



Discussions on Internet Coordination

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Outline

- The Discussions and Background
- ICANN
- ITU
- Proposals
- Conclusion



The Discussions (1/4)

- There have been many discussions in various forums concerning “Internet governance”
- The most recent discussions took place in WSIS, which agreed:
- 49. The management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations. In this respect it is recognized that:
 - (a) Policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues;



The Discussions (2/4)

- (b) The private sector has had and should continue to have an important role in the development of the Internet, both in the technical and economic fields;
- (c) Civil society has also played an important role on Internet matters, especially at community level, and should continue to play such a role;
- (d) Intergovernmental organizations have had and should continue to have a facilitating role in the coordination of Internet-related public policy issues;
- (e) International organizations have also had and should continue to have an important role in the development of Internet-related technical standards and relevant policies.
- 50. International Internet governance issues should be addressed in a coordinated manner. We ask the Secretary-General of the United Nations to set up a working group on Internet governance, ...



The Discussions (3/4)

- 13.b) We ask the Secretary General of the United Nations to set up a working group on Internet governance, in an open and inclusive process that ensures a mechanism for the full and active participation of governments, the private sector and civil society from both developing and developed countries, involving relevant intergovernmental and international organizations and forums, to investigate and make proposals for action, as appropriate, on the governance of Internet by 2005. The group should, *inter alia*:



The Discussions (4/4)

- (i) develop a working definition of Internet governance;
- (ii) identify the public policy issues that are relevant to Internet governance;
- (iii) develop a common understanding of the respective roles and responsibilities of governments, existing intergovernmental and international organisations and other forums as well as the private sector and civil society from both developing and developed countries;
- (iv) prepare a report on the results of this activity to be presented for consideration and appropriate action for the second phase of WSIS in Tunis in 2005.



The Background (1/2)

- One of the two hot issues for which the WSIS requested the UN Secretary General to establish a task force for further study.
- Because the issue is no longer a purely technical issue, but it has become a highly politically sensitive one during recent years.
- Many consider that Internet governance affects the sovereignty of countries.
- Some would like to request an intergovernmental organization to take care of the issues that affect country sovereignty, while they accept keeping technical matters and operational matters in the private sector.
- Others, although recognizing the need for some changes, prefer to keep the basic arrangement of the current system.



The Background (2/2)

- Some argue that if an intergovernmental organization were to step in, it would control everything and the private sector would lose its influence and that this would threaten the stability (current operation) as well as future evolution of the Internet.
- Therefore, the focus of the disagreement is whether or not there should be an intergovernmental organization to step in to take care of the policy and politically sensitive issues.
- Some think that a choice must be made between ICANN or ITU.
- **But this is not the right way to look at it.**

A different, win-win, approach is possible and desirable.



What is ICANN (1/2)?

- Non-profit company incorporated in California to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN:
 - coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet
 - coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system; and
 - coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.



What is ICANN (2/2)?

- The three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, are:
 - domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");
 - Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and
 - Protocol port and parameter numbers.



What is ITU?

- International treaty organization founded in 1865 to facilitate international interconnection of telegraphy
- Unique partnership of industry and governments
- Three sectors:
 - Development (aid to developing countries)
 - Radio (radio spectrum and satellite slot allocations)
 - Standardization (formerly CCITT, for example modem standards) (now called ITU-T; secretariat is called TSB)
- In ITU-T industry and government work together to develop mutually agreed non-binding Recommendations



An example of ITU-T work

ENUM is an IETF protocol for mapping telephone numbers into the DNS. IETF asked ITU to facilitate government approval of ENUM implementations, given that telephony is still regulated in most countries

- No real technical issues
- Complex regulatory issues
- After considerable discussion, most determined to be national matters
- Under agreed procedures
 - RIPE NCC will ask TSB if country approves ENUM delegation request
 - If yes, it proceeds
 - If no or no answer from country, it does not proceed (TSB objects)
- TSB does not itself evaluate requests in any way. RIPE NCC checks technical aspects of requests

