



International Chamber of Commerce
The world business organization

An ICC initiative

BASIS

Business Action to Support
the Information Society

ICC BASIS Contribution



Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2010
14-17 September, Vilnius, Lithuania

ICC BASIS contribution on Taking stock of Internet governance and the way forward

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and members of its BASIS initiative, Business Action to Support the Information Society are pleased to submit this contribution to the preparations of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) main session on "Taking stock of Internet governance and the way forward". ICC BASIS members include companies and associations from across sectors and geographies and of all sizes. Members look forward to contributing to the discussion at this main session at the IGF in September 2010.

- **Are the main themes of 2005 still relevant today?**
 - ICC BASIS members believe that the overall themes are still relevant today, but as we have seen, the interconnections between issues have evolved in the discussions and this will continue to be the case in the future.
- **Are there new themes that are being overlooked in Internet governance discussions?**
 - Each year we see at least one new main session topic and an emerging issues session which both bring new issues into the discussions.
 - We do not believe there are specific Internet governance issues that are being overlooked.
 - We do encourage continued evolution of the broader topics and consistent integration of new IGF policy issues on the horizon.
- **From Athens to Vilnius. Has the context of the discussions changed, and, if so, how?**
 - The context of the discussions have changed, which is productive
 - The discussion on security-openness-privacy is a good example of how the main session discussions have changed; it was recognized that the emerging policy

challenges were about balancing these three elements appropriately, which led to a new focus for the discussions.

- The workshops have become increasingly more balanced in terms of viewpoints expressed and are thus progressing discussions and feeding into the main session programme for the next year in a productive manner.
- Participants are becoming more familiar and comfortable with the interactive discussion format, thus making the exchanges more substantive.

- **Has Internet governance globally advanced over the five years of the IGF?**

- ICC BASIS believes that Internet governance has advanced over the 5 years of the IGF.
- The ever increasing number of national and regional IGF initiatives is a testament to this advancement.
- The range of workshop and open forum events are also demonstrations of how the discussions have evolved.
- A broader range of stakeholders from governments, business, civil society, the Internet technical community and international organizations participate in the IGF and many Internet governance processes and discussions today than five years ago. This has advanced awareness of Internet governance issues at all levels, and strengthened the range of experience and perspectives that are part of the policy discussions.

- **Capacity building: where were we five years ago and where are we now?**

- The national and regional IGF initiatives are a testament to the increased human and institutional capacity building and the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in IG discussions at all levels.
- It is perhaps difficult to measure capacity building but there is an increase in the stakeholders who have engaged in an IGF and are now involved in ICANN, and other processes.

About the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

The International Chamber of Commerce is the largest, most representative business organization in the world. Its thousands of member companies in over 120 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

About Business Action to Support Information Society (BASIS)

ICC created BASIS to raise awareness among the public, governments, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and technical community of what business requires to continue contributing to the development of the Information Society. It serves as the voice of business in the global dialogue on the Information Society, following two World Summits on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005).

To promote the environment in which business around the world will continue to thrive as an innovator of information and communication technologies, BASIS participates in UN-linked forums set up to continue the dialogue, such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the WSIS follow up and implementation processes, and the UN Global Alliance for ICTs and development (GAID).

To help shape the agenda and participate in these global discussions, BASIS relies on the policies developed in the ICC Commission on E-business, IT and Telecoms as the foundation for its efforts. 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 WSIS.

BASIS members include business organizations such as the TechAmerica, World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), Africa Investor, Global Information Infrastructure Commission (GIIC), Japan Business Federation (Nippon Keidanren), and the Association for Competitive Technology (ACT) as well as several ICC national committees and companies from across sectors and geographies.

For further information regarding BASIS, the founding partners, members and activities, visit: www.iccwbo.org/basis

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