

# **STRATEGIC GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT**

## **2009 Strategic Actions & Impacts**

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The goal of the Strategic Global Engagement (SGE) group is to develop and implement strategies and activities so ISOC can effectively deliver its message to policy makers at the most influential levels worldwide. SGE also provides advice on ISOC's issue-related positioning, influence and execution strategies; leads on partnership development with organizations at the international level and collaborates with the ISOC Regional Bureaus in their respective regions.

SGE is also responsible for developing ISOC's relationships with several I\* organizations by coordinating the Internet organizations' inputs to the OECD and increasingly, to the ITU, UN, IGF, etc. SGE also plays a strong role in the expanding collaboration between ISOC and ICANN, and leads ISOC's interaction with the US Government on ICANN's transition following the Joint Project Agreement expiry in September 2009.

Since the last Board meeting, SGE has doubled its staff complement, to 2 people, when Constance Bommelaer joined the group from Public Policy.

### **2009 Strategic Global Engagement Goals:**

Through participation in the highest level international forums, e.g. ITU, UN, APEC, IGF (and their preparatory processes) inform them about Internet technology, the Internet model, and Internet institutions. Our goal is to ensure that policy and regulatory discussions and decisions are informed by and reflect what is good for the Internet and hence end-users. A chart showing our relationship with various organizations is attached as Annex 1.

In support of ISOC's Strategic Initiatives, work through the OECD and other organizations to advocate IPv6 deployment and other critical Internet developments, while stressing the need for all sectors of society to recognize the importance of increasingly emulating and applying the Internet model as fundamental to society's economic and social development.

Work with ICANN and other relevant organizations. Our goal is to ensure ICANN is ready to assume independence under private sector leadership, while remaining an integral part of the Internet model

Increasingly engage with civil society, researchers in the Internet technical community, business and end users to advance the interests of Internet end users. Our goal is to have ISOC increasingly recognized as a voice for end user interests in global policy and governance forums, extending our credibility into less traditional ISOC forums.

To develop the next generation of Internet leaders by creating curriculum module(s) addressing issues affecting the Internet which are at the intersection of the technology and policy fields, and identifying potential partners and staging grounds.

## **2009 Achievements Underway:**

### **I - Participation in OECD**

**2009 Goal: Ensure the Internet Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) is accepted as an advisory body to the OECD ICCP.**

SGE worked with the Chair of the OECD Information, Computer and Communication Policy Committee (ICCP), as well as with OECD staff and Public Voice (civil society) to finalize a document describing how we will work with the ICCP (accepted at the March 12 ICCP meeting). A conference call was held to prepare our partners for the meeting. ISOC, ICANN and RIPE NCC participated in the March meeting, where ISOC helped to prepare an identity management primer, and moderated a session on virtual worlds as a policy making tool. Drafting/approval of a charter for our group is now in preparation, and outreach to an even broader set of partners has begun.

### **II - Planning for ISOC-ICANN involvement**

**2009 Goal:** Work to ensure ICANN is ready to assume independence under private sector leadership while remaining an integral part of the Internet model

As indicated in the goal above, a key issue for our activities related to ICANN this year will be the follow up to the ICANN President's Strategy Committee's work on improving institutional confidence and the future of ICANN after the expiry of the Joint Project Agreement in September 2009. Over the last three years, we have made statements supporting ICANN's independence in several PSC consultations, in the public comment processes run by the United States government, and in public meetings sponsored by ICANN. On every occasion, we have supported ICANN, and as a friend we have also pointed out where we believe ICANN needed to strengthen their processes.

As we work to advance ISOC's fundamental interest in the responsible development of the Internet: we believe there needs to be a high-level awareness that ICANN's management of the DNS is as a steward over a global shared resource and that they need to manage it in the public interest. This important obligation should guide all ICANN does. ISOC will watch for and create opportunities to raise and promote this perspective throughout the transition process in 2009 and beyond.

We are also following the many other important processes going on in ICANN at this time, including the introduction of new gTLDs, the fast track process for introducing internationalized domain names (IDN's), and the many organizational reviews that are underway. We are coordinating closely with the Public Interest Registry (PIR) in this work, to ensure that the appropriate organizations are involved. We are also seeking to understand and support ISOC members' and Chapters' activities in ICANN, whether representing their own interests or supporting ISOC's mission, principles and goals by their work in ICANN's constituencies.

### **III - ISOC involvement with the ITU**

ISOC staff have developed a statement to frame our involvement with the ITU. It says:

“ISOC engages with the ITU in areas where it makes sense to support their activities to advance the Internet, while working to create awareness of different and complementary activities taking place in the Internet ecosystem. We are always working to ensure that the Internet ecosystem continues to evolve to support a usable and useful open Internet.”

Consistent with that mission, we are mapping out key ITU events or positions that could impact on the Internet – positively or negatively (see Annex 2), and developing appropriate responses. We are also developing analytical tools to track the focus of various parts of the ITU, including technical and policy/political activities. This work will draw on volunteer, paid resources and ISOC staff to map ITU work to Internet issues, to determine whether and how to respond.

