



E-meeting:

“ISOC’s engagement in the 2009 Internet Governance Forum“

When: 30 September 2009, Session 1: UTC 10:30 and Session 2: UTC 20:00

Chair/Speakers: Bill Graham, Constance Bommelaer (ISOC)

Notes: Anne Lord + Sabrina Wilmot (ISOC)

Attendees:

Anne Lord - ISOC staff (session 2)

Bill Graham - ISOC staff (both sessions)

Christine Runnegar - ISOC staff (session 1)

Constance Bommelaer - ISOC staff (both sessions)

Cristos Velasco - ISOC Mexico Chapter (session 2)

Dawit Bekele - ISOC staff (session 1)

Gunela Astbrink - ISOC Australia Chapter (session 1)

Kevin Craemer - ISOC staff (session 2)

Khaled Khoubaa - ISOC Tunisia Chapter (session 2)

Olivier MJ Crepin Leblond - ISOC England Chapter (session 2)

Rudi Vansnick - ISOC Belgium Chapter (session 2)

Sabrina Wilmot - ISOC staff (session 1)

Sally Wentworth - ISOC staff (session 2)

Sébastien Bachollet – ISOC France Chapter (session 1)

Sivasubramanian Muthusamy - ISOC India Chennai Chapter (both sessions)

Agenda:

1. Introduction to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)
2. Review of Programme
3. Presentation of ISOC’s engagement plan for Sharm el-Sheikh
 - a) ISOC Ambassadors Programme
 - b) All members meeting
4. AOB

Related information to read:

ISOC’s contributions to the IGF:

<http://www.isoc.org/isoc/conferences/wsis/IGF.shtml>

ISOC’s IGF Ambassadors Program:

<http://www.isoc.org/pubpolpillar/igfambassadors/>

ISOC 2009 membership survey on Internet governance:

<http://www.isoc.org/pubpolpillar/docs/ig-survey-report-200905.pdf>

Internet Governance Forum: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/>

Meeting notes:

Bill thanked everyone for joining the call.

1. Introduction to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) - Bill Graham

The IGF was formed as an output of the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society. It resulted from lengthy and painful negotiations that took place over three years leading up to the Tunis event. Its purpose, mandate and some ground rules for it are spelled out quite clearly in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society. The WSIS principles for Internet governance and the material concerning the IGF are available [here](#). The Tunis Agenda calls for the IGF to be multilateral, multi-stakeholder, democratic and transparent, with all stakeholders playing their appropriate roles. And most importantly, IGF is not to be a negotiating forum or a decision making body. Instead, the idea is for the IGF to be constituted as a neutral, non-duplicative and non-binding process. It would have no involvement in day-to-day or technical operations of the Internet. In short, it is to be a place where issues can be explored in an open environment. In practice, the IGF has proven to be a place where issues are “conditioned” through a developmental process. Or as Nitin Desai, the Chair of the IGF multi-stakeholder advisory group (MAG), has said: “The IGF is a place where people who do not ordinarily talk to one another can come to talk.”

ISOC has participated at all stages of WSIS and the follow-on IGF. In this process we have succeeded in gaining significant recognition for our positions which support an open and globally accessible Internet. Much of this has been achieved through cooperation with our Chapters, members, and partner organizations from around the world.

Matthew Shears, and myself have been members of the IGF MAG. We have also participated to all the Open Consultations that were led for the past four years: <http://www.isoc.org/isoc/conferences/wsis/IGF.shtml>

ISOC members’s IGF experience

The membership survey we did in February 2009 to help us prepare for the Open Consultations, showed our members continuous interest and involvement in the IGF process. 42% of the respondents indicated they will participate to IGF 4. This was a confirmation for ISOC that we needed to pursue our engagement and advocacy efforts, this year again, in the Forum: <http://www.isoc.org/pubpolpillar/docs/ig-survey-report-200905.pdf>

The survey also showed that ISOC members are more and more active in the preparation of this Forum, at the local level: 80% of those participating to IGF 4, have met or are planning to meet with local policymakers to discuss Internet governance issues.

The 2009 IGF is the fourth of five events called for by the WSIS. The United Nations Secretary General will be carrying out the broad public consultation about its future during the meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. You can expect to hear quite a bit of discussion about whether the IGF should continue as is, be changed, or come to an end during the meeting, as well as in the formal session.

In the membership survey we conducted in February, 83% of the respondents expressed their desire for the IGF to continue past its initial five-year mandate.

