



International Chamber of Commerce

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Business Action to Support
the Information Society

ICC BASIS interventions at IGF Open Consultations Geneva, 14 February 2012

The following ICC BASIS interventions and those of fellow business representatives are extracted from the real-time captioning taken during the 14 February 2012 open consultations of the IGF. Although it is largely accurate, in some cases it may be incomplete, or inaccurate due to inaudible passages or transcription errors.

MORNING SESSION

Intervention 1

Delivered by Ayesha Hassan, ICC BASIS

I am pleased to provide this initial contribution on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and members of its BASIS initiative, Business Action to Support the Information Society. ICC and BASIS represent companies and associations from around the world, across sectors and geographies.

ICC-BASIS members heartily congratulate the host country of Kenya, the organizers and the IGF secretariat on a most successful event, and look forward to working with all stakeholders to prepare another successful IGF 2012. The host country provided a warm welcome to all participants and we recognize the special contributions of Alice Munyua, Dr Bitange Ndemo, Hon. Minister Mr Samuel Poghishio and Philip Okundi which were greatly appreciated.

Our sincere and warm appreciation to all members of the host country organizing team who worked throughout the year toward the success of the IGF 2011. The hard work and contributions of the hosting countries include so many aspects that contribute to the experiences and the success of the IGF itself.

We also would like to express our special thanks and recognition to Chengetai Masango and the IGF secretariat team whose tireless efforts under constrained circumstances deserve much appreciation.

IGF 2011's theme of 'Internet as a catalyst for change: access, development, freedoms and innovation' set a dynamic stage for discussions building on the earlier IGFs, hosted in Vilnius, Lithuania; Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt; Hyderabad, India; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Athens, Greece. The 2,000 plus registrations and strong business presence meant the participation this year was the best ever. This demonstrates the importance of the IGF for all stakeholders – business, civil society, academic, technical community, governments and IGOs.

Once again, the IGF in 2011 successfully brought together an extensive range of leaders from the many communities interested in Internet governance and provided a unique opportunity to have frank and open discussions on a wide range of issues. Like its predecessors, the IGF



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2011 brought together many stakeholders and experts from a variety of disciplines and areas of responsibility who otherwise do not have opportunities to engage with each other annually. A major value add for all is the constructive exchange of best practices and considerations of the best policy approaches and options as they relate to respective situations or cultures that in turn resonate in policy discussions and decisions around the world and at national and regional levels. Participation by Kenyan stakeholders and strong representation from all stakeholders in the region was a real strength this year.

In addition, the special ministerial event organized by Kenya and the ITU before the IGF provided an interesting opportunity for exchange, again amongst a range of stakeholders who may otherwise not have had the opportunity to meet or be aware of the IGF.

We also recognize the effort to include participants from around the world in the IGF through the extensive remote hubs, expanded remote participation/webcasts/real-time transcription for the workshops and open forums in addition to main sessions. Remote participation and IG and development issues continued to be a key theme in many sessions, as well as in a main session.

Intervention 2

Delivered by Jennifer Warren, Lockheed Martin

Good afternoon. My name is Jennifer Warren, and my comments are on behalf of the ICC/BASIS. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

We wanted to focus on two aspects of the structure of the IGF as we go forward. One is the opening and closing ceremonies and the other is media.

In the context of the opening and closing ceremonies, basically, we would really like to emphasize comments that have already been made by one or two colleagues today. These ceremonies are obviously an important part of any international meeting, regional or global. And it is obviously also very important to provide political leadership with visibility and a role.

However, we think it is important also to retain the true multistakeholder nature of the IGF. And so, opening and closing ceremonies that are perhaps disproportionate in time to the overall event may overwhelm the nature of the multistakeholder aspects of the IGF. So we would like to make sure that they are proportionate and allowing us to maximize the dialogue opportunities across all the stakeholder communities.

With respect to media, we would like to propose more consultation and participation of the private sector and the other stakeholder communities in the press conferences.

Doing so would allow perhaps a fuller reflection of the breadth and quality of the dialogue and discussions that are going on across the key themes of the IGF. So toward this goal, for example, the IGF could look to coordinate among stakeholders and provide them with notice of when a press conference would be called and invite multiple stakeholders to have

representatives of the multiple stakeholder communities present to participate, again, to show kind of the breadth and nature of the discussions going on which, again, would be part of a more global messaging. Thank you very much.

Intervention 3

Delivered by Ayesha Hassan, ICC BASIS

Thank you, Chair; Ayesha Hassan speaking on behalf of ICC/BASIS. I just wanted to pick up on a couple of the comments that have been made regarding workshops and how to continue to improve the scheduling in that regard.

