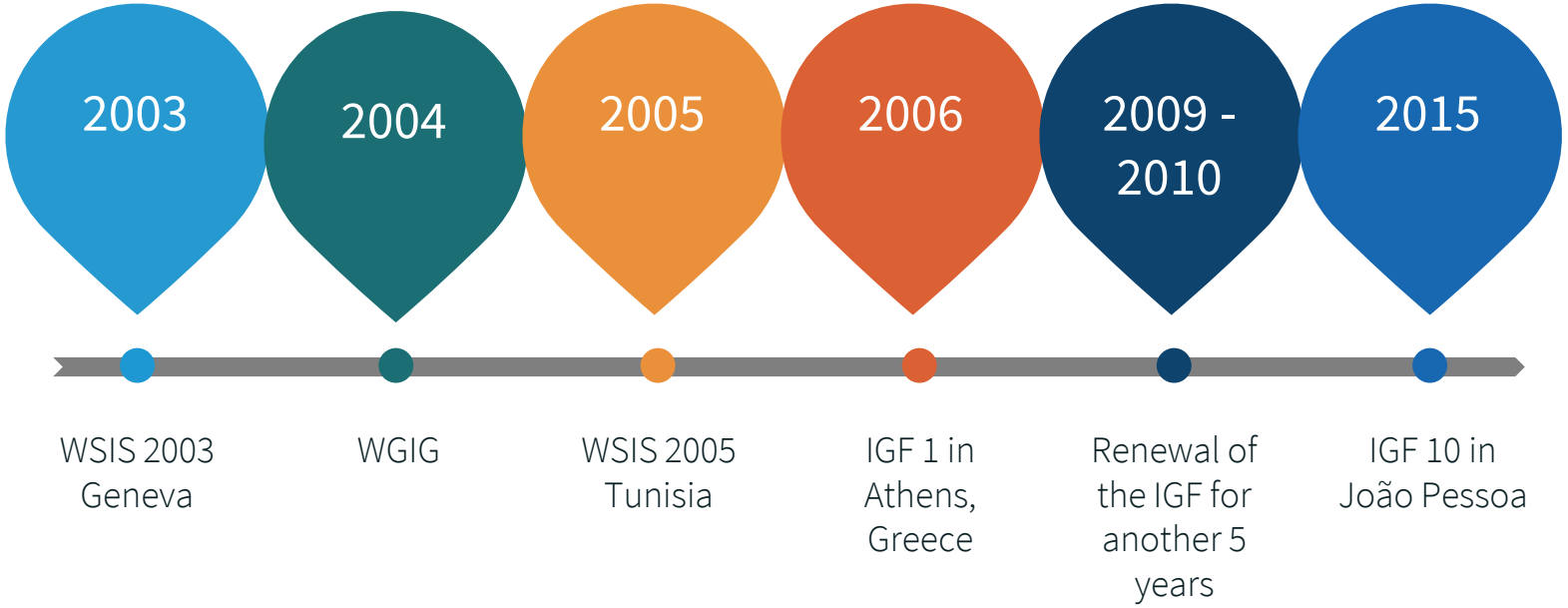
Introduction to Internet Governance

Fahd Batayneh | MEAC-SIG 2015 | May 25, 2015

History



Next Steps

Definition of Internet Governance

Internet governance is the development and application by all stakeholders in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programs that shape the evolution and use of the Internet

Who are the Stakeholders?

- Business and Private Sector
  - Designers/Developers of electronic systems and software
- Governments
  - Policy makers and regulators
- Civil Society
  - Internet end users
- Academic and Technical Community
  - The ones who conduct Research and Development (R&D) and develop Internet standards and Protocols

Internet Governance General Topics

- Access
- Diversity
- Openness
- Security
- Critical Internet Resources (CIR)
- Privacy and Human Rights

Access

- Access is defined as the ability to go online and obtain the needed information with ease and with no discrimination
- How to attain Access?
  - Increase of Access Points and Connectivity Devices
  - Increase of local content in local scripts and languages
  - Enhances Internet Infrastructure either locally, regionally, or internationally. This includes deploying more redundant submarine cables, as well as Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) at both the local and regional levels
  - Provide Internet access at affordable prices

Diversity

- Diversity is defined as the ability of an Internet user to reach to the intended piece of information via several methods and in several scripts/languages
- How to attain Diversity?
  - Development and production of local content in local scripts/languages
  - The continuous demand for content
  - Linguistic diversity of domain names and TLDs
  - The development of policies and regulations that encourage local content and linguistic diversity

