IGF 2017 ISOC Open Forum Report

Day 2, Tuesday, 20th December, 2017

OF51 Title: INTERNET SOCIETY OPEN FORUM

What actions should we take today to shape our digital future?

Report:

The Internet Society has held Open Forums at IGFs in order to connect with IGF participants that share the common goal of promoting an open, resilient, trusted internet, and engaging with our own ISOC community comprised of chapters, organizational and individual members.

Lead by our Director of the European Bureau, Mr Frederic Donck, this year's focus has been to discuss the Internet's future, in an interactive and participatory format.

Our CEO Ms Kathy Brown has spoken about the Internet Society history and its 25th celebrations to continue advocating for an open, globally connected, secure and trustworthy Internet for everyone. She has also highlighted the Global Internet Report 2017 about the "Paths for our Digital Future", and announced the winner for the 2017 Chapterton, given to "Coding Rights" from ISOC Turkey Chapter.

The invited speaker, **Mr Pearse O'Donohue**, Acting Director, Future Networks Directorate, DG CONNECT, presented the Next Generation Internet initiative to encourage more women and girls to get involved in science and technology. He has also concurred with the GIR 2017 recommendations, in particular the need to create a human-centric Internet and the need to build more trust in a bottom-up approach.

Based on ISOC 2018 Action Plan and its priorities, each of the campaign leaders have delivered a 3 min punch talk about their goals and expected outcomes, in the following order: **Mr Frederic Donk**, Regional Bureau Director for Europe has presented the Trust by Design campaign; **Ms Jane Coffin**, Director of Development Strategy, has presented the Community Network campaign; and **Mr Dawit Bekele**, Regional Bureau Director for Africa, has

presented the Internet Governance campaign

After the pitch talks, the room was divided into 3 groups for focused discussions, having a facilitator and a rappouteur assigned for each group:

- o Iot Security/ Trust by Design: Nicolas Seidler / Ceren Unal
- o Multistakeholder/ Internet Governance: Dawit Bekele / Bruna Santos
- o Community networks: Maarit Palorvita / Alessandra Desantillana

The summary discussions of each group is presented below:

Group 1 – IoT Security / Trust by Design

IoT is a real threat and it might have some serious real-world consequences as a smart objects get smaller and closer to humans. It might be even more risky. And also IoT itself is currently evolving and it's up to us how to shape up the future.

With regard to raising awareness and shifting consumer device, most of the participants raise although it is useful, it wouldn't solve all the problems. The focus should be on the developers of the smart devices. Some were reluctant to pay extra for security devices, however most of the parties agreed that certification mechanisms and trustmarks would be efficient.

With regard to the role of policymakers, everybody agreed they should be engaged but the process should not be top-down and relying solely on the logistic processes would not be enough to keep up with the fast pace of technology.

An interesting concern was raised regarding maybe the different approaches might be suitable when addressing the levels of countries with different development levels. So developing countries might be approached differently while trying to serve.

Group 2 – Internet Governance / Multistakeholder approach

When it comes to the discussion of Internet Governance models, the first questions are: (i) who do we think are the current leaders on the model and (ii) who do we think will be the leaders tomorrow.

The group has agreed that there is no one thing as a one-size-fits-all model and we should also envision some stakeholders to do the discussion definitely on the fora they are discussing. For example, sometimes civil society should have a different role here and should be leading the same process in another forum.

We should also take into consideration the need for transparent, inclusive and engageable process to everyone from the very beginning. Everybody interested in the multi-stakeholder model should be able to get a voice. Many have noted that we should get rid of the main model. Find an approach that would be more like collaborative and people should be able not to be imposed with a situation, but to work with it and evolve from it.

From the second question, which areas do you think people will benefit more from the multi-stakeholder model, people also discussed in this model every single person has a role to play, so it's important to grant participation from everyone and being horizontal. Moreover, in the same type of place we should be able to hold other stakeholders accountable.

Finally, it is important not to impose models on anyone and think more about collaborative organization.

Group 3 – Community Networks

Community networks are a critical way to shape local digital futures from the bottom-up from a local perspective. However, many parts of the world, little is known about community networks and the role they are playing

We need to realize that the business model as uncomfortable as it might be, assess local needs, identify local champions, bottom up and local organizations and community needs.

We also need to work with mentors and champions whether it is kids teaching elderly or elderly teaching kids. And take advantage of those who made mistakes before you so you cannot make the same mistakes.

The other financing sources from the team down here took business model manual, external partners key, government, taxes, might have tax break, and community buy-in, and relevant interesting interests.

Agenda (60min):

Part 1 - Initial remarks (10min)

- Future of the Internet: what actions we need to take now to shape our digital future moderated by Frederick Donck
  - o **Ms Kathy Brown**, CEO (GIR 2017 – Paths for Digital Future + ISOC 2018 priorities)
  - o **Mr Pearse O'Donohue**, Acting Director, Future Networks Directorate, DG CONNECT

Part 2 Group discussions (50 min)
- Moderated by Frederick Donck
- (10min) Pitch talks/Punch lines from campaigns (3 min each, put 1-2 questions for audience):
  - o #IoT Security: Frederic Donck
  - o #Multistakeholder: Dawit Bekele
  - o # Community Networks: Jane Coffin

- (30min) Breakgroup into 3 groups, each with at least one facilitator and one rappourteur
  - #IoT Security: Nicolas Seidler (facilitator)/ Ceren Unal
  - #Multistakeholder Campaign: Dawit Bekele (facilitator)/ Bruna Santos
  - #Community Networks: Maarit Palorvita (facilitator)/ Jane Coffin
- (10 min) Conclusions: each rapporteurs will read a short summary from the groups discussions

Remote moderator: Anri van der Spuy