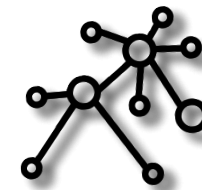




Why WTPF matters to ccTLDs

Sam Dickinson
Lingua Synaptica

Why WTPF-2013?



- It predates the action-packed WCIT-12
- Its origins are in the high drama of Plenipotentiary 2010 (remember “the footnote”¹)
- Its goal is to discuss the issues in ITU Plenipotentiary Resolutions 101, 102 and 133:
 - 101: Internet Protocol-based networks
 - 102: ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses
 - 133: Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names

1 “Including, but not limited to, ICANN, the RIRs, IETF, ISOC and W3C, on the basis of a reciprocity.”

WTPF-2013: the stats



- 14-16 May, Geneva
- ~2000 delegates expected
- On at the same time as WSIS Forum
- 13 May: Strategic Dialogue Session
 - Building Broadband Foundations for the Future
- If you want to participate as a member of the public, deadline is 12 April

WTPF-2013: the stats



- Countries who have contributed the most during prep work:
 - USA (10)
 - UK (9)
 - Iran (7)
 - Saudi Arabia (5)
 - Brazil (4)
 - Russia (4)
- See the similarities between these countries & the two sides of the Internet debate at WCIT?
- Also contributions from: Nominet, Cisco, Paypal, ISOC, ICANN, NRO
- Particularly interesting paper by Richard Hill, ex-ITU staff
<http://www.itu.int/md/S12-WTPF13PREP-C-0044/en>

WTPF draft opinions



Out of a total of 30 submitted drafts, 6 have made it through for consideration in May.

Draft opinions and their precursors:

1. Fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth & development of broadband connectivity
 - Broadband is Toure's pet project. See Broadband Commission for Digital Development <http://www.broadbandcommission.org>
 - WTPF 2009 Opinion 2: Implications of the Advent of Next-generation Networks (NGNs) and Advanced Broadband Access
 - WCIT-12 Res Plen/3 "instructs" 1 (see Martin Boyle's slides)
2. Promoting Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) as a long term solution to advance connectivity
 - IXPs have been part of ITU's areas of interest since 2004. See <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/publications/AfricaIXPRep.pdf>
3. Supporting Capacity Building for the deployment of IPv6
 - See WTSA 2008 Res 64 http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/opb/res/T-RES-T.64-2008-PDF-E.pdf
 - WTPF 2009 Opinion 5: Capacity Building in Support of the Adoption of IPv6

WTPF draft opinions (cont)



4. In Support of IPv6 Adoption & Transition from IPv4
 - On 2004, TSB Director Houlin Zhou wrote a discussion paper that caused quite a stir
<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/tsb-director/itut-wsis/files/zhao-netgov02.doc>
5. Supporting Multi-stakeholderism in Internet Governance
 - Tunis Agenda 2005
 - WCIT-12 Res Plen/3 “instructs” 2 (See Martin Boyle’s slides)
6. On supporting operationalizing the Enhanced Cooperation Process
 - Tunis Agenda 2005
 - WTPF 2009 Opinion 1: Internet-related Public Policy Matters

WTPF draft opinions



- At WTPF in May, the draft opinions will be revised by all States and participants, resulting in final Opinion papers.
- Things to remember:
 - There weren't many Member States at IEG meetings (24 in February), but most will be in Geneva
 - Anything can happen onsite
 - Remember the last minute "compromise" Internet paper at WCIT?
- Observation: The Internet debate is now more nuanced at ITU
 - No longer outright declarations about government/ITU needing to manage IP address allocation, DNS, etc.
 - Now more about meta-declarations on appropriate Internet governance frameworks (multi-stakeholder, enhanced cooperation)
 - A sign of moving on? Or laying the groundwork for more targeted Internet resource debates again in the future?

WTPF Secretary General's Report



- Final version due Friday 15 March
- Internet issues included:
 - Roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in Internet management (ITU is now marketing itself as multi-stakeholder: any stakeholder can interact with their Member State representatives)
 - Management of Internet resources (inc. IXPs, IP addresses)
 - gTLDs
 - ccTLDs (mentions NTIA approval of redelegations)
 - DNS Security
 - Multilingualism and IDNs (mentions that some think Unicode IDNs are only a patch & not truly multilingual)
 - Regional distribution of root DNS servers (only 3 root servers with admin headquarters outside the USA)
- Interestingly, NGNs barely make an appearance in the report, despite references to NGNs in Resolutions 101 & 102

Why should you care?



- Many of the same issues that we've been seeing since WSIS in 2003 are still with us:
 - Some governments want more of a role in Internet governance
 - Within existing ecosystem? → Multistakeholderism
 - New government-only venue? → Enhanced cooperation
 - Some governments believe that Internet resources are a national issue that are appropriately the responsibility of the government
 - IP addresses, domain names

Why should you care?



- Unfinished Internet debates from WCIT will spill over into WTPF
- How will the WTPF opinion on enhanced cooperation influence the CSTD WG on enhanced cooperation?
- What is written in an ITU document, even if non-binding, can crop up as justification for binding resolutions later
- ITU documents have a long shelf life
 - 2001 WTPF document is being used as justification for one of the current WTPF draft opinions
- ITU Plenipotentiary is next year
 - Resolutions 101, 102, and 133 will be updated. How will the WTPF opinions influence those revisions?

Why should you care?



- WSIS+10 anniversary events are happening 2014/15
 - Has the Tunis Agenda been achieved?
 - If not, what will States want to do about it? Tunis Agenda Mark II?
- ITU 2010 Plenipotentiary resolutions have said ITU is to work collaboratively with the Internet community
 - If we refuse to participate, will it reinforce the views of countries who already distrust the multi-stakeholder model?

Why should you care?



- Governments not happy with the way the Internet is currently being run are continuing to forum shop:
 - ITU Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (Member States only)
 - ITU IPv6 Group (its investigations are being resurrected via Study Group 2 & 3)
 - UNGA Committee 1 (Cybersecurity) & Committee 3 (Enhanced cooperation, IGF)
 - CTSD WG on IGF Improvements & WG on Enhanced Cooperation
 - Where next?

Why should you care?



- The more forums that these issues are discussed in, the harder it is for the community to spread its resources adequately
 - Basic information distribution (myth busting still essential. Some still believe all Internet traffic passes through root servers)
 - Participating in development of resolutions, etc

What can you do?



- Produce your own position papers
 - Community agreed at meetings at events like CENTR AGM, individual ccTLD meetings
- Make contributions to events like WTPF
 - ... and do it early
- Attend WTPF as:
 - A member of the public (least visible)
 - IEG member
 - ITU sector member
 - Delegate attached to a Member State (influence your country's position directly)

What can you do?



- Don't think of WTPF as an event that you can forget about after May. It's part of an ongoing process
 - Keep an eye on what's happening and respond early
 - ISOC is a good place to watch for upcoming developments
- Don't dismiss "anti-Internet" proposals from some of the governments at ITU
 - What can we do to address their concerns?
 - How can you help these governments feel more welcome in the existing Internet governance institutions?