IGF 2009 Themes

Over time, the IGF has addressed almost all of the issues specified in the Tunis Agenda, at varying levels of detail. Yet some of the issues remain contentious. At their February meeting, the MAG decided that different themes need to be dealt with differently. The MAG identified three different types of formats:

Type A: Issues where there is no convergence of views. In these cases there is no need for any panel or introductory speeches. An open discussion is best suited for these issues.

Type B: Issues that are generally understood, but which need further exploration. For these issues, an introductory panel of experts followed by a discussion was seen as the most appropriate format.

Type C: Issues where there is a convergence of views on the principles and the need for action. These issues could be dealt with by round table discussions which could look at solutions and best practices.

That understanding informs the themes of the IGF for 2009.

This is the big change from previous IGFs. The Egyptians have provided much larger facility and there is room for more workshops. 5 - 7 parallel streams as well as open sessions. 9 rooms plus main session room. Small - large sessions are all possible.

2. Review of Programme

This year, “**Internet Governance – Creating Opportunities for all**” was accepted as the overall title of the meeting. The proposed agenda is built around the following sub-themes, with a large “main session” devoted to each:

- Managing critical Internet resources;
- Security, openness and privacy;
- Access and diversity;
- Internet governance in the light of WSIS principles;

- Taking stock and the way forward – on the desirability of the continuation of the Forum;
- Emerging issues: Impact of Social Networks.

Each of the sub-themes is described in more detail in the [program paper](#) posted by the IGF Secretariat, available on their web site or from the link above. To the extent possible, workshops related to the sub-themes will be scheduled to run before the main session, although that was not possible in all cases. The idea there was to encourage people to prepare themselves to take part as actively as possible in the main sessions. The sub-themes are reviewed briefly from an ISOC perspective here.

Managing Critical Internet Resources:

As a type A issue, this session will be held in the form of an open discussion, without panelists, in order to promote greater participation by all stakeholders to inform and provide their perspectives. The following issues are certain to be discussed, among others that can be presented from the floor:

- Transition from IPv4 to IPv6 – the RIRs and friends are sponsoring one workshop on this, but unfortunately it (and the other one) will happen after the main session.
- The JPA, the IANA contract and the role of governments – a few related workshops are planned on this topic, although the announcement of the outcome of the JPA may have an impact. The Internet Governance Caucus and LACNIC are organizing workshops. In addition, ICANN is holding an open forum that is obviously related.
- The internationalization of critical Internet resources management – there are fewer workshops here, but the topic is broad and will come up in several workshops.
- The importance of new TLDs and IDNs for development -- two workshops are organized on this topic, one by UNESCO and a second specifically looking at the case of the Arabic language.
- Enhanced cooperation – there are no workshops being held on this topic.

Chris Disspain, CEO of AuDA and Dr. Jeanette Hoffman of the London School of Economics will be co-moderators for this discussion.

ISOC's Interests

This is the primary area of interest for the Internet Society. As home of the IETF, and as an organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the Internet

model¹, ISOC members are active in developing the session, and the ISOC Chennai Chapter has developed a Workshop on Fundamentals: Core Internet Values.

Olivier MJ Crepin Leblond asked if these were all to be covered in 3 hours? Yes. Expect that one or two would draw main interest. Crammed agenda!

Security, Openness and Privacy:

The discussion will be introduced by a panel of practitioners to set the stage for the discussion and bring out options for how to deal with the policy and practical choices related to the different clusters of issues. The discussion should cover practical aspects of the coordination needed to secure the network (e.g. to fight spam) and their relationship to issues pertaining to openness (e.g. ensuring the open architecture of the Internet). Issues to be discussed will include:

- The respect for privacy as a business advantage;
- Identity theft, identity fraud, and information leakage.
- Web 2.0;
- Social networks;
- Cloud computing and privacy, e.g. control of one's own data and data retention;
- Cultural and technical perspectives on the regulation of illegal Web contents;
- Regulatory models for privacy;
- Ensuring the open architecture of the Internet;
- Net Neutrality;
- Enabling frameworks for freedom;
- Ethical dimensions of the Internet.

This is a wide range of topics, and at the last MAG meeting, a large number of highly qualified speakers were proposed for the panel. Work goes on now to confirm their intention to be in Sharm el-Sheikh. There are also a large number of workshops organized on the topic, including one from the ISOC Chennai Chapter of ISOC, entitled: "Roundtable: Balancing the need for Security and the concerns for Civil Liberties." Discussion promises to be highly charged, because the topic bridges issues that some see as being diametrically opposed. In addition, the topic of openness has a connotation of protecting human rights is always contentious in global gatherings.

