INTERNET GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Lynn St. Amour

President and CEO, Internet Society

ARIN

Denver, Colorado

USA

7th April 2008

The Internet Society

- Founded in 1992 by Internet Pioneers
  - International non-profit organization
    - 90+ organization members
    - 28,000+ individual members
    - 90+ chapters worldwide
    - Regional Bureaus: Africa, Latin America & Caribbean, South & South East Asia, and others coming

- The mission of the Internet Society is to promote the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world.

IGF: a multi-faceted entity

http://www.intgovforum.org

- Origins in World Summit Information Society (WSIS)
  - IGF was a compromise on how "Internet Governance" should be handled
  - IG focus (then and now, although more patient now): IANA, ICANN, root servers,IP address assignment, tech. standards. etc.

- Open multi-stakeholder forum: dialogue on Internet matters
  - Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) – appointed by UN Secretary General (50% governments & 50% drawn from civil society & business)
  - 2007 IGF Rio: 2,100 registered participants (300 business & 550 governments)

- An important platform & channel – but not only one

- *We get out what we put in*

Why is the IGF important?

The IGF is about:

- Evolving models of engagement: exposes governments to multistakeholder, open, bottom-up (Internet model), community based processes

- Community building based on interest, not geography or politics

- Skills development and capacity building through discussion, experience, and good practice sharing from around the globe

- Leveraging opportunity; comparing and contrasting regulatory, technical, and societal approaches to access, diversity, openness, and security

Why is it unique as a forum?

- No formal negotiation, arranged seating or lengthy policy statements ("neutral, non duplicative and non-binding" as per its mandate)

- Encourages frank discussion among equals and enables a broader and more open exchange of views than in a traditional "inter-governmental" setting

- Focuses on capacity building and development, recognizing the importance of creating supportive enabling environments to facilitate Internet deployment

Internet Communities and the IGF

- ISOC has supported the IGF (and its predecessors) since their inception, as have various Internet communities, particularly the RIR's, ICANN, etc.

- The participation of members of Internet technical community has been considerable, noticed, thoughtful & appreciated

- There is value in an open, multi-stakeholder forum for Internet matters – even more importantly it is a good platform for communicating our messages to other communities and particularly to governments

- IGF continues to evolve and will be a convenient non-binding venue for Internet governance issues; but our venues remain more important

IGF 2008: Hyderabad, India

- Preparations begun: first open consultations February – feedback largely positive
  - http://www.intgovforum.org/

- Multistakeholder advisory group (MAG) more transparent
  - http://www.intgovforum.org/Feb_igf_meeting/MAG.Summary.28.02.2008.v2.pdf

- Decision to "renew" 30% of the MAG, but mechanism unclear
  - Debate about status of the Internet technical community
  - Likely call for nominations

- Decisions taken on the main topics and structure of the meeting
  - http://www.intgovforum.org/hydera/DraftProgramme.Hyderabad-draft.26.03.2008.pdf

- Call for workshop proposals: deadline 30 April
  - http://www.intgovforum.org/workshops08/WorkshopTemplate.v1.doc

- Indian government preparations underway
  - http://www.intgovforum.org/feb26/IGF-Hyd-2008.v2.pdf

Key challenges for IGF 2008

- Maintain participation

- Members of the Internet technical community had a significant role in shaping the IGF – important for all of us to stay involved and be prominent in the 2008 IGF

- Further build on the real IGF strength:
    - "*bringing together people who generally tend to meet separately*" (N. Desai)

- Mobilizing the friends of the Internet and the Internet model (and <u>encourage participation in Asia</u>!)

- Themes: more focused on showing real results in promoting access, security, diversity, and openness

The 2008 OECD Ministerial: The future of the Internet economy

- Followup to 1998 Ministerial on e-commerce
  <www.oecd.org/FutureInternet>

- Invited 13 Internet technical organizations to provide input on same basis as business and civil society
  - ISOC Coordinating
    <www.isoc.org/pubpolpillar/issues/oecd_ministerial.shtml>

- IPv4-IPv6 transition paper: developed with ISOC inputs

- 1-day Internet technical community forum to advise Ministers
  - Agenda nearly completed (NRO members participating)
  - A "memorandum" in preparation
  - Several speakers from our community in Ministerial round tables

- Opportunity to make our points to the leading developed nations

Other Internet governance activities

- ## WSIS cluster of events, 13-30 May
  - http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/

- ## ITU World Telecom Policy Forum 2009
  Topics:
  - Convergence
  - Internet-related public policy issues
  - Next-generation networks (NGN)
  - Emerging policy issues
  - Materials related to the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs)
  - http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/wtpf/wtpf2009/index.phtml
  - http://www.isoc.org/pubpolpillar/community/wtpf_07012008.shtml

- ## United Nations revives "enhanced cooperation"
  - http://wiki.tools.isoc.org/Policy_Activities/UN_report_request

Internet governance activities report   7 April 2008   http://www.isoc.org

Where This Matters to You

- The RIRs are recognized as key players in the open Internet collaborative model
- As governments look to current Internet challenges, they need to understand that that model works
  - E.g., OECD preparing status of IPv4 paper
  - OECD ministerial event in Seoul, June 2008
- RIRs have a track record of successfully overcoming problems and an admirable history of cooperation
- The big challenge now is the deployment of IPv6 as IPv4 supply nears its end
  - The world is looking to the RIRs to be effective in their role
  - RIR communities continue to rise to the challenge, drawing on established strengths and principles, building on hard-earned trust
  - RIR communities must, particularly, remain visibly open and responsive to local and global needs - key to localizing governance

Key challenges for all of us

- Education, education, education

- Promote the Internet model & principles in support of a common and open Internet

- Work together constructively, without abandoning our own unique mandates or force-fitting ourselves into others' models

- Execute as well as possible in our capacities

- Manage key challenges:
  – v4/v6 space being watched very closely

- Recognize that all opportunities to argue for increased participation by governments will be exploited

Questions – Discussion?

Internet governance activities report 7 April 2008 http://www.isoc.org