



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Cooperation

Brussels, 17 April 2013

EH/AK

### ANNOTATED AGENDA

**Subject: High-Level Internet Group**  
**23 April 2013 - 10.30 - 17.00**  
Avenue de Beaulieu 25, Room 0/S1, 1160 Brussels.

- 1. Opening remarks - Adoption of the agenda**
- 2. ICANN issues. Reporting of the 46th ICANN meeting in Beijing**

The outcome of the 46th GAC-ICANN meeting which took place in Beijing (China) from 4 to 11 April 2013 was rather good compared to previous meetings:

1. The GAC finally agreed on the establishment of an independent secretariat, selecting a clear candidate and instructing the GAC Chair to proceed with the appropriate next steps immediately after the Beijing meeting;
2. The GAC adopted conclusions on the gTLD that were in line with the EU ambitions, compatibly with negotiating constraints;
3. The contracts with registries and registrars seem to be in line with EU requirements, although we will need to see the final version to be certain.

The coordination through the Informal Internet Group (IIG), (which comprises the European members of the Governmental Advisory Committee of ICANN), was instrumental in achieving coherent EU positions expressed by Commission and Member States.

A number of follow-up actions are required:

- I. The HLIG should decide on the next steps to be taken in the gTLD process in order to maintain a common view for the Durban meeting. This could include reactions to stakeholders to the GAC advice and contacts with the Board and the CEO.

- II. The HLIG should decide how the EU would best arrive at a common position regarding the balance between law enforcement and human rights issues in the management of Top-Level Domains, including gTLDs and ccTLDs.

HLIG members are kindly asked to provide their views on the next steps following the Beijing and to agree on the Commission proposals.

### **3. Internet Governance, next steps**

After WCIT-12 it is crucial that all government stakeholders work on a sustainable structure for consolidating the multi-stakeholder approach, beyond both ICANN and IGF. Important work will be carried out through the CSTD and the new Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC).

The Commission already indicated at previous occasions its desire to find a mechanism for developing countries to take part in the work of the various international organisations and bodies in a resource efficient way. One of the ways to achieve this is to develop some sort of technical assistance vehicle with the cooperation of a small group of representative stakeholders. The Commission will explain some of its ideas in the meeting.

HLIG members are kindly asked to provide their views on the next steps considered by the Commission, including, where relevant, their views and positions in the context of the WGEC.

### **4. WSIS forum, May 2013**

The WSIS forum (13-17 May) will be an important occasion to deliver messages to international counterparts. One of those messages should be the need for this technical assistance vehicle.

While the EU does not expect specific deliverables on the spot coordination will be organised in case a memorandum be drafted. Members of the High Level Group should liaise with their representatives in WSIS to ensure full coherency on this point.

### **5. Preparation of upcoming events: World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF), Geneva, May 2013**

The World Telecommunications Policy Forum (WTPF) will take place in Geneva on 14-16 May, preceded by a "strategic dialogue" related to the event. The WTPF is organised by the ITU and the theme for this year's event is "International Internet-related public policy matters".

European coordination within CEPT will have taken place in Prague on 16-18 April and it would be useful for the HLIG to review preparations and EU objectives for the event. Com-ITU chair will briefly report of the Prague meeting.

The primary objective for the EU should be that the WTPF is limited to the six Expert Group opinions agreed by consensus in the Experts Group which prepared WTPF. Further opinions are not needed. The European Commission has nevertheless

prepared draft opinions (which will be circulated before the meeting) in case important issues are raised in an unbalanced way. These will be discussed in the Group, prior to their submission.

HLIG Members are kindly requested to agree on

- (1) this primary objective,
- (2) the text of the draft Commission opinions and
- (3) agreement that all Member States will circulate their intended draft opinions to the group. It would be particularly useful if Member States preparing draft opinions for the WTPF could provide short presentations to HLIG colleagues.

Please note that the Council Working group will be informed of what is happening in the HLIG. For the meeting on the 25 April the Commission intends to send them a copy of the annotated agenda and relating documents.

In addition, the Commission will inform Members of the intended coordination arrangements. HLIG Members are kindly requested to indicate who will attend the event, in May 2013 in Geneva at the meeting at the latest.

#### **6. Preparations for session with Secretary General Dr Hamadoun Touré this afternoon**

ITU Secretary General Dr Hamadoun Touré will be attending the HLIG meeting this afternoon. It is expected that he will present the ITU and its activities on Internet Governance. Under this perspective it is expected that he will talk about WCIT and the current situation concerning the ITRs and the upcoming WTPF.

The Commission will give its views on the result of the WCIT negotiations and on the follow-up to be given. Particularly important is to make sure that the existence of two Treaties does not divide the world and that the EU helps to bridge the gap.

HLIG members can discuss and prepare on issues they would like to raise to ITU Secretary General.

#### **7. OECD**

A number of Internet related issues are being discussed at OECD and are relevant to the work of the group.

1. There is a USA proposal for outreach on the Internet Policy principles
2. Over the last years a discussion has taken place on 'Internet intermediaries'. At the recent meeting (11-12 April) it was agreed to do a study on the economic role of these intermediaries. At the same time the draft OECD document on 'the role of Internet intermediaries' should not be side-lined.
3. OECD is doing interesting work on the Internet economy. It would be interesting to see how this can be used in the work of the European Commission and Member States.

HLIG members are kindly requested to agree a position on the level of EU involvement in the IPP outreach and the manner in which we should coordinate the work in the future.

## **8. AOB**

Date of next HLIG

**Afternoon Session with ITU Secretary General Dr Hamadoun Touré.** This item will start at 14.30 based on the Secretary-General's availability. Any item not covered up to then will be taken afterwards.