The 2013 IGF Meeting

This year’s overarching theme at the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Bali seeks to start identifying ways to overcome the divisive climate that was pervasive during last year’s World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) in Dubai. The ambitious objective of the Bali meeting is to build bridges and strengthen the cooperation between and among various stakeholders, allowing a constructive multistakeholder dialogue. However, this dialogue is not supposed to be an end in itself, but a means toward making the best possible use of the Internet as a tool for fostering economic growth and open sustainable development.

The preparatory process for the 2013 meeting also made it clear that stakeholders are willing to try out new formats and make the IGF more outcome oriented.

History and Background

The IGF is a direct outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which took place in two phases in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunis in 2005. Creation of the IGF was part of the recommendations of the WSIS Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG), which prepared the agenda for the Tunis Summit. WGIG had identified a gap in current Internet governance arrangements and proposed the creation of a new platform for multistakeholder dialogue. In Tunis, Heads of State and government endorsed the WGIG recommendations and agreed to request that the United Nations Secretary-General convene a new forum for “multi-stakeholder policy dialogue”.

The IGF mandate is clear insofar as it is a platform for multistakeholder discussion and should be part of an open and inclusive process. It was not given a mandate for decision-making or for agreed binding outputs.
The ground rules for IGF are spelled out in the outcome document of the Tunis Summit - the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society:

The IGF has developed a practice that allows all stakeholders to take part on an equal footing. The IGF, as a neutral, non-duplicative and non-binding process has no involvement in day-to-day or technical operations of the Internet. In short, it is designed to be a place where issues can be explored in an open environment that encourages Internet technical and policy experts, academics, civil society groups and governments to interact freely, without any pressure to reach a negotiated outcome. While the IGF is not a decision-making body, it has proven to help shape decisions that are taken elsewhere and to create a more informed global cadre of experts.

In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) extended the IGF mandate for an additional five years. The 2010 extension came with a call for improvements to the IGF, to be discussed by a Working Group convened by the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). The Working Group made recommendations that were adopted by the UN’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in July 2012.

The Internet Society has participated at all stages of WSIS and the follow-on IGFs: http://www.internetsociety.org/internet-governance. 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 members and partner organizations from around the world.

In February 2013, the Internet Society’s Vice-President (VP) for Public Policy, Markus Kummer, was asked to serve as Interim Chair of the IGF’s Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) to prepare the 2013 meeting: http://intgovforum.org/cms/2013/DESA-13_00269.pdf

2013 IGF Main Theme

IGF #8: Bali, Indonesia October 22-25, 2013
- Venue: Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center – BNDCC (baliconventioncenter.com)
- Registration open: http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-2013-registration
- The draft schedule of the meeting is available on the IGF website: http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-2013-draft-schedule

Main Theme: “Building Bridges - Enhancing Multistakeholder Cooperation for Growth and Sustainable Development”

Key Issues
- Human Rights, freedom of expression, free flow of information on the Internet
- Access/Diversity: Internet as an Engine for Growth and Sustainable Development
- Internet Governance Principles
- Principles of Multistakeholder Cooperation
- Security: Legal and other Frameworks for Spam, Hacking and Cyber-crime
- Enhanced Multistakeholder Cooperation
Internet Society Open and Sustainable Internet Campaign

Each year, the IGF provides all interested stakeholders a unique opportunity to discuss openly critical emerging Internet-related issues. This year will be no exception. Important discussions will take place in Bali, including how Internet technology has become a significant enabler for the full enjoyment of Human Rights for many, the notion of multistakeholder cooperation that guides Internet governance and how cybersecurity issues fit within the realm of a cooperative, multi-faceted and open Internet environment.

In addressing all these issues, the question remains whether the community of stakeholders will be able to preserve the sustainability of the open Internet, which is challenged at different levels (technical, governance, political, societal, commercial and developmental) and in different degrees.