As discussed at the November 2008 Board meeting, we are beginning to work with Chapters and members to use all ISOC's resources to influence local governments' preparations for key ITU meetings. The first of these will be the ITU World Telecommunication Policy Forum to be held in Lisbon, April 22-25. Six documents have been created to help our membership to inform their local governments, including a guide to finding the right government officials and suggestions of how to approach them. This information was also presented at the Mexico City Chapter Workshop.

### **IV - US government Notice of Inquiry on DNSSEC**

Since the November filing date for comments on the DNSSEC NOI, there has been no formal activity by the US government. We understand that staff is preparing a response to the various comments, and will hold a second public comment period before taking action. It is important to recognize that with the administration change in Washington, everything is on hold until agency staff can get direction from new appointees at the political level. From conversations with US officials, there seems to be a sense that zone operators are not really ready to implement DNSSEC. The Department of

Commerce may decide to sign the root in a two phased process. Before committing to a final organizational form, their preference seems to be to allow time to verify whether or not widespread uptake occurs. They are seeking a level of confidence before moving on to consider what is the best structure to put in place to maintain DNSSEC in the longer term. In keeping with that, it seems the Commerce Department will not decide on the final form for DNSSEC implementation for 18 months or so.

At the end of the first quarter 2009, Strategic Global Engagement has made significant progress to define a clear set of goals, and we are on track to achieve them. Having additional staff resources allows us to engage stakeholders across a range of organizations to promote ISOC's views, and to increasingly work with our Chapters and members to create a respected and effective voice for the responsible development of the Internet for all.

**Annex 1: ISOC's Status with International Organizations**

Organization	Status	ISOC's participation
<p align="center"><b>APEC</b></p> <p>Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation</p>	<p>Formal "Guest" status</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC' was granted Guest status in February 2009.</b> ISOC participates in the APEC Telecommunication and Information Working Group (APEC TEL), and is assessing involvement in the Electronic Commerce Steering Group.</p> <hr/> <p>APEC is an intergovernmental forum for facilitating economic growth, cooperation, trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region. It operates on the basis of non-binding commitments, open dialogue. Unlike the other multilateral trade bodies (e.g. WTO), it has no treaty obligations required of its participants. Decisions made within APEC are reached by consensus and commitments are undertaken on a voluntary basis. APEC has 21 Member states.</p> <p>The TEL aims to improve telecommunications and information infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region by developing and implementing appropriate telecommunications and information policies. The TEL's work contributes to the overall goals of trade facilitation, investment liberalization and economic/technical cooperation. Its priorities are set by both Telecommunications and Information Ministers. It's currently focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reducing the digital divide,</li> <li>- NGNs,</li> <li>- E-government,</li> <li>- Capacity building,</li> <li>- Protecting information and</li> <li>- Communications infrastructure and</li> <li>- Cybersecurity.</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>CITEL</b></p> <p>Inter-American Telecommunication Commission of the Organization of American States (OAS)</p>	<p>Partner</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC and CITEL signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September 2008.</b> The MOU permits cooperation on joint projects and training, on specific issues such as Access and Multilingualism, Internet policy, Internet security, and Internet and development.</p> <hr/> <p>Under the auspices of the Organization of American States, CITEL resides in Washington, DC, USA. It has 35 Member States and over 200 Associate Members. It has been entrusted by the Heads of State at the Summits of the Americas with specific mandates to intensify its activities in key areas.</p> <p>CITEL has technical autonomy to perform its functions within the limits prescribed by the OAS Charter, its statutes and the mandates of the General Assembly. Its objectives include facilitating and promoting the continuous development of telecommunications in the hemisphere.</p>

Organization	Status	ISOC's participation
<p align="center"><b>GAID</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Global Alliance for ICT and Development</b></p>	<p>Partner</p> <p>(Lynn St. Amour was member of the Strategy Council of the Global alliance for ICT and Development.)</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC is a GAID partner.</b></p> <p>Cost: None at this time</p> <p>Mechanism: Renewed automatically.</p> <p>The GAID has 60 members representing Governments, non-governmental stakeholders – civil society, the private sector, international organizations, media, academia, youth and women's groups and others.</p> <p>The mission of the GAID is to contribute to transforming the spirit and vision of WSIS into action promoting the use of ICT for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. This multi-stakeholder forum operates as a platform for cross-sectoral policy dialogue and advocacy. It aims at catalyzing multi-stakeholder action oriented partnerships under GAID umbrella. In itself, it doesn't have any operational or implementing role. The Alliance's purpose is to provide multi-stakeholder input to intergovernmental bodies, including Economic and Social Council.</p>
<p align="center"><b>ITU</b></p> <p align="center"><b>International Telecommunications Union</b></p>	<p>ITU-D and ITU-T sector member.</p>	<p>→ ISOC's status is renewed. The Society is Sector Member of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector and the Telecommunication Development Sector. Sector Membership permits ISOC to participate in ITU activities when they are not restricted to member states. For example, ISOC is a member of the Informal Expert Group (IEG) for the 2009 World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF). ISOC participates in the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS, and the annual cluster of WSIS-related events in May. It will also participate in ITU Telecom World 2009, the Development Conference and Plenipotentiary in 2010 and in several regional preparatory meetings to these conferences.</p> <p>Cost: Staff time and travel.</p> <p>Mechanism: Mutual membership between ISOC and ITU.</p> <p>The ITU was established in 1865 as an international organization within which governments and the private sector should work together to coordinate the operation of telecommunication networks and services and advance the development of communications technology. ITU comprises three sectors: Radiocommunication (ITU-R), Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T), and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D).</p> <p>Sector members can participate in ITU activities such as: the work of its conferences or assemblies, study groups, working parties and expert groups, seminars, round tables, colloquia and workshops. They can present their views, either orally or in written format, at the preparatory stage of decisions and all throughout the consensus building process, which leads to the production of the Recommendations, Resolutions or other policy guidelines.</p>

Organization	Status	ISOC's participation
<p><b>Organization of African Unity</b> <b>(a.k.a. African Union)</b></p>	<p>Partner.</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC and the African Union have signed in May 2008 a Memorandum of Understanding</b> to tackle the emerging Internet issues at the continental and global level, such as Internet standards, IPv6, the new protocol, Internet governance and the new domain name system.</p> <p>The main objective of the OAU is to promote unity and solidarity among African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States and to promote international cooperation within the framework of the United Nations.</p> <p>As a continental organization the OAU provides a forum that enabled all Member States to adopt coordinated positions on matters of common concern to the continent in international for a, such as <b>Industry, Science and Technology</b>.</p>
<p><b>OECD</b> Organization for Economic and Cooperation Development</p>	<p>ISOC coordinates the Internet Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) to the OECD (<a href="http://www.internetac.org">www.internetac.org</a> )</p>	<p>→ <b>The ITAC's status was confirmed by OECD ICCP in March 2009.</b> ITAC participates in the Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP Committee) and its specific working parties such as the Working Party on Information Security Privacy (WPISP).</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Staff time and travel.</p> <p><u>Mechanism:</u> Status will be maintained as long as ITAC participates on a regular basis.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>The OECD groups 30 member states sharing commitment to democratic government and the market economy. With relationships with some 70 other countries and economies, NGOs and civil society, it has a global reach. Best known for its policy publications and its statistics, its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomic policy, to trade, education, development, sciences and innovation.</p> <p>ISOC has a special interest in the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP) dealing with issues arising from the <b>digital economy</b>.</p>
<p><b>UNECA</b> United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</p>	<p>Partner.</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC and UNECA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in May 2008.</b> The goal is to expand the availability of and access to the Internet in Africa. It also aims to create an enabling environment so that the Internet significantly to the economic development of Africa.</p> <p>The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN) in 1958 as one of the UN's five regional commissions. ECA's mandate is to promote the economic and social development of its member States, foster intra-regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development.</p> <p>The Commission focuses on the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional Integration, Trade and Infrastructure,</li> <li>- ICT, Science and Technology for Development,</li> <li>- Reduction and Growth, Sustainable Development and Gender,</li> <li>- Statistics and Statistical Development.</li> </ul>

Organization	Status	ISOC's participation
<p align="center"><b>UN ECOSOC</b> United Nations Economic and Social Council</p>	<p>ISOC is applying for the NGO Advisory status with the UN Economic and Social Council.</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC submitted an application for consultative status in May 2007.</b></p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Staff time and travel.</p> <p><u>Mechanism:</u> Application submitted to the ECOSOC Committee of NGOs. The Committee meets twice a year (January 2009 and May 2009); it recommends a list of NGOs to the ECOSOC Council that will meet in July 2009 (Geneva).</p> <p>-----</p> <p>The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) serves as the <b>central forum for discussing international economic and social issues</b>, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system. It is responsible for promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress; identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p> <p>NGOs in general consultative status, special consultative status and on the Roster, that express their wish to attend the relevant international conferences convened by the United Nations and the meetings of the preparatory bodies of the said conferences shall as a rule be accredited for participation.</p>
<p align="center"><b>UNESCO</b> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</p>	<p>NGO in operational relations with the UNESCO</p>	<p>→ <b>ISOC's status is renewed.</b> Additionally, ISOC served as Chair of the Communication and New Technologies Joint Program Commission (2007-2008). It also observer to the Bureau and the Intergovernmental Council of the Information For All Program (IFAP).</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Staff time and travel.</p> <p><u>Mechanism:</u> ISOC responded to a questionnaire on its activities related relating to UNESCO. The Council decided in Autumn 2007 to renew ISOC's operational status.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>UNESCO deploys its action in the fields of Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, Communication and Information. UNESCO's Communication and Information programs are rooted in UNESCO's Constitution, which requires the Organization to promote the "free flow of ideas by word and image". The main objective for UNESCO is to build a knowledge society based on the sharing of knowledge and incorporating all the socio-cultural and ethical dimensions of sustainable development.</p> <p>UNESCO's priorities in the field of Communication and Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empowering people through access to information and knowledge with special emphasis on freedom of expression</li> <li>- Promoting communication development</li> <li>- Advancing the use of ICTs for education, science and culture</li> </ul>

## Annex 2

Annex 2:

# ITU & related events 2009 - 2012