I would like to support the input from our colleague, John Carr, about perhaps it would be helpful if the preparatory process in the MAG and the Secretariat work very hard this year to have the announcement of workshops, the date and time, much further in advance. That will really go a long way to improving the range of speakers, as well as the preparations that the organizers would do for the workshops.

So I would support that.

I think we also want to continue our efforts to ensure that workshops are well prepared, that solid information is available well in advance so people can plan on which workshops they would like to attend, and also keep working towards non-duplication.

We have had the challenge -- it's difficult to streamline and merge beyond a certain point so I think the points made this morning in that regard are helpful for the continued MAG discussions on that issue as well.

This year, you know, workshops -- there was a real effort by the Secretariat to encourage workshop organizers to post white papers before or after the IGF that related to the issues that were part of their workshop's discussion.

We would be interested in knowing, you know, whether workshop organizers and participants found that the white papers that were posted were helpful and how can that be built upon this year, if it was helpful.

A last comment would be about how to take more stock of the workshops and their value add.

Perhaps exploring the idea of some kind of survey, whether it is on-line or a paper sheet left in the workshop room so that participants can give feedback if they do not have a computer or what have you. Perhaps that would be an interesting way to start capturing more feedback about individual workshops. Thank you.

Intervention 4

Delivered by Zahid Jamil, Jamil and Jamil

Thank you. Zahid Jamil from Pakistan, with DNDRC.

I just wanted to say that it is interesting to see the consensus that is being formed with Ayesha from ICC, with APC, Adam, and others basically talking about having something that will survey at the end of a workshop what participants thought the workshop is going to be like. I think we are moving towards that. Sounds like a very good idea.

What I also wanted to add was that since we are thinking about Internet social resources, we could think about live Twitter feeds so people can move around rooms, et cetera, and actually have that done if that's possible. It might be an idea.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Intervention 1

Delivered by Zahid Jamil, Jamil and Jamil

Thank you. My name is Zahid Jamil. I am from Pakistan, on behalf of Internet businesses and speaking on behalf of the ICC right now.

We wanted to basically bring up the issue of emphasizing the development in IG cross-cutting themes. The development in Internet governance issues were important to last year's IGF program. We believe that an enhanced focus on development issues in each main session will be essential and suggest that there be a development track and more concerted efforts to gather and distribute best practices and practical support.

And in this respect, we have certain recommendations for the next IGF.

We strongly encourage workshop proposals that include developing country perspectives, a specific angle of discussion on development concerns, or opportunities that should be prioritized. We urge discussion about what developing countries can do to attract private investment, both domestic as well as foreign, in broadband infrastructure deployment and to encourage innovation and the growth of ICT services, including mobile.

Having a session focused on the exchange of best practices on this topic could be very productive. And in that respect and on this point, maximizing benefits and minimizing restrictions could be a particular focus.

Exploring the importance of relevant content for development which can include local content issues and commercial content services would be useful for 2012.



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We encourage discussions to foster a better understanding of the impact of the economic downturn on Internet governance issues as well, and in that respect, greater cooperation.

We also, lastly, suggest including a theme on new trends and technologies building on the previous discussions regarding cloud and mobile Internet and their impacts on social development and economic growth, and how this helps to discuss with developing economies and improve their competitiveness.

And lastly, I have a, maybe something we can play around with, a suggestion to next year's theme: Sustainable Internet: economic society maximizing benefits, minimizing restrictions.

Thank you, Chair.

Intervention 2

Delivered by Thomas Spiller, Walt Disney Company

Mr Chairman, my name is Thomas Spiller from the Walt Disney Company and I'm here on behalf of ICC/BASIS.

I would just like to pick up on some comments which were made earlier by some of the people across the room. From a business perspective, it is clear that and I really want to stress that, because I did not hear the word yet but we are always, always focused on growth and jobs, and that growth and those jobs are not only for developed economies, they are also for emerging economies and developing countries, so we are looking at it from an all-inclusive perspective.

And under that overarching growth and jobs theme, we believe that at the IGF 2012, the issues of security - and again, some people mentioned openness, so within openness you can of course include human rights or non-human rights there, and privacy should be on the agenda. But we also believe that those are excellent vehicles to promote, again, positive messages around those topics. So we definitely would like to see discussions on the value of those three issues. Again, security -- so resilience, for instance -- openness, human rights, and I just want to stress here for the business community, we are not absent from the discussion. We are concerned about human rights as companies. We have some duties there and our employees and citizens care about it.

