

Contribution to the Consultation on the Establishment of the Working Group on Internet Governance

Composition and Structure of WGIG

The Challenge of WGIG

- Political weight of WGIG depends on openness and inclusiveness:
 - People won't accept outcome unless they recognize themselves in results
- WG with limited membership cannot represent all constituencies and stakeholders
 - Conflict between efficiency and legitimacy
- How can WGIG achieve general acceptance and support even though it won't be representative?

Suggestions of the IG Caucus

1. Status of the working group
2. Composition
3. Operating principles

Status of WGIG

- **Independency: The working group on Internet Governance should be independent of WSIS preparatory Committee meetings**
 - **Implication: members of the working group should serve as peers.**

Composition & Structure of IGWG (1/3)

- Two Tier Approach with WGIG as a Facilitator
 - Not reinventing of the wheel but collecting, analyzing and evaluating existing regional, technical and academic expertise in the field of Internet Governance.
 - Facilitator approach also provides opportunities for broad participation
- Second tier could consist of expert advisory groups and ad hoc expert consultations

Composition & Structure of IGWG (2/3)

- WGIG should not be a High Level Group but be constituted at working level
- Membership of the WG must be balanced between participants from governments, the private sector and civil society,
 - from both developing and developed countries
 - not favoring one group over any other
- The WG should respect gender diversity

Composition & Structure of IGWG (3/3)

- **Suggestion for a basic structure**
- 6 to 10 participants from Governments
- 6 to 10 participants from Civil Society
- 6 to 10 participants from Private Sector
- A chairperson or co-Chairs
- Observers from Intergovernmental and International Organizations
- Membership from all sectors should be divided equally between participants from developing and developed countries

Operational Principles 1/2)

- WGIG should respect the governance principles as suggested in the Summit Declaration and Action Plan
 - Process should be multilateral, transparent, democratic and open to full participation by governments, the private sector and civil society
 - WGIG should hold open meetings
 - Submissions to WGIG should be publicly archived
 - Reports and communications of WGIG must be translated into all official UN languages
 - WGIG reports must reflect comments received and explain how these comments were taken into account

Operational Principles 2/2)

- Chair or co-chairs of WGIG should be from Civil Society and/or Private Sector to ensure WGIG's independence
 - At least one chair should come from a developing country
- WGIG must be provided with necessary resources to achieve its tasks and to allow people from developing countries and Civil Society to participate.