Openness

- The ability of Internet users to express themselves online and within moral and acceptable standards of expression
- How to attain Openness?
  - The development, by all stakeholders involved, of policies and regulations that are relevant to all stakeholders
  - Ensuring freedom for all Internet users online
  - Encouraging the usage of Open Source Software (OSS)
  - Reduction of barriers to access information online
  - Creation of joint initiatives between libraries, universities and educational institutes, and R&D centers to increase the amount of data shared and accessible

Security

- Security is defined as the ability to provide a safe environment for Internet users, as well as ensure and protect their rights online
- How to attain Security Online?
  - Implementation of local initiatives such as the Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs)
  - Increase of awareness programs on the best usage of the Internet
    - Users are the main source of more than 90% of security issues online
  - Development of policies that protect Internet users from breaches
  - Regional and international cooperation in this regard to develop unified positions, as well as best-practice policies and rules

Critical Internet Resources (CIR)

- This includes all resources that would otherwise dysfunction the proper operations of the Internet we know, and this includes the DNS and IP Addresses (v4 and v6)
- How to ensure the operations of the Internet via its CIR?
  - Ensure the Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the Internet
  - Increase TLD options online
  - Migration to the latest version of IP addresses; IPv6, due to the depletion of IPv4 addresses

Privacy and Human Rights

- This involves ensuring the rights of Internet users online away from any privacy aggressions, and in accordance with the basic principles of Human Rights
- Some countries have officially labeled the Internet as a Human Right similar to Clean Water, Good Food, Shelter, and Good Education
  - Finland was the first country in the world to announce the Internet as a basic right to its citizens back in 2011
- Some breaches to Privacy and Human Rights online include Content Filtering, Surveillance, no-access, and Poor or discriminatory Quality of Service (QoS)

The I* Organizations

- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- Internet Society (ISOC)
- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
- Internet Architecture Board (IAB)
- Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)
- Regional TLD Organizations (RTLDOs)
- Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

ICANN

- The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
- Has a mandate of Naming, Numbering, and Protocol Parameter
- Has 3 hub offices (Singapore, Istanbul, and Los Angeles) and a handful of Engagement Centers in key cities around the world
- Runs the IANA functions under contract by the US Government
- While ICANN is involved in Policy Development, the IANA is the Technical arm
- Holds 3 face-to-face annual meetings in various countries around the world
  - ICANN 53 will take place in Buenos Aires on June 21-25, 2015
- More at http://icann.org/

Internet Society (ISOC)

- ISOC engages in a wide spectrum of Internet issues, including policy, governance, technology, and development
- Delivers plenty of awareness and educational programs around the world with focus on developing and least developed countries/regions
  - ISOC has “ISOC Chapters” around the world to assist on this
  - Our local host is an ISOC Chapter; i.e. ISOC Tunisia
- Online presence at http://www.internetsociety.org/
- Online Learning Platform at http://www.internetsociety.org/what-we-do/learn-online-inforum

Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

- A group of ad-hoc Technical folks from across the globe who are involved in developing the Internet's Infrastructure
- ISOC is the home of the IETF
- Volunteers do their work online via dedicated mailing lists
- The IETF conducts 3 annual meetings
- The "**Internet Architecture Board (IAB)**" is a committee of the IETF
- Website at http://ietf.org/

Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)

Source at http://www.ripe.net/internet-coordination/internet-governance/internet-technical-community/the-rir-system

Regional TLD Organizations (RTLDOs)

- Regional organizations that discuss issues related to the DNS industry within their respective region
- There are 4 such organizations:
  - Asia-Pacific TLD Organization (APTLD)
  - African TLD Organization (AfTLD)
  - Council for European National TLD Registries (CENTR)
  - Latin America and Caribbean TLD Organization (LACTLD)

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

- An annual forum since 2006 that attracts all stakeholders to discuss and share experiences and best-practices
- No binding decisions come out of it
- Covers all aspects of global Internet Governance from various dimensions
- A Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) decides on the theme and agenda of the annual event
- 10th edition of the forum to take place in João Pessoa, Brazil during November 10-13, 2015
- Website at http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/

