

Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI)

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
Tunis, 16-18 November 2005

PrepCom 3 resumed

CCBI intervention for Subcommittee A on Internet governance by Ayesha Hassan, ICC 14 November 2005

Thank you chairman.

We have not had an opportunity to consult internally on the proceedings today and will commend on them later. The comments we will provide connect to this morning's discussion and we hope they will be useful as you consider the work of this morning's proceedings.

Business appreciates the support expressed for the principles that we have outlined.

Yesterday's interventions and discussions raised a number of issues, and we would like to provide constructive input on them:

- We believe that the Internet will evolve in ways that we cannot imagine today and at a pace that we cannot predict. The ability of existing organizations to keep pace with the challenges and opportunities is one of the key attributes of the Internet's success. We all have an interest in this dynamic evolution which has resulted in a tenfold increase of the number of Internet users over the past seven years.
- Therefore, instead of proposing to maintain the "status quo", business advocates calls for and agrees with others who have called for an active engagement with the various actors in the multiple fora that currently exist.
- Business encourages organizations addressing Internet related issues to take a more cooperative approach to jointly having events that include all stakeholders on an equal footing.
- This approach would bring together the relevant expert organizations to discuss specific topics in a focused manner in a neutral setting to promote cooperation without having to establish a new "permanent" organization which would unnecessarily drain resources.
- This cooperative approach would encourage all stakeholders to share information and experiences to promote capacity building and meaningful participation in the information society.
- Identifying a single organization to deal with the myriad diverse issues potentially under the Internet governance banner would be counterproductive to cooperation among the multiple organizations. This

would also detract from an effective focus and application of expertise on any particular issue.

- This will build on the expertise and experience that has been painstakingly developed and still evolving in these existing organizations.

We look forward to contributing further to the ongoing negotiations

Thank you for this opportunity and for your attention

WHAT IS THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF BUSINESS INTERLOCUTORS (CCBI)?

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was held during the week of 8 December 2003 in Geneva, culminating in the Summit segment on 10-12 December 2003. The second part of this Summit will take place in 2005 in Tunisia.

Principals of the Summit host countries and executive secretariat invited the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to create the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI) as a vehicle through which to mobilize and coordinate the involvement of the worldwide business community in the processes leading to and culminating in the Summit. ICC and the CCBI group led the private-sector effort to provide substantive input into the first phase of the Summit, and mobilized the private sector to participate in the preparatory phases and at the Summit itself. The CCBI, is constituted of the following organizations and their members: Among the organizations actively involved in the work of the CCBI, in addition to ICC, are: Asociacion Hispanoamericana de Centros de Investigacion y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones, Brazilian Chamber of Electronic Commerce, Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD; The Computer Society of Kenya, Global Business Dialogue on Electronic Commerce; Global Information Infrastructure Commission; Latin-American Information Technology Association; United States Council on International Business; World Information Technology and Services Alliance; French Publishers Association; International Publishers Association, CABASE, E-COM LAC.

For further information regarding CCBI, please consult the WSIS website at: <http://www.itu.int/wsis/index.html>
the CCBI website at www.businessatwsis.net
or ICC's website at: <http://www.iccwbo.org/policy/ebitt/id2343/index.html>
or contact wsis@iccwbo.org

ABOUT ICC

ICC is the world business organization, the only representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. ICC promotes an open international trade and investment system and the market economy. Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment, e-business, IT and telecoms policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. ICC was founded in 1919 and today it groups thousands of member companies and associations from over 130 countries.