

ANNOTATED AGENDA

HLIG meeting, 29 January 2013,

13.00 - 17.00,

ALBERT BORSCHETTE Building, Room 3B, Brussels.

[13.00– 14.00 Sandwich Lunch – Meeting starts at 14.00 and ends at 17.00]

1. Opening remarks - Adoption of the agenda

2. Group members Feedback on HLIG

- The High Level Group on Internet Governance (HLIG) is a platform for exchange of information and coordination at European level. A year ago, by a letter of DG CONNECT Director-General R. Madelin, the Commission announced its intentions to make the HLIG more efficient by establishing an annual work plan and also offering the possibility of travel reimbursement to HLIG members.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Give their views on how the Group has been functioning.
- Propose suggestions for further improvements.

3. ITU Issues:

a. Conclusions from WCIT, World Conference on International Telecommunications 2012, Dubai, December 2012

- The outcome of the WCIT in Dubai was disappointing if perhaps not ultimately surprising. Despite the concerted efforts of EU participants to identify potential compromise language for a new Treaty, other countries persisted in pushing for unacceptable language, not least in relation to Internet governance.
- The formal "post mortem" will take place in the Council given that the common EU position was, for the first time, based on a Council decision under article 218 of the EU Treaties, but

the HLIG can usefully review the outcome, not least in light of the next agenda item (WTPF) where the debate on Internet governance and the ITU is likely to continue.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Confirm their national position vis-à-vis signing the ITRs;
- Exchange views on:
 - European coordination in Dubai and
 - the consequences of only 89 countries signing the new Treaty

b. Preparation of upcoming World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF), Geneva, May 2013

- This event will take place back-to-back with the WSIS Forum (13-17 May 2013) and the ITU have indicated that they expect it to be a "major event" attended at ministerial level. This of course remains to be seen as the outcome is limited to opinions.
- Preliminary discussions at the CEPT meeting in Copenhagen on 14/15 January indicated that EU Member states expect continuation of many of the issues related to Internet governance that proved controversial in Dubai during the WCIT. Some of the text in the report and some of the draft opinions circulated suggest that there is a continued risk of undesired opinions on IP interconnection and on Internet numbering.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Exchange views on:
 - expectations for the WTPF, and in particular how European participation can be most effectively coordinated. It is in this context important to determine which Member States intends to submit draft opinions and on what subjects;
 - the (fourth) draft report of the ITU Sec Gen (posted on the 10th January - available at the link below - with a deadline of 1st February for comments);
 - Indicate who will attend the "experts group" meeting in Geneva from 6-8th February 2013.

N.B. The fourth draft report of the ITU Sec Gen is available at:

<http://www.itu.int/md/S12-WTPF13PREP-R-0005/en>

4. WSIS+10 – Review Events

- On 13-17 May in Geneva, the ITU will host the WSIS Forum (back-to-back with the WTPF)
- A preparatory meeting will take place on 25-27 February, hosted by UNESCO. IT is also part of the process towards the overall review of WSIS, which will be undertaken by UNGA in 2015 in pursuance Resolution 60/252 of UNGA and of paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society. The European Union will attend with two representatives from the European Commission and one representative from the European External Action Service.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Indicate their attendance plans for the WSIS+10 Review Event in Paris
- Provide their views on a EU statement during the Review Event and, if so, outline the main points such a statement should contain
- Provide their views and plans concerning the subsequent steps towards the overall WSIS+10 review
- Exchange views on the WSIS Forum event in Geneva from 13-17 May.

5. Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

- At its 67th Regular Session, the UN General Assembly adopted its Resolution on "ICT for Development", in which the UNGA decided to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation to examine the mandate of the WSIS regarding enhanced cooperation contained in the Tunis Agenda through seeking, compiling, and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement this mandate.
- The Working Group should report to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its 17th session in 2014, as an input to the overall review of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Confirm whether they will seek membership of this Working Group
- Provide any information they might have on the timetable of the Working Group
- Indicate how they plan to ensure EU coordination throughout the process
- Provide their views on what the end-game of the Working Group should be

6. ICANN issues. Preparations for meeting in Brussels

- The 46th meeting of ICANN will take place in Beijing (China) from 4 to 11 April 2013. It can be expected that the main substantive item that will be discussed concerns the new gTLD programme, and in particular the possible issuance of "GAC Advice on new gTLDs". European GAC members, backed by a number of others, strongly requested an inter-sessional GAC meeting to be held in February 2013. Unfortunately, the GAC Chair did not accept this option. Therefore, the European Commission is ready to host a meeting of European GAC

members on 14-15 February 2013. This will be the opportunity to develop a clear European consensus in the run-up to the Beijing meeting.

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Propose agenda items for the meeting of 14-15 February 2013
- Report on the state of play of national discussions concerning new gTLDs
- Provide guidance on the next steps between now and the Beijing meeting

[COMMENT: there are a number of other on-going discussions within ICANN, including the development of the Trademark Clearinghouse, the new Expert Group on WHOIS, the ATRT2, etc. In the interest of time the Commission suggests that the HLIG focus on new gTLDs]

7. IGF

The Commission will debrief the HLIG on:

- *Demarches* taken after the IGF. These include a letter from Neelie Kroes to the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Wu Hongbo.
- The intention of the Commission to the intention to contact the Indonesian authorities to prepare well ahead the next IGF

HLIG members are kindly asked to:

- Exchange views on:
 - Participation in the MAG meetings and IGF consultations in February;
 - How to improve the functioning of the IGF

8. AOB