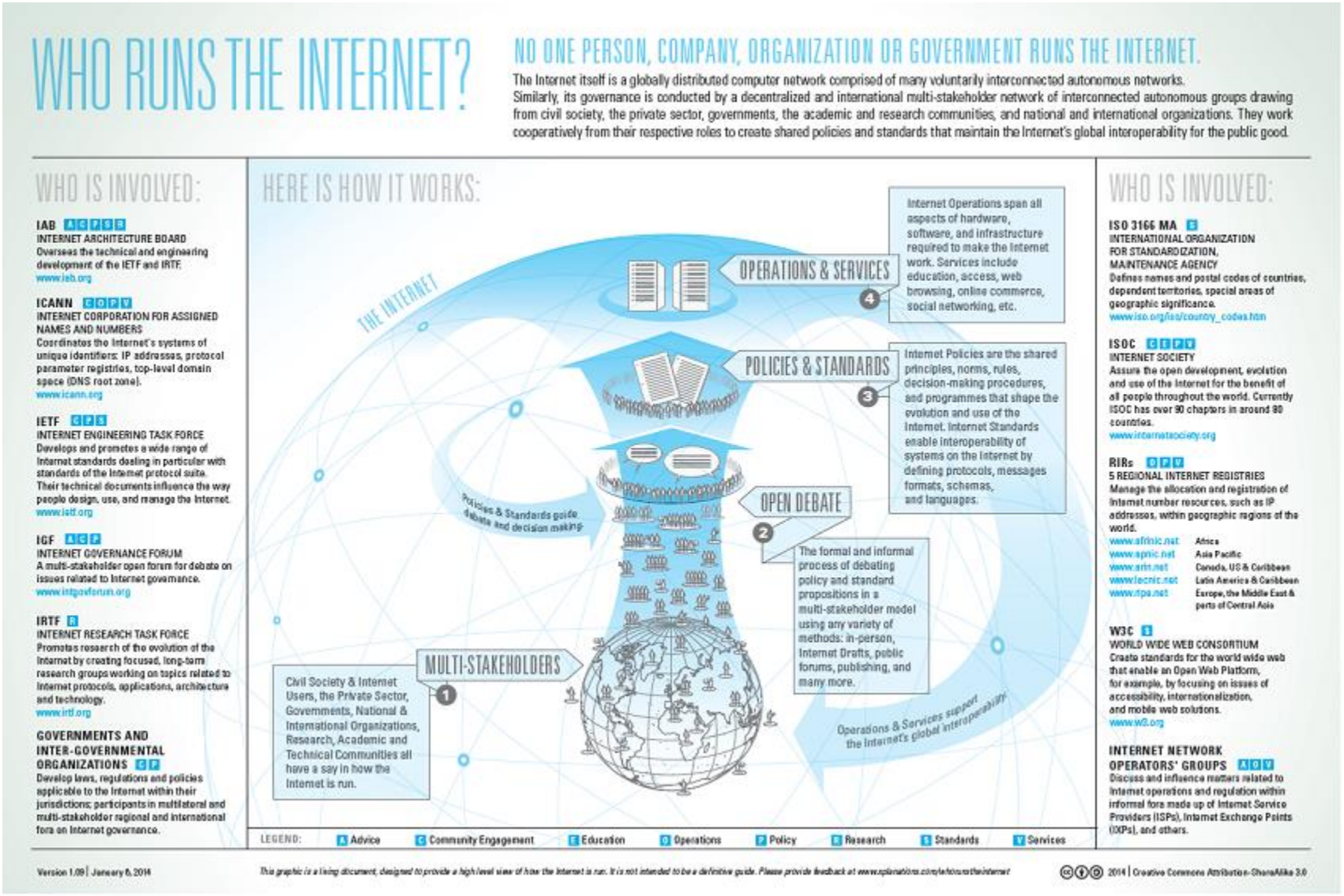
National and Regional IGFs

- Regional IGFs
  - European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG)
  - African IGF
  - Asia Pacific Regional IGF (APrIGF)
  - Arab IGF
  - … etc.
- Local IGFs
  - Tunisian IGF
  - Russian IGF
  - UK IGF
  - … etc.

Schools on Internet Governance

- Extensive workshops that span over 3-5 days and teach participants the A-Z of Internet Governance
- Some versions of such schools include the European Summer School on IG, the South School on IG, and the MEAC School on IG
- The Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on IG (MEAC-SIG) is for this region
  - First edition took place in Kuwait during May 25-29