



WSIS+10 High-Level Event

Forum Track **OUTCOME DOCUMENT**

1) Title of your session

Internet Governance: Challenges, Issues and Roles (A Taxonomy Discussion)
Workshop #170

2) Name of Organization/s organizing the workshop.

Internet Society

3) Main outcomes highlighting the following:

The session discussed the growing complexity and significance of Internet governance addressing the difficult issues that impact, or are impacted by the continued evolution of the global Internet. The panel members discussed the varying means that can be used to capture the issues and map the roles played by all stakeholders (e.g. governments, Internet technical community, private sector businesses and other non-governmental stakeholders) to understand the gaps and steps needed to address those gaps in the broader Internet Governance debate.

Debated Issues

- Internet governance – how do you capture the taxonomy of the issues and identify the gaps that need to be addressed
- Accountability and the roles of stakeholders in the discussion
- Mechanisms to map the Internet governance ecosystem to capture the issues
- What are the roots of internet governance and the foundation of the historical views that may have shaped the current mapping processes
- What is the role of governments in the Internet governance map

Quotes

"Internet governance is not about governments, but about the process. The term governance comes from the Latin word for steering -- every boat needs a tiller to guide its progress." Markus Kummer

Main Outcomes of the Session highlighting



- The Internet is an ever changing and complex enabler and innovator however the changes also create challenges for Internet governance frameworks.
- Governments have a role in protecting their societies in the same way they do in the offline world.
- There are many ways to map the Internet governance issues and the roles that are played by stakeholders to determine issues and gaps that need to be addressed and incorporated into the broader governance process.
- It is important to incorporate historical knowledge into the mechanisms used to map the issues and identify the gaps.
- It was proposed that there are five key areas for Internet governance issues: sociocultural, economic, development, legal, infrastructure & standardization
- There are differences in between traditional policy issues that existed before the growth of the Internet, which are being transformed as a result of the Internet and new issues that are as a result of the Internet that address proper functioning of the network
- There is a need to build on Internet governance mapping outcomes and with the purpose of deepening the analysis of those issues, and to develop approaches to incorporate the identified gaps into the process.
- However the policy issues are messy and overlap with other issues so that the map is not a clean picture of identified outcomes.
- There is a role for everyone in the Internet governance map; no matter what mechanism you may use to outline the environment.

Moderator:

- Mr. Markus Kummer - Internet Society

Panelists:

- Mr. Eliot Lear, Cisco
- Mr. George Sadowsky, ICANN Board
- Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, DiploFoundation
- Mr. William Drake – University of Zurich

Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2015



Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting

The roles of all stakeholders in enabling the open Internet and Internet governance through understanding the contribution of ICTs in enabling future innovation and economic development that results from this collaboration.

- Information and communication infrastructure
- International and regional cooperation