See <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/inr/enum/index.html>



What ITU-T is not

The ITU-T does not do the following:

- World-wide regulation
- Consider issues that are national matters
- Binding recommendations
- Top-down decisions
- Impose contractual terms or operating rules on private companies
- Work in non-transparent ways
- Act bureaucratically
- Have staff that decides policies
- Collect fees other than membership fees (with the exception of minor cost-recovery activities)



What is ITU's Situation (1/5)

- ITU already cooperates with ICANN
- ITU-T working methods are fast and efficient: for example, over 600 Recommendations have been approved under Alternative Approval Process since 2001, more than 60% in less than 2 months
- ITU membership has increased in the private sector
- Non-government (non-profit) organizations can apply for ITU membership



What is ITU's Situation (2/5)

ITU-T Approval and publication times

	before 1988	1989-1993	1993-1996	1997-2000	2001-2004
Approval time	4 years	2 years	18 months	9 months (exceptional case: 5 months)	2-9 months
Publication time	2-4 years	2 years	1-1.5 year	6-12 months	3-9 months

- Notes:**
1. **Pre-published Recommendations, available on ITU-T Website, from a few days to four weeks after approval of the text.**
 2. **Recs in force, pre-published, superseded/obsolete: available on ITU-T Website.**
 3. **Forms of publication: paper, CD-ROM, electronic bookshop, online, etc.**
 4. **FREE ONLINE ACCESS SINCE JANUARY 2001 (one free access per member, 3 free downloads for public)**
 5. **“Approval time” counted between “determination/consent” and final approval**



What is ITU's Situation (3/5)

TSB

- ITU-T is a dynamic, well-respected industry-government partnership (650 Sector Members)
- Examples of ITU-T Recommendations:
 - G.723.1 & G.729 - Speech coding for Voice over IP and other applications
 - H.323 - Packet based multimedia communication systems - the protocols behind Voice over IP, along with:
 - H.245 - Control protocol for multimedia communications
 - H.248 - Gateway control protocol (developed jointly with IETF)
 - X.509 - Public-key encryption
 - V.90 - 56kbit/s PSTN modems - providing ubiquitous worldwide internet access
 - G.99x series - xDSL Recommendations for broadband access



What is ITU's Situation (4/5)

ITU-T–Electronic Publishing

- All Recommendations available online
- Key databases (for example, telephone country codes) available online
- Working documents available online

See <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/>



What is ITU's Situation (5/5)

- ITU participation and coordination do not imply ITU control or government control.
- A good example is the international telephone numbering scheme, which is coordinated by ITU-T and is universally considered to work to the satisfaction of the general public; however, telephone services are not controlled by ITU-T and are provided by private companies



How does ITU-T Develop Recommendations?

- Consensus of Sector Members and Member States
- Work typically driven by Sector Members
- Open (for members), transparent, bottoms-up process
- Sensitive to national sovereignty: will only cover matters not considered to be national
- Will not impose contractual terms or operating rules on private companies

Recommendations are not binding, but tend to be followed because they represent a true consensus.



Proposals to ICANN (1/2)

- Work with ICANN to take care of issues of concern to governments
- Increase participation in ICANN working groups
- Cooperate with ICANN for certain specific functions:
 - ccTLD issues
 - .arpa issues related to ENUM
 - .int issues
 - IP address policies
 - other areas as appropriate

For TSB Director's papers on ITU-T and ICANN Reform, see:
<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/tsb-director/itut-icann/index.html>



Proposals to ICANN (2/2)

- Explore new ways to tackle new challenges in cooperation with ICANN
- ITU would not wish to be engaged with operational matters
- Increased cooperation between ITU and ICANN could be discussed within the UN Secretary General's Working Group on Internet Governance
- **Engage in dialog with ICANN on these issues**

It is not proposed that ITU should take over any ICANN functions



Conclusions

- A cooperation between ITU and ICANN would allow all the different communities around the world that use, provide, operate, and design the Internet to address efficiently and effectively, in a constructive and productive manner, the various issues which have to date proven difficult to resolve within ICANN's existing structure.