Messages From Berlin

Contribution to the IGF Discussions

German Preparatory Meeting for the
United Nations Internet Governance Forum in Nairobi, Kenya

Hosted by: German Internet Industry Association (eco), United Nations Association of Germany (UNA Germany), Humanistische Union e.V., ISOC.DE - Internet Society German Chapter, ver.di - Vereinte Dienstleistungsgesellschaft

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More Information on the Websites: http://www.igf-d.de, http://facebook.com/IGF.Germany

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Panel 1: <u>Freedom, Security and Responsibility in a Global Perspective</u>

- The stakeholders agreed that Germany has developed a leading role in Europe's Internet debates on issues like Internet law and net security, although some deficits in the government's behavior regarding the current Internet debate were acknowledged.

- The attending panel members agreed that the increase of broadband freedom and accessibility in developing countries was not a matter of infrastructural capacities, but rather of lacking or deficient governmental structures to address these specific issues and for further development in general.

- Consensus was reached upon the fact that there is a need for global debate about which platforms of communication societies want to use and how free and secure they want them to be. It was agreed that their means of organization should in essence reflect the Multistakeholder-Concept that has proven to be the most successful in driving innovation and keeping up with demand while ensuring transparent policy procedures.

Panel 2: <u>Economic, Civil and Technical Requirements for a Global Infrastructure: Basic Supply and Services for the public, Right to Anonymity, Net Neutrality and the Deployment of IPv6</u>

- The panel recognized that the German Bundestag has currently produced several helpful initiatives concerning net neutrality but that one government alone could not solve such an issue and that there was instead need for a European consensus on net policy.

- Consensus was reached upon the idea that the continuous implementation of existing best practice business plans, the emergence of new business models, the securing of infrastructure as well as the self-determination of the Internet users are all aspects that lead to a positive development of the Internet in the future.

- Furthermore, an overall understanding was met that our society wants to live in a ubiquitous Internet and expected a secure and sustainable deployment of Internet infrastructure.

- The panel agreed that it would like to encourage more German government officials to actively participate in international conferences like ICANN and the IGF to better comprehend and help shape their processes and results in the future.

- There was a consensus reached that there would be no need for government intervention to conserve and upgrade Internet infrastructure at the moment and that private and business oriented solutions would be more efficient.

Panel 3: <u>Multistakeholderism and Politics</u>

- The consensus was met that the Multistakeholder-Approach was crucial in establishing governance bodies that can act on a well informed basis in democratic societies and that it poses as a means of "checks and balances" for the political, economic, and civil sectors of society, offering a maximum of transparency.

- An agreement was met that the Enquete Comission "Internet and digital Society" of the German Bundestag has been a success. The direct exchange of expertise and technical knowledge between members of the Enquete Comission and the political possibilities thereof flowing into recommendations for the German parliament could build a great forum for real world results.