As part of its engagement at the Internet Governance Forum, the Internet Society will strongly support the fundamentals of our Open and Sustainable Internet Programme. Our core message is articulated around the idea that a healthy and sustainable Internet is based on the principles of “openness”:

- Open global standards for unleashed innovation (“permissionless innovation”)
- Open to Everyone: enhancing principles of freedom, creativity and expression for Every Internet-User
- Openness for Business and Economic Progress
- Open and multistakeholder Governance for Transparent Inclusion

Internet Society Activities

Closely involved in preparations for all IGF meetings, the Internet Society also facilitates participation of all stakeholders:

- Participation in Open Consultations, agenda setting, workshops, influence on themes
- Participation in the CSTD WG on Improvements for the IGF (Constance Bommelaer)
- Presence on MAG (Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group): Markus Kummer (Interim Chair), Raúl Echeberría (ISOC Board Member and former Board Chairman), Theresa Swinehart (ISOC Board Member), and staff, Constance Bommelaer.
- Pre-IGF consultation on the value of multistakeholder participation processes http://www.internetsociety.org/2013-igf-mini-site

Internet Society staff is highly involved in and contributes to the IGF’s success: http://www.internetsociety.org/igf-2013-activities-and-speakers

- Opening Session speech by CEO, Lynn St. Amour
- Organization of and participation in numerous workshops on critical issues such as Internet exchange points, Cybersecurity, Spam, Privacy, Digital Content or Internet freedom
- ISOC Open Forum
- IETF Open Forum
Organization of a session on Collaborative Leadership Exchange with DiploFoundation and other key partners, as part of the IGF Capacity Building track: [http://www.google.com/moderator/?authuser=0#16/e=210a29](http://www.google.com/moderator/?authuser=0#16/e=210a29)

- Speech from the technical community in the Closing Ceremony

Conducting an on-site engagement plan with Members and Ambassadors:

- Preparatory calls, on-site briefing, reception in Bali, ISOC booth
- Pre-event on-line consultation on Multistakeholder participation
- Leading the Internet Society IGF Ambassadors Programme: Supporting the participation of young Internet professionals across the Internet Ecosystem, ensuring regional, cultural, gender and occupational diversity, developing their diplomatic skills, and deepening their technical expertise in participating actively to the forum:
  - 10 first time ambassadors
  - 5 returning ambassadors
  - 5 country specific ambassadors (Venezuela)


**On-site Events**

**Sunday, 20 October**
09:30-17:00 ASIAPAC Chapters’ workshop

**Monday, 21 October**
08:30-16:30 Pre-IGF Collaborative Leadership Exchange (CLX)

**Tuesday, 22 October**
18:30 ISOC Reception, in partnership with other Internet organizations

**Tuesday, 22 October - Friday, 25 October**
09:00-18:00 Internet Society Booth


**ISOC Workshops and Sessions (21-25 October)**

**Pre-event Workshop: Big Brother Became Reality - What is the Right Balance between Security and Freedom in the Digital World?**
Organiser: Jimmy Schulz, member of the German Parliament
Panelist: Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society)
No. 41: Developing and Effectively using Multistakeholder Principles
- Organisers: APC, Government of Brazil, ICC BASIS and Markus Kummer (Internet Society)
- Theme: Principles of Multi-stakeholder Cooperation
- IGF Ambassador Supporting: Sarah Kiden

No. 46: Is it Time for the Internet Spring in the Arab Region
- Theme: Principles of Multi-stakeholder Cooperation
- Panelist: Sofie Maddens (Internet Society)

No. 48: Removing Barriers to Connectivity: Connecting the Unconnected
- Organiser: Jane Coffin (Internet Society) and Caroline Greer (ETNO)
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Panelist: Rajnesh Singh (Internet Society)
- Remote Moderators: Jane Coffin and Michael Kende (Internet Society)
- IGF Ambassadors Supporting: Anupam Agrawal, Argyro Karanasiou, May-Ann Lim, Alejandro Acosta

No. 49: IXPs: Building, Sustaining and Governing Them
- Organiser: Jane Coffin (Internet Society)
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Panelist: Sebastian Bellagamba (Internet Society)
- IGF Ambassadors Supporting: Anupam Agrawal, Argyro Karanasiou, May-Ann Lim, Alejandro Acosta

No. 53: Internet Ecosystem Evolution
- Organiser: Michael Kende (Internet Society)
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Panelist: Rajnesh Singh (Internet Society)

No. 59: Content Creation, Access to Information, Open Internet
- Organisers: WIPO and Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)
- Theme: Legal Frameworks and Cyber-crime (e.g., Spam, Cyber-security)
- Panelist: Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)
- Remote Moderator: Luca Belli (past ISOC IGF Ambassador)

No. 62: How can the Internet be an Engine for Development and Growth?
- Organiser: AFRALO and ICANN
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Panelist: Sofie Maddens (Internet Society)
No. 90: No Cyber Security Without Government Imposed Regulation
- Organisers: ECP and SIDM
- Theme: Legal Frameworks and Cyber-crime (e.g., Spam, Cyber-security)
- Panelist: Karen Mulberry (Internet Society)