So again, security, openness, and privacy should be on the agenda. In particular, when it comes to privacy, we would like to see focus on kids, children all around the world, which have the right to have a safe and secure Internet. And again, it is not only for developed countries, it is for everybody around the table, and everybody around the globe, and, you know, we live in an era of big data. We have seen many articles and contributions, so we really believe that for us, big data is actually translated into those three issues of security, openness and privacy, and we would really like to have those represented at the IGF 2012.

Last year in Kenya, it was already talked about, but we definitely would like to see those greatly discussed in Baku. Thank you.

Intervention 3

Delivered by Ricardo Pedraza Barrios, Verisign

Thanks, Chairman. My name is Ricardo Pedraza. I'm from Colombia, South America. I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on behalf of ICC/BASIS regarding the access and diversity thing. It is one of the broader aspects covered in the IGF meetings, even if each year there is a great effort to narrow its scope.

To say that, four issues were highlighted in the Nairobi meeting. First, one was infrastructure as an enabler of the access to Internet as well as a platform to ICT solutions that may have a social benefit in education, health, disaster relief and other purposes.

Let me share a personal experience at this point. I had the opportunity to participate at the first IGF in the Pacific Islands in Noumea, New Caledonia last year. And being there, there was the opportunity to see and to understand the real importance of disaster relief for these countries and territories that are formed by thousands of islands that are affected by climate change.

An ICTs base on an Internet platform is a unique solution for prevention and disaster relief in this part of the world. So another aspect discussed at the infrastructure level was the need to improve security measures at different levels.

And another key aspect of the infrastructure discussed was the investment required across different countries. The regulatory policy, regulatory conditions needed for facilitating these investments in infrastructure we will also discuss.

The second issue is the relevance and potential of mobile, wireless, and spectrum issues on the development of the Internet infrastructure. We recognize the growing use of wireless broadband services around the world as well as the importance of ensuring continued growth of development of society through these channels.

The third one is the need of deepening transparency and accountability with Internet -- with Internet governance, as the Council of Europe representative mentioned this morning. This is a key aspect to continue building a climate of confidence among different stakeholders.

And last, but not least, is the empowerment of women. There was a very dynamic workshop at the IGF in Nairobi on women and Internet governance. We believe it will be constructive to build upon and open up that dialogue to include the empowerment of women in the access and diversity main session topics.

These will include exploration of empowering women's access to information, access to the Internet and positive economic impact this has on societies, and what Internet governance policy approaches need to be in place to make this happen. Thank you very much.

Intervention 4

Delivered by Jeff Brueggeman, AT&T

Jeff Brueggeman with AT&T, speaking on behalf of ICC.

Some general comments consistent with the intervention by the UK: I also agree that it is important to maintain an overall scope of the IGF that is focused on Internet governance. That said, I think we have talked about a lot of ways to add new areas of focus and timely topics within the current structure of the main areas of organization of the main themes, so we would support maintaining those themes and as the IGF has done every year, finding ways to address the timely and evolving issues that are emerging.

With respect to critical infrastructure resources specifically, just wanted to add some comments that there is a, I think, also a need to focus on pragmatic issues. We are under a time of great transition, as others have noted, whether it is IPv6 implementation, DNS security issues, or the introduction of new domain names and IDNs. I think it is important to continue the discussion on both the practical issues that that creates as well as the broader social and economic issues as well.

I fully support the introduction and perhaps additional emphasis on disaster recovery and preparedness issues. It was actually something that came up in the emerging issues session last year that I participated in, and I think it is a broad area that can incorporate both the underlying infrastructure and how do we think about disaster preparedness and recovery in terms of the infrastructure as well as, as others have said, how do we use technology to help improve both, the disaster preparation and disaster recovery efforts, on the back end.

So, that is a very timely topic related to critical Internet resources.

And finally, I think looking ahead as we always try to do, we see the Internet resources being used increasingly for new types of application, whether it is smart grid, healthcare, and other things, and I think it would be timely to take on some of those new applications as part of critical Internet resources as well, both from a technical, privacy and security perspective, as well as the broader user and social implications of that transition. Thank you.

Intervention 5

Delivered by Jennifer Warren, Lockheed Martin

Thank you, Mr Chairman. I want to follow up on what the EU just said and ICC/BASIS' previous comments.



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The main sessions themselves, the subtitles or the titles, are sufficiently flexible to accommodate and focus on a number of the higher-priority topics that have been highlighted here, whether they be sustainability, development, or some of the topics of Internet freedom.

