



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

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The Internet Society moves into the future with an aggressive agenda.

CREATING INFLUENCE THROUGH PARTICIPATION

In 2004 the Internet Society (ISOC) continues building on its participation in World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) activities by attending the International Telecommunication Union's Workshop on Internet Governance and the Global Forum on Internet Governance, held in New York at the United Nations. The Global Forum brings together the leading actors and all relevant stakeholders—including Member States, civil society, and the private sector—interested in Internet governance issues. Organised under the auspices of the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies (UNICT) Task Force, the Global Forum is an important opportunity for ISOC and other organisations to engage in an open discussion on all aspects of Internet governance. ISOC will also participate actively in the consultations and activities of the UN Working Group on Internet Governance.

BECOMING A KEY ENABLER OF INTERNET GOVERNANCE DEBATE

Advocating for open, consensus-based processes as they relate to Internet issues remains a priority for ISOC. The organisation maintains that such strategies respect the changing needs of the Internet community while

supporting a broader allocation of Internet resources and a more inclusive process for the development of Internet standards and protocols. These processes have not only led to the Internet's becoming a critical part of the global communications infrastructure; they also support its continuing growth, global expansion, and smooth operation.

The Internet Society remains dedicated to providing information and education about Internet structures and processes and how they have contributed to the Internet's successful development. ISOC will continue to encourage and support broad participation in the activities of each of the organisations involved in Internet coordination.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT CONTINUED AROUND THE WORLD

ISOC plans to continue its support of education and training initiatives that target Internet technologists, trainers, policy leaders, and stakeholders throughout the world. Those initiatives include:

WALC

In 2004 ISOC continues to support the Internet Workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean (WALC), organised by the Latin American Networking School Foundation (EsLaRed), the Universidad de Los Andes (ULA) of Venezuela, the Latin American and the Caribbean Forum of Networks (ENRED), the National Centre on

Information Technology in Venezuela (CNTI), and ISOC. The purpose of the workshop is to satisfy the requirements of the technological training of technicians and network professionals in Latin America and the Caribbean. Participants in the workshop are selected from those involved in Internet infrastructure planning and execution in their countries (www.walc2004.cepes.org.pe).

AfNOG

In 2004, ISOC will again provide support for the Africa Network Operators Group (AfNOG) Workshop. Similar to WALC, the workshop is designed to offer advanced training to operators of existing ISPs in Africa who are participants in the process of developing and enhancing a national Internet with regional and international connectivity (www.afnog.org).

SilkNOG

ISOC is pleased to announce plans to support the formation of the Network Operators Group for countries participating in the Virtual Silk Highway in the form of training support similar to that provided for AfNOG. The first SilkNOG activities are planned for 2004. Virtual Silk Highway is a NATO Science Programme project providing low-cost, high-bandwidth Internet connectivity for the three countries of the Southern Caucasus—Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia—and the five countries of Central Asia—Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan,

and Uzbekistan—for research and education (www.silkproject.org).

ISOC SUPPORTS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Grants Programmes in Asia Pacific and Latin American Regions

ISOC is pleased to announce its support for the Pan Asia Networking and Pan Americas ICT R&D Grants Programmes. ISOC's level of support in Asia gives it equal partnership status with the other partners of the programme: the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the United Nations Development Programme's Asia Pacific Development Information Programme, and the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC).

Launched in 1997 by IDRC, the objective of the Pan Asia Networking ICT R&D Grants Programme is to build institutional research capacity in the developing areas of the Asia Pacific region in the field of Internet networking. Through a competition format, grants are made available twice a year to proposals that successfully address innovative networking solutions to specific development issues (www.panasia.org.sg/grants).

The Pan Americas programme (known as FRIDA, the Regional Fund for Digital Innovation in the Americas) is administered by the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Address Registry (LACNIC), with ISOC as a major sponsor (www.programafrida.net).