Bill Graham asked the participants to describe what the workshops are about that they have organized.

¹ Internet Model describes the common set of development and operating values—such as open standards, freely accessible processes, transparent governance—shared among many of the key communities and organizations that have been central to the development and ongoing evolution of the Internet.

Sivasubramanian Muthusamy:

Workshop 319: Workshop on Fundamentals: Core Internet Values

When/where: Day 2 16 Nov Room 2 Red Sea

URL:

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=WSProposals2009View&wspid=319>

Workshop 323 Roundtable: Balancing the need for Security and the concerns for Civil Liberties

When/where: Day 3, 17 Nov Room 7 Luxor

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=WSProposals2009View&wspid=323>

Workshop 106 (merged) "Children in the Age of Mobile Access: The promises of Internet co-examined with the increasing challenges to Child Safety"

When/were: Day 4 18 Nov Room 5 Sphinx

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=WSProposals2009View&wspid=106>

Lynn St.Amour has agreed to Chair workshop 319 and Oliver MJ Crepin LeBlond would chair workshop 106. A full list of speakers is on the workshop description pages on the links above.

Gunela Astbrink will be running a workshop on sustainable capacity-building for Internet accessibility public policy development which has been funded under ISOC's Community Grants Programme.

Cristos Velasco is moderating panel 257 on Cloud computing - good mix of speakers. He will be the rapporteur for "Online Advertising and User Privacy: Balancing Business Imperatives and Consumer Rights".

Access and Diversity:

This session draw in the outcomes of workshops, which could compare and contrast approaches and best practices. Here too a panel of practitioners is planned, in the hope that participants may decide to take some steps to make progress. That is not inconsistent with the IGF's non-decision-making role; participants are encouraged to form networks and to take action with colleagues on issues they have discussed at IGF. Issues mentioned for this session included:

- National and international regulatory issues;
- National and regional backbones;
- Infrastructure;
- Interconnection costs;
- Enabling Internet Exchange Points (IXPs);
- Modes of access and regulatory challenges;

- Safety and redundancy of access, e.g. cable cuts;
- Issues in mobile access;
- Multilingualism and IDNs;
- Access for people with disabilities.

The topic has been discussed in depth at previous IGF meetings, and there has been some positive alignment of views. That is reflected in the large number of workshops organized on the list of possible themes. ISOC has been working in several of these areas, so members and ambassadors can be expected to participate actively.

Internet Governance in the light of the WSIS Principles - NEW!

This session builds on the WSIS Principles, as contained in the Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and is directly related to the mandate of the IGF. WSIS veterans debate whether Paragraph 29² is particularly relevant for this session, or whether it should emphasize the importance of Paragraph 31³. The Session will be based on Paragraph 72 i) of the Tunis Agenda which mandates the IGF to “promote and assess, on an ongoing basis, the embodiment of WSIS principles in Internet governance processes”. This session will be held in the form of an open discussion without panelists. Ambassador Janis Karklins, who chaired the preparatory process for the second phase of WSIS, Anriette Esterhuysen from the Association for Progressive Communications, and Bill Graham of ISOC will be co-moderators.

Olivier MJ Crepin Leblond (at EuroDIG and IGF prep) commented that they tried to push for a resolution to include this and they were told programme has been set up so no chance to change. Bill Graham commented that this is a UN event and while very open, it is also very complex in terms of organisation and once decisions made, very hard to re-open points for discussion once closed.

Emerging Issues: Impact of Social Networks

The final substantive session of the IGF will be devoted to a discussion of emerging issues. It is intended to be a forward-looking session with a focus on policy instead of technology. The impact of social networks was chosen as the theme for this session. This was also seen as a way to attract young people and bring them into the discussion, including through remote participation. A panel will be composed to open the discussion, but there will be lots of time left for participation from the floor.

² “The international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations”

³ “We recognize that Internet governance, carried out according to the Geneva principles, is an essential element for a people-centred, inclusive, development-oriented and non-discriminatory Information Society”

Future sessions of IGF - status

Bill Graham spoke with Markus Kummer, Executive Director of the Internet Governance Forum. The Under Secretary will come to the IGF and will chair the open forum on the future of the IGF. This is quite a strong indication from UN. Delegate from CN has been clear that he thinks the IGF should be shut down (the Under Secretary is from CN interestingly). The Business community and others think there should be continuation. This will be a formal session with designated speakers etc but hopefully with some open discussion time. This will be as close to an official UN proceeding. Christos Velasco mentioned he thought it should continue. Bill Graham said this is the ISOC position.

Rudi Vansnick felt that as long as IGF works towards concrete actions and will not start being a chat environment. Bill Graham commented that the IGF cannot take any action. But people do meet at the IGF and this facilitates home action working with new partners.

The DIPLO survey is trying to assess impact of IGF.

<http://www.diplointernetgovernance.org/profiles/blogs/last-chance-to-join-the-igf>

3. Presentation of ISOC's engagement plan for Sharm el-Sheikh

a) The 2009 IGF Ambassadors programme - Constance Bommelaer

As part of the ISOC Next Generation Leaders programme, the Ambassador programme is designed to involve members in ISOC's global engagement activities while providing valuable expertise and know-how to IGF meetings.

ISOC's Ambassadors help to explain and promote ISOC's positions on public policy issues related to the themes of the IGF. Ambassadors add their significant local and regional experience and insight to discussions and interventions during the sessions and workshops. The Ambassadors are also expected to take home first-hand experience of the IGF and to continue to drive local ISOC activities, particularly as they relate to Internet governance issues. The objective is also for them to continue participating in global discussions on Internet governance.

This year again, The Internet Society was pleased to announce the list of candidates chosen as ISOC Ambassadors for the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meeting to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh.

ISOC received more than 100 expressions of interest (twice more than last year) from individuals around the world, ensuring an excellent pool of suitable candidates. In addition to a staff review, ISOC established a Selection Committee comprised of individuals familiar with the Internet Governance Forum to evaluate applications.

Also, for the first time, ISOC has selected several previous IGF Ambassadors to serve as “returning Ambassadors”, building on the work already done and the connections the Ambassadors established in previous meetings.

The following candidates have been selected as the ISOC 2009 IGF Ambassadors:

New ISOC Ambassadors to the IGF (18)

- Anupam Agrawal, India
- Godfred K Ahuma, Ghana
- Fouad Riaz Bajwa, Pakistan
- Baasansuren Burmaa, Mongolia
- Olga Cavalli, Argentina
- Jorge Contreras, USA
- Olivier MJ Crépin-Leblond, France/UK
- Gérard Dantec, France
- Rafid AY Fatani, Saudi Arabia/UK
- Charity Gamboa Embley, Philippines/USA
- Tracy Hackshaw, Trinidad and Tobago
- Maureen Hilyard, Cook Islands
- Yvonne Ni, China
- John Kabogo Njoroge, Kenya
- Hempal Shrestha, Nepal
- Veaceslav Sidorenco, Moldova
- Naveed Ul Haq, Pakistan
- Rudi Vansnick, Belgium

Returning Ambassadors (4)

- Julián Casasbuenas G, Colombia
- Charles Mok, China (Hong Kong)
- Cristos Velasco, Mexico
- Ceren Ünal, Turkey

b) ISOC AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME AT THE IGF

Ambassador Briefing

On Saturday morning, November 14, 2009

ISOC @ the IGF

On Saturday, November 14, ISOC Ambassadors will be joined by other ISOC Chapter members, organizational members and individual members who are in

Sharm el-Sheikh for the IGF. ISOC staff will lead discussion of the key issues to be discussed at the IGF, based on the material above. The objective of the session will be to have an open discussion, and to create an awareness of the issues, but also to encourage all ISOC attendees to attend key sessions and to make helpful interventions from the floor during the main sessions. ISOC members and staff who have organized workshops will be invited to briefly introduce their sessions to participants. The afternoon session will be followed by an informal reception to encourage ISOC participants and Ambassadors to get acquainted with one another.

ISOC booth in the IGF Village

There will also be an ISOC booth at IGF Village. It will be open from Sunday - Wednesday. ISOC will use the booth to promote membership and Chapters. More information coming soon. Bill Graham found the booth very useful and a good meeting point. Khaled Khoubaa encouraged IGF ambassadors to be on booth.

Kevin Craemer (ISOC) added that the briefing will be held at the Congress Center. Suggest everyone stop at the registration desk to pick up their IGF credentials on the way to our 2-5pm meeting.

4. AOB

Khaled Khoubaa asked Bill Graham to summarize for us what is the actual different stakeholders position and what are the possible changes in those positions in regards with today AoC signed by ICANN? Bill Graham commented that it is too early to tell as no information forthcoming from Russians, Chinese. Did see statement from Vivian Reading on Chapter Delegates mailing list who was positive about outcome.

Bill Graham closed by saying happy to answer any questions online and thanked everyone for joining the call.
