

Proposed Answers to the Questionnaire on the Convening the Internet Governance Forum

1. a. *What outcome would you expect from an IGF meeting?*

As it is the first meeting of IGF, the outcomes are important for further development of the Forum, so the outcomes should reflex all the stakeholders' interests and should be legitimate in this respect.

b. *Should there be any other output apart from the report?*

We consider that the report alone is not enough as an outcome of such important forum. Agreed recommendations that would involve some specific analyses related to Internet Governance issues, which are not legally binding but could be a very good source for policy-making and decision-making.

2. a. *Could the WGIG open consultations constitute a possible model for the IGF?*

Yes it could, because in Tunis agenda it says that Forum could 'have a lightweight and decentralized structure', which means that such consultations can be a good informal and flexible way of discussions. Furthermore, dialogs, group works and round tables can also be a very effective way of organizing Forum. All these mechanisms could give all stakeholders a common platform to discuss internet governance issues in formal and informal ways and come up with action-oriented proposals.

b. *How often should the forum meet?*

Annually, or biannually

c. *How long should its meetings be?*

4-5 days

d. *Should meetings be considered subject to UN rules, such as accreditation, rules of procedure or language?*

As it is informal Forum of wide ranged stakeholders of Internet, there is no need for meetings to be subject to UN rules.

e. *How could the IGF make best possible use of ICTs and promote interaction?*

It can well use the experionce of WSIS on this specific issue (as it has already organized virtual Summit), and have virtual Forum in order to get wider access and participation.

3. a. *How should the IGF approach access issues ('availability and affordability of internet')?*

It can approach this access issues from the Millennium Goals framework, starting from minimum access to Internet and etc. Furthermore, making Internet available and affordable depends on many factors. Therefore, first these affecting factors and solutions for existing problems should be identified.

b. *Para 72 (f) indicates that special measures ought to be taken to facilitate developing country participation in the IGF itself. What should be done?*

This could include: making virtually participation possible and easier, having some developing country-specific offers for participation, helping financially and logistically to developing country representatives to participate.

c. What should be the focus of the capacity building initiative?

Capacity Building Initiative could focus on technical assistance, development of training and education for needed parties, by using both international and local source of knowledge.

4. a. Does this Para (78b) refer to a bureau as it is normally used in an intergovernmental context, such as WSIS bureau?

Yes.

b. Would it be a bureau to deal with organizational issues and prepare agenda and program of the IGF meetings?

Yes, it could be such supporting body.

c. if so, how should it be composed?

It should be composed in a way that represents all stakeholders and geographical differences. On the other hand, it is good if this body involves specialized experts on issues.

d. alternatively, could it be a high level senior advisory body to provide overall direction and shape to the IGF meetings?

No.

e. if so, how should it be composed?

N/A

5. a. Could this function be assumed by existing institutions which could take turns in providing the secretariat for the IGF?

We do not think so. As none of the international institutions is the leading organizer or founder of the Forum.

b. Alternatively, is there need for an independent secretariat?

Yes indeed. If it intends to be a serious venue of meeting of stakeholders there must be independent Secretariat in order to maintain the work program during inter-Forums period.

If a secretariat is established

i. Where should it be based?

Basement of Secretariat should be in a place which is practical and is the center of Internet Governance and similar issues.

ii. What should be its linkage to the UN Secretary General?

It can benefit from the UNSG as a feedback for technical matters, human resources and financial matters.

6. What does this mean in practice?

a. Does the decentralized structure refer to a support structure (secretariat) or the Forum itself, or both?

We consider that, it could apply for both of them. But it is more important that Forum itself were decentralized. That means it should be flexible, almost without formal rules of procedure that usually govern UN meetings. Working arrangement should be kept simple, informal in order to get effective discussions and appropriate proposals.

b. Does it point to additional expert meetings and/or program committees, which could report back to the IGF and help prepare its meetings? Should possible sub-structures be supported by organizations with the relevant expertise?

Well, it pretty could be. As Internet involves many technical issues, IGF will need expertise, and therefore could have when it is necessary specialized ad-hoc committees and expert groups.

7. How do you think the IGF should be financed?

IGF can be financed by relevant UN Institutions or by private sector.

8. What steps should be taken to identify and engage all stakeholders and what needs to be done to make best possible use of their competencies?

There are some stakeholders – organizations that have an experience on Global Internet Governance in terms of research and analysis. In order to make best possible use of their competences, favorable environment should be created to present their ideas and support their arguments. Dissemination of best practice, exchange of knowledge and information should be one of the main facilities to get best results.

9. Are there any other options not dressed in the questions above? What are these options as you understand them?

No comments.

10. a. What are these issues?

Those issues have been mentioned in Tunis Agenda, for example – internet security and safety; cybercrime; spam problems; Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society; privacy protection; fair interconnection costs; multilingualisation of the Internet; development of ICT infrastructure in developing world and etc.

b. Are they all the issues mentioned in the chapter on internet governance in Tunis Agenda?

Yes.

c. Which issues should be treated as priorities?

Spam problems, privacy protection, ethical dimension of Internet, fair interconnection costs

d. Could these issues constitute a work programme for the coming years?

Yes.

11. a. When would be the best time for the meeting?

Autumn 2006

b. What should be on its agenda?

Internet Governance Issue problems that were described in Tunis Agenda can be a very good basis for drafting Agenda.

c. Should it focus on one or at the most two issues that would be dealt with in depth, or should it discuss a wide range of issues?

We consider that it is better to focus on limited numbers (3 or 5) of issues, thoroughly discuss them and come up with very practical and effective recommendations and concrete proposals.

d. How should its program be designed (time-management plan, organizational aspects)?

As similar Forums

12. No Comments