

# Asia-Pacific TLD Association Engagement with IGF

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# The Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

- Result of Second Phase of WSIS.
- Convened by the UN Secretary-General.
- Forum for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on issues related to the Internet.

# What the IGF is NOT...

- a new organization;
- a decision-making body;
- has no power of redistribution.

# What the IGF is:

- ‘Soft governance’ approach.
- IGF has the power of recognition:
  - can identify issues of concern;
  - can draw attention to an issue;
  - can put an issue on the agenda of international cooperation.
- Can shape public opinion and decision making.

# The purpose of IGF Meetings

- Exchanging ideas and information;
- Sharing best practices;
- Learning from each other
  - (no one size fits all solutions!).

# A forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue between:

- Governments
- Private Sector
- Civil Society
- Academic and Technical Communities (the Internet community)
- Intergovernmental organizations (UN, ITU, UNESCO, WIPO, OECD etc.)
- Internet institutions (ICANN, NRO, APTLD, ISOC etc.)

# Five broad themes:

- Access
- Diversity
- Security
- Openness
- Critical Internet resources

# Two cross-cutting priorities:

- Development
  - Internet governance for development
- Capacity-building
  - Capacity to improve access to the Internet
  - Capacity to engage in Internet policy discussions and decision-making

# Different formats

- Workshops
- Best Practice Forums
- Open Forums
  - Organizations can present their activities
- Dynamic Coalitions
  - Stop Spam Alliance (ITU, OECD,APEC...);
  - Open Standards (Brazil, W3C, Sun..);
  - Privacy (France, World Bank, AI...);
  - Internet Bill of Rights (Brazil, ISOC Italy, IP Justice...);
  - A2K@IGF (Google, CoE, FSFE, EFF);
  - Access and Connectivity for Remote, Rural and Dispersed Communities;
  - Dynamic Coalition on Child Online Safety.

# Why Engage ccTLDs?

- ccTLDs are a central link between governments and the Internet community.
- ccTLDs can help:
  - promote policy coordination at International, Regional and National level;
  - to promote sound policies that support the expansion & improvement of the Internet.

# What IGF can offer

- Platform that promotes cooperation involving all stakeholders.
- Interaction with people and institution participants would not meet otherwise.
- Dealing with issues outside the remit of technical organizations.

# Ways to participate

- Open consultations in Geneva:  
16 September 2008.
- Online:
  - Submit issue papers;
  - Organize Workshop & Best Practice Forums;
  - Online Forum;
  - Virtual Participation.

# IGF annual meetings

- Annual meeting of four days.
- Two meetings so far:
  - Athens 2006;
  - Rio de Janeiro 2007.
- After Europe and Latin America:
- 2008 is Asia's turn -  
Hyderabad, India.

# IGF 2008 – Hyderabad, India

## 3 - 6 December 2008

