



**International Chamber of Commerce**

*The world business organization*

An ICC initiative

**BASIS**

Business Action to Support  
the Information Society

## **Follow up ICC BASIS intervention on IGF Rio topics 23 May 2007 by Walda Roseman**

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*Geneva, 23 May 2007*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman; I'm Walda Roseman of CompassRose International speaking on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS). We wish to respond to your invitation to comment on others' suggestions, and have comments on 3 structural and procedural points.

We have heard here strong support for the success of the Athens meeting and believe the IGF Advisory Group and the work performed by the Secretariat were keys to the success of that meeting. In our experience, when something works well, it is important to build on its foundation. Hence ICC/BASIS joins APC, Canada and others on this point and opposes the proposal that we've heard by some to establish a bureau.

We believe as well that the open, multistakeholder nature of the Athens meeting provided the essential building block for its success and that it will be similarly critical to the success of future IGFs. Moreover, the open exchange of information among all stakeholders planted many seeds for growth, even since Athens, of new and enriched approaches to meeting the challenges of expanding the benefits of the Internet to everyone.

ICC/BASIS also supports APC's suggestion that there be an annual dialog among organizations with responsibilities for aspects of the Internet. This was, in fact, the reasoning behind the ICC/BASIS proposal that there be a single reporting session in Rio where Internet related organizations could update and engage each other and the larger community.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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23 May 2007 AH/apn



## **What is Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS)?**

ICC created BASIS to serve as the voice of business in the global dialogue on the Information Society, following the two World Summits on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005). BASIS participates in UN-linked forums set up to continue the dialogue, such as the Global Alliance for ICT and development (GAID), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the WSIS follow-up and implementation processes.

BASIS builds on the activities and network of the Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors (CCBI), which ICC formed to coordinate participation by world business in the processes leading up to and at the Summits in Geneva and Tunis.

To promote the environment in which global business will continue to thrive as an innovator of these technologies, BASIS mobilizes business to help shape the agenda and participate in these global discussions. The initiative aims to unite the business community, to raise awareness among the public, governments, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and technical authorities of what business requires to continue contributing to the development of the Information Society. BASIS relies on policies developed in ICC's Commission on E-business, IT and Telecoms (EBITT) as the foundation for its efforts.

For further information regarding BASIS, the founding partners, members and activities, please consult the BASIS website at: <http://www.iccwbo.org/basis>.

### **About ICC**

The International Chamber of Commerce is the largest, most representative business organization in the world. Its thousands of member companies in over 130 countries have interests spanning every sector of private enterprise.

A world network of national committees keeps the ICC International Secretariat in Paris informed about national and regional business priorities. More than 2000 experts drawn from ICC's member companies feed their knowledge and experience into crafting the ICC stance on specific business issues.

The United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and many other intergovernmental bodies, both international and regional, are kept in touch with the views of international business through ICC.

For more information please visit: [www.iccwbo.org](http://www.iccwbo.org)