No. 97: Internet Universality
- Organiser: UNESCO
- Theme: Human Rights/Freedom of Expression on the Internet
- Panelist: Constance Bommelaer (Internet Society)

No. 106: Cybersecurity: Throwing out Preconceptions
- Organiser: Christine Runnegar (Internet Society)
- Theme: Legal Frameworks and Cyber-crime (e.g., Spam, Cyber-security)
- Moderator: Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society)
- IGF Ambassadors Supporting: Cintra Sooknanan, Fawaz Bokhari, Filiz Yilmaz, Andres Azpurua

No. 127: MS Selection Processes: Accountability and Transparency
- Organisers: APC, ICC and the Internet Society
- Theme: Principles of Multi-stakeholder Cooperation
- Panelist: Constance Bommelaer (Internet Society)

No. 129: Human Rights & Multi-Stakeholder Governance: ICANN Experience
- Organisers: APC and others
- Theme: Principles of Multi-stakeholder Cooperation
- Panelist: Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society)

No. 166: Internet Copyright Policy: Multistakeholder or Multilateral?
- Co-Organiser: Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)
- Theme: Legal Frameworks and Cyber-crime (e.g., Spam, Cyber-security)

No. 203: Big Data: Promoting Development and Safeguarding Privacy
- Organisers: The Council of Europe
- Panelist: Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)
No. 209: An Open Internet Platform for Economic Growth and Innovation
- Organisers: OECD and ITAC (Constance Bommelaer)
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Moderator: Constance Bommelaer (Internet Society)

No. 215: Encouraging Locally Relevant Content to Grow the Internet
- Organisers: Disney and UNESCO
- Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement
- Panelist: Raj Singh (Internet Society)
- Remote Moderator: Michael Kende (Internet Society)

No. 222: Internet Universal Affordable Access: Are we There Yet?
- Organiser: APNIC
- Theme: Enhanced Cooperation
- Panelist: Michuki Mwangi

No. 276: Rights Issues for Disadvantaged Groups
- Organisers: IFLA and IRP coalition
- Theme: Human Rights/Freedom of Expression on the Internet
- Panelist: Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)

No. 285: Flash Session: Principles on Internet Surveillance
- Organisers: CDT and Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society)
- Theme: Human Rights/Freedom of Expression on the Internet

No. 335: Privacy: From Regional Regulations to Global Connections?
- Organiser: Frederic Donck (Internet Society)
- Theme: Internet Governance Principles
- Remote Moderator: Luca Belli (Former ISOC IGF Ambassador)
- IGF Ambassadors Supporting: Argyro Karanasiou, Roxana Radu, Filiz Yilmaz

No. 340: Network Neutrality: from Architecture to Norms
- Organiser: Luca Belli (former ISOC IGF Ambassador)
- Theme: Human Rights/Freedom of Expression on the Internet
- Panelist: Frédéric Donck (Internet Society)
- Remote Moderator: Nicolas Seidler
- IGF Ambassadors Supporting: Roxana Radu, Sarah Kiden, Teuku Geumpana, Raitme Citterio
No. 356: Supporting Local Content Development
• Organiser: Patrick Ryan (Google)
• Panelist: Michael Kende (Internet Society)
• Theme: The Internet as an Engine for Growth and Advancement

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Open Forum: The Internet Society
• Organisers: Jane Coffin and Karen Rose (Internet Society)
• Panelists: Sofie Maddens, Sebastian Bellagamba, Karen Rose, Jane Coffin, Michael Kende, and Rajnesh Singh (Internet Society)

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Main Session: Building Bridges: The Role of Governments in Multistakeholder Cooperation
• Moderator: Markus Kummer (Internet Society)
http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/content/article/121-preparatory-process/1336-building-bridges-the-role-of-governments-in-multistakeholder-cooperation

Focus Session: Legal and other Frameworks: Spam, Hacking and Cyber-crime (Security)
• Discussant: Karen Mulberry (Internet Society)

Focus Session: Human Rights, Freedom of Expression and the Free Flow of Information on the Internet (Openness theme)
• Discussant: Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society)

Focus Session: Internet Governance Principles
• Discussant: Konstantinos Komaitis (Internet Society)
http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/content/article/121-preparatory-process/1339-internet-governance-principles
Useful links

IGF website: http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/

Host country website: http://igf2013.or.id/


ISOC on Internet Governance: http://www.internetsociety.org/internet-governance

ISOC on the IGF: http://www.internetsociety.org/igf


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