Messages from Berlin: IGF-D

German Preparatory Meeting for the
United Nations Internet Governance Forum

Hosted by the German Internet Industry Association (eco), the United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN), the Humanist Union, the United Service Union (ver.di) and the Internet Society German Chapter (ISOC.de)

Organizational team: Dr. Christoph Bruch, Dean Ceulic, Henning Lesch, Dr. Alfredo Märker, Annette Mühlberg, Dr. Max Senges, Malte Spitz, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Kleinwächter

Berlin , June 7, 2010
http://www.igf-d.de

Messages from Berlin: Core Statements as Contribution to the IGF Discussions

Panel 1:   **Stakeholder Contributions - <u>Civil Society</u>**

→ The stakeholders from the civil society concluded that the Internet's innovative capacities are being throttled by obsolete legislature. They also reached the consensus that the Internet is only beginning to evolve and that a modern framework is necessary to further boost its success.

→ It was unsure whether the market alone would be able to ensure net neutrality and proposed the evaluation of net neutrality rules to guarantee an internet free of discrimination.

→ Consensus was reached upon the fact that there is a big gap between the networking community, stakeholders of the economy and the political structures concerning their decisiveness and their reaction time addressing pressing issues. Multi-stakeholderism would be more beneficial for society if the decision-making processes of political structures were more on par with those of the networking community and other stakeholders.

Panel 2:   **<u>Freedom, Security and the Internet</u>**

→ An agreement was met that the Internet delivers a useful, alternative form of journalism to the classic media which are often subject to censorship mechanisms in certain countries to

maintain a free flow of information. In this manner the internet is a driving force for public participation and governmental transparency.

→ Consensus was achieved on the fact that although the democratic countries were not in danger of adopting these censoring mechanisms, ongoing public discussions and observations on this subject are vital.

→ It was recognized and understood that privacy and anonymity in the Internet are two important issues that should be addressed.

→ Furthermore an overall understanding was met that, international arrangements are necessary in order to maintain a reasonable, governmental framework in which the freedom of the Internet is ensured and crime is fought effectively.

Panel 3:   **Political views on the Internet**

→ The consensus was met that in order to keep up with the fast developments of the internet and to ensure an effective international cooperation, political structures would have to be shaped anew according to modern requirements. This procedure would be immensely helpful to shape the quality of political input in the IGF and to increase its effectiveness.

→ It was broadly perceived that the multi- stakeholder approach of the IGF is a unique and innovative form of cooperation throughout the entire societal spectrum and that because of this it breeds many new and fresh ideas that are invaluable for a comprehensive and consensus orientated discussion platform.

Annotation:

The final panel consisted of the five members of the German parliament in charge of net policy, representing the five parties forming the German parliament. They are also members of the Enquete Comission "Internet and Digital Society" of the German parliament that analyses the technical, economical and societal impacts of the internet and offers possible solutions and best practices to the German parliament in forming modern net policies.

Discussion: **The future of the Internet – emerging issues**

→ A consensus was reached on the fact that despite the sophistication of the current Top Level Domain business model it still offers invaluable possibilities for cities, regions and cultural communities to adopt their own Top Level Domains but that there was room for improvement in regards to letting cities, regions and cultural communities get easier access.

→ A conclusion was made that the Internet & Society Collaboratory initiated by Google Germany poses a comprehensive forum for experts and stakeholders of different backgrounds to analyse and evaluate best practices concerning the best possible development of the internet for the society.

→ E-Participation platforms such as echologic.org were widely perceived as versatile tools to include the whole of the internet community to participate in online discussions concerning the development of net policies and the future of the Internet.

Agenda

IGF-D: German Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Internet Governance Forum

> **»   An estimated 100 participants where attending**

Introduction

> **Dr. Beate Wagner**
> Secretary General, United Nations Association of Germany (UNA Germany)

> **Prof. Dr. Angela Kolb**
> Minister of Justice of Sachsen-Anhalt

Overview IGF/MultiStakeholder

> **Markus Kummer**
> Executive Coordinator, Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum (Video Statement)

Opening speech

> **Dr. Max Stadler**
> Parliamentary State Secretary of the Federal Minister of Justice

Panel 1: Stakeholder contributions – Civil Society

> **Science and Technology:**

> **Harald A. Summa**
> CEO, DE-CIX and eco e.V.

> **Business:**

> **Max Senges**
> Google Policy

> **Digital Natives:**

> **Markus Beckedahl**
> Founder newthinking communications, netzpolitik.org

<u>Human Rights:</u>
Sven Lüders,
Secretary General, Humanistic Union

Moderator: Annette Mühlberg

Speech:

Peter Schaar,
Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information

Panel 2: Freedom and Security in the Internet

Prof. Dr. Angela Kolb
Minister of Justice of Sachsen-Anhalt

Dr. Till Steffen
Senator of Justice, Hamburg

Christian Rickerts
Reporters Without Borders

Moderator: Dr. Stefan Krempl

Panel 3: From Berlin to Vilnius

Thomas Jarzombek,
Member of Parliament, CDU/CSU

Lars Klingbeil
Member of Parliament, SPD

Manuel Höferlin
Member of Parliament, FDP

Dr. Konstantin von Notz
Member of Parliament, Alliance 90'/The Greens

Herbert Behrens
Member of Parliament, The Left

Moderator: Dr. Stefan Krempl

Discussion: The Future of the Internet – Emerging Issues

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Kleinwächter