I think it is very important to focus on the overarching theme which then gives the flavour and the direction on how to interpret, then, those main session themes for each of the IGFs. I mean, we have successfully, I think, been able to do that over the past IGFs.

So if we find the main theme that will then allow us to implement those at those levels.

And I know we have talked about sustainability, we have talked about jobs, we have talked about societal impact, et cetera, and my colleague Zahid had mentioned sustainability of the Internet economy and society as kind of an approach, a direction. Maybe playing with that, again, trying to accommodate all, and then to drive that down into the main sessions would be a useful starting point.

Intervention 6

Delivered by Paul Mitchell, Microsoft

Thank you. I'm Paul Mitchell from Microsoft and speaking on behalf of ICC/BASIS.

One of the sessions that I thought was the most valuable last year was the emerging issues session; just phrased that way. And one of the reasons it was valuable is because it brought together a range of discussants where -- to talk about topics where no one side actually understood all of the technical or business or political ramifications of the issue.

So, for example, the topic of mobile Internet was hotly discussed. It has the promise of bringing together connectivity to all portions of societies, and at the same time it represents a huge economic challenge for industry that has to put it together.

By all objective measures, the growth of mobile technology has outpaced all other technologies in this sort of connected world, and it has the ability to rapidly bring people together, but what is emerging issues next year?

I would argue that a mobile Internet is still one of the emerging issues, but at the same time bringing together the ecology and sustainability, both technically and politically, and for the environment all come together.

In terms of putting together a policy framework or debating policy frameworks to enable this, it is important to balance the technical reality, the fast pace of emerging technology change, with the experimentation that is going on real-time, and have to balance all of that.

And so from that perspective, I would ask the organization -- organizing committee members --

to strongly consider a session that is able to explore all of the new developments that will happen between now and the time we get to Baku in November.

Intervention 7

Delivered by Claudia Selli, AT&T

Thank you, Chair. My name is Claudia Selli and I'm with AT&T and talking here on behalf of the ICC and its BASIS initiative. I wanted actually to provide some brief comments on a session which has not been discussed up to now, and which is the taking stock and the way forward which we thought was very useful last year as it promoted very good reflections and collaborative efforts to enhance the IGF.

At the IGF in Nairobi, apart from the main session, there were also two workshops at the IGF that took place.

The workshop organized by the ICC/BASIS, ICANN, ISOC, NANOG and ITA again produced a very constructive dialogue and also a number of concrete suggestions for on-going IGF enhancement, and for instance, ideas were raised on how to further improve remote participation and also more inclusiveness and more accessibility of the IGF.

So, we definitely would support having a taking stock and a way forward session in 2012 that leans on the session in Nairobi and the format and the approach used there to also take stock on where we are on certain issues, identifying key themes emerging in a workshop that contributes and takes stock of Internet governance enables continuous focus of the IGF in taking stock of the status of discussion on emerging issues of relevance to participants. Thank you.

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Other BASIS members' interventions

Intervention by Marilyn Cade, mCADE LLC

Thank you, Chair. My name is Marilyn Cade. I serve as the chief catalyst to IGF USA, which is one of the initiatives focused on broadening and deepening the awareness of Internet governance. I wanted to make a comment in response to the experience of -- very positive experience, I think, last year of bringing together the national and the regional IGFs in an exchange of experience.

There were goals of doing something much more formalized, but many of the organizers and participants in the national and regional initiatives are also heavily involved in catalyzing workshops, open forums, and bringing others together to participate in the global IGF. I'm looking forward -- and I would just also note that every year more initiatives emerge and



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they're all very different.

They have certain commonalities and I think the really important values that we hold at the global IGF of acting on an equal footing, being organized by multistakeholders, not being dominated by any particular group, certain other important and hearing all voices, those are characteristics that we all, I think, want to see in any initiative that utilizes the brand of the IGF as an initiative.

But I think from my own survey analysis of the reports of the national and regional IGFs, that more information sharing will be positive, but that it's probably important to take into account also the fact that each of these initiatives has local, national, and regional work to do, as well as a goal of participating in the global IGF.

Many of them now are standing up remote hubs to build on the participation that takes place in their locale.

I will look forward to interacting with other organizers and those who are involved in the regional and national IGFs, those that exist today or those that are just emerging, and perhaps we could have a short interaction while we are here today to think about what might work produce I feel to ensure there's a strong reflection into IGF in Azerbaijan. Thank you, Chair

Intervention by Dan O'Neill, Global Information Infrastructure Commission (GIIC)

Thank you, Chair. My name is Dan O'Neill. I'm Executive Director of the Global Information Infrastructure Commission.

I appreciate the opportunity to make a few remarks on themes for the 2012 IGF.

I would like to just pick up on some of the comments of my colleague from England just now in that - while we are looking at new and different themes going forward, or some themes going forward, I do think it's important to return back to, you know, those themes that are at the core of the IGF, and the one that the GIIC would like to speak about today is about access. It is something that is at the core of IGF and GIIC support for IGF activities. In Nairobi last year, the GIIC had the opportunity to sponsor a workshop on a practical and pragmatic look at creating a successful cloud environment in the developing world. Again, trying to address some of these cross-cutting themes that the IGF has taken on, as well as a strong focus on ensuring that access in the developing world is at the core of what's going on at the workshop level as well as at the main session level.

We were successful in bringing in a number of panellists from developing countries which really created a successful atmosphere in having them relay personal stories -- success and challenges info in their attempts to bring cloud, and to use cloud in developing countries.



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Second, I would just like to use this opportunity to reiterate the GIIC's support for greater emphasis on regional and national IGFs. The GIIC has had an opportunity to participate in the IGF USA. We have also got commissioners that are participating in other regional and national IGFs around the world, and again, in terms of access, I think this is a wonderful opportunity for the IGF to really kind of spread itself to a wider audience and involve thousands more around the world. Thank you.

Intervention by Patrick Ryan, Google

My name is Patrick Ryan. I'm Policy Counsel, Open Internet with Google.

One of the areas that I would like to see stimulated in discussion at the IGF is the role of government requests for information and data. There has been a lot of discussion about including workshops hosted by the private sector itself. However, for a variety of reasons, there are often restrictions on the private sector from addressing these issues in an open way.

Of course, the patriot act is one example of such laws that are often discussed and controversial, but there are similar laws and processes for getting data around the world.

If there is any -- if there is anything that the IGF can do to promote this government-to-government dialogue about data access in a form that includes the private sector and civil society; that would be greatly beneficial for us.

For example, governments in certain key countries could explore and articulate the need for government access to data to avoid crimes and to avoid terrorism and to talk through how this is done in a way that protects consumer privacy.

This is a topic that is increasingly difficult for the private sector to address on its own and it is not a topic that is by any means limited to the United States.

Addressing this is going to be one of the most critical areas of discussion as people move more and more data to the cloud, and it would be great for the IGF to get more involved in this discussion.

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The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

ICC is the world business organization, a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world.

The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote trade and investment across frontiers and help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization. Its conviction that trade is a powerful force for peace and prosperity dates from the organization's origins early in the last century. The small group of far-sighted business leaders who founded ICC called themselves "the merchants of peace".

ICC has three main activities: rules-setting, dispute resolution and policy. Because its member companies and associations are themselves engaged in international business, ICC has unrivalled authority in making rules that govern the conduct of business across borders. Although these rules are voluntary, they are observed in countless thousands of transactions every day and have become part of the fabric of international trade.

ICC also provides essential services, foremost among them the ICC International Court of Arbitration, the world's leading arbitral institution. Another service is the World Chambers Federation, ICC's worldwide network of chambers of commerce, fostering interaction and exchange of chamber best practice.

Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. These include financial services, information technologies, telecommunications, marketing ethics, the environment, transportation, competition law and intellectual property, among others.

ICC enjoys a close working relationship with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including the World Trade Organization, the G20 and the G8.

ICC was founded in 1919. Today it groups hundreds of thousands of member companies and associations from over 120 countries. National committees work with their members to address the concerns of business in their countries and convey to their governments the business views formulated by ICC.

What is Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS)?

ICC created BASIS to raise awareness among the public, governments, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and technical community of what business requires to continue contributing to the development of the Information Society. It serves as the voice of business in the global dialogue on the Information Society, following two World Summits on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005).

To promote the environment in which business around the world will continue to thrive as an innovator of information and communication technologies, BASIS participates in UN-linked forums set up to continue the dialogue, such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the WSIS follow up and implementation processes, and the UN Global Alliance for ICTs and Development (GAID).

To help shape the agenda and participate in these global discussions, BASIS relies on the policies developed in ICC's Commission on E-business, IT and Telecoms as the foundation for its efforts. BASIS builds on the activities and network of the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI), which ICC formed to coordinate participation by world business in the processes leading up to and at WSIS.

BASIS members include business organizations such as the TechAmerica, World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), Global Information Infrastructure Commission (GIIC), and the Association for Competitive Technology (ACT) as well as several ICC national committees and companies from across sectors and geographies.

For further information regarding BASIS, the partners, members and activities, visit:
www.iccwbo.org/basis