Maastricht, The Netherlands

Cristina Bueti
Project Officer
Strategy and Policy Unit (SPU)
International Telecommunication Union
www.itu.int/spam
A United Nations specialized agency with a mandate to help the world communicate

- The purpose of ITU as set out in its Constitution and Convention is *inter alia*:
  - To promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world’s inhabitants
  - To promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunication in the global information economy and society, by cooperating with other world and regional organizations and those non-governmental organizations concerned with telecommunications
  - To improve the efficiency of telecommunication services
World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

- United Nations Summit led by ITU
  
  www.itu.int/wsis

- International Declaration adopted in December 2003 recognized that spam is “significant and growing problem for users, networks and the Internet as a whole” (WSIS Declaration, paragraph 37)

- International Action Plan stated the need to “take appropriate action at both national and international levels” (WSIS Plan of Action, paragraph C5, d).

- World Summit in Tunis called for ITU to take the lead on cybersecurity issues, including spam
WHAT IS ‘SPAM’?

- **Australia**: defined as “unsolicited commercial electronic messages” (though the word “Spam” is not specifically mentioned), judicial provisions are technologically neutral: legislation includes Email, SMS, MMS and instant messaging; while faxes and voice-to-voice telemarketing are excluded, no reference to bulk messaging - a single unsolicited commercial electronic message could be Spam.

- **EU**: term Spam is neither defined nor used, the term “electronic mail for the purposes of direct marketing” is used, judicial provisions are technically neutral: legislation includes Email, calling machines, faxes and SMS messages.

- **USA**: term Spam is neither defined nor used, a FTC-definition of a “Commercial Electronic Mail Message” exists, judicial provisions not limited to Email: inclusion of mobile Spam subject to implementation (Action by the Federal Communications Commission on mobile Spam).
SPAM HAS BECOME MORE DANGEROUS

Source: GA0 2005
Spam acts as a vehicle for related threats:

- Viruses
- Spyware
- Trojans
- BotNets

These threats attack economies’ networks from within

- Responding to technical attacks require additional expertise and expense
- Social attacks, such as phishing, also require education
- All damage the ‘social value’ of the internet

Source: Walt Disney adapted
Spam is a cross-sectoral problem, therefore different stakeholders need to be involved in different countries.

There is no unique solution to spam. A multi-layered approach is necessary.

International cooperation, on both technical (standardization) and policy (legislation and enforcement) sides has been recognized as a key element to solving the problem.

Developing countries are also dealing with the problem of spam, which has even more dramatic consequences on Internet access than in developed economies.
We call upon all stakeholders to adopt a multi-pronged approach to counter spam that includes, inter alia, consumer and business education; appropriate legislation, law enforcement authorities and tools; the continued development of technical and self-regulatory measures; best practices; and international cooperation.

► Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, para 41
ITU: CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ITU PP 2006?
- WTDC 2006: Resolution 45 “Mechanisms for enhancing cooperation on cybersecurity, including combating spam”
- WSIS Phase II (2005): Internet Governance, 3b) Public Policy Issues Related to Use of the Internet;
- WTSA Resolution 51-52 (2004): Combating spam and Countering spam by technical means;
- WSIS Phase I (2003) DoP: 5) and PoA C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;
- ITU PP Res 130 (2002): Strengthening the role of ITU in information and communication network security;
On the legislative front, a great deal of experience has been gained as to the commonality, differences and effectiveness of different approaches of national anti-spam legislation.

ITU commissioned study prepared by Harvard Law School entitled *A Comparative Analysis of Spam Laws: the Quest for Model Law* analyzes the level of consensus and differences among extant laws and made some preliminary recommendations for inclusion in national spam legislation.

As spam has evolved into a more criminal activity, legislation is not particularly helpful unless tied to effective enforcement. This enforcement is often expensive, complex, and cross-jurisdictional in nature.
Please help us in updating the ITU anti-spam survey!
COUNTRIES TAKING ACTION AGAINST SPAM

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

- Legislation already enacted: 23%
- No responses received yet: 13%
- No legislation: 64%
We’ve seen a number of consumer education and industry players about anti-spam measures and Internet security practices:

- Safer Internet initiative in EU
- Click Spam in France
- Netherlands initiatives
- UK Get Safe Online
- Online OnGuard in the US

Question is how we can make generic version of these activities so that they can be re-leveraged by developing economies who do not have the resources to create from scratch.

ITU Cybersecurity Handbook for Developing Countries, 2006
World Telecommunication Day/ World Information Society Day

- WTD 2006 Theme: Promoting Global Cybersecurity
  - to highlight serious challenges we face in ensuring the safety and security of networked information and communication systems

- In Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted at WSIS (November 2005), UNGA called upon to also designate 17 May as World Information Society Day
  - On 27 March 2006, UNGA adopted Resolution A/RES/60/252 proclaiming 17 May as annual World Information Society Day

- WTD 2006 Promoting Global Cybersecurity activities planned but after Tunis Agenda tasked ITU with C5 facilitation, combined initiatives
Welcome to the Cybersecurity Gateway!

The purpose of the Cybersecurity Gateway is to provide an easy-to-use information resource on national and international cybersecurity related initiatives worldwide. In today’s interconnected world of networks, threats can now originate anywhere - our collective cybersecurity depends on the security practices of every connected country, business, and citizen.

In this regard, we need national and international cooperation among those who seek to promote, develop and implement Initiatives for a global culture of cybersecurity. In accordance with the theme of World Telecommunication Day/World Information Society Day 2006, ongoing ITU work programmes, and follow-up of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), a number of cybersecurity initiatives are under development by ITU. I invite you to explore the vast resources and links available through the Cybersecurity Gateway and join with us in promoting global cybersecurity.

Yoshio Utsumi
Secretary-General, ITU
COUNTERING SPAM

WHAT STEPS SHOULD TAKEN TO BUILD CONFIDENCE AND INCREASE SECURITY?

- Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs are crucial elements in further developing the Information Society.
- Provide forum for regulators to discuss issues, challenges and threats.
- Help developing countries formulate legislation for combating spam and building cybersecurity.
- Need for greater coordination of national Internet security initiatives and for enhanced international cooperation in combating viruses, and fighting cybercrime.
- Promote the development of a multilateral agreement on cooperation against spam and towards global cybersecurity.
“We must be creative in finding new ways to cooperate in addressing problems created by those who would abuse networks for their own profit and gain. We must find new methods for regional and international cooperation. And of course, we must find ways to facilitate the participation of developing countries in ICT policy discussions so that their particular interests, needs and concerns are understood.

I can promise you that ITU, with its broad membership of 190 Member States and almost 700 private sector members, stands ready to assist in this endeavor.”

Yoshio Utsumi, ITU Secretary-General, WSIS Thematic Meeting on Countering Spam, July 2004.
COUNTERING

UNITED WE WILL WIN THE FIGHT AGAINST SPAM!

Your Courage
Your Cheerfulness
Your Resolution
WILL BRING US VICTORY!

ITU Activities on Countering Spam
www.itu.int/spam

Source: FIFA 2006 adapted
- ITU Activities on Countering Spam
  www.itu.int/spam
- ITU Cybersecurity Gateway
  www.itu.int/cybersecurity
- ITU-T Activities on Spam (Study Group 17)
  www.itu.int/ITU-T/studygroups/com17
- ITU-D Activities on Spam
  www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/
  www.itu.int/ITU-D/e-strategies
- Anti-spam laws and authorities worldwide
  http://www.itu.int/spam/law.html
- World Summit on the Information Society
  www.itu.int/wsis
Thank You!

Cristina Bueti
Project Officer
Strategy and Policy Unit (SPU)
International Telecommunication Union

cristina.bueti@itu.int

www.itu.int/spam
COUNTERING SPAM

STOP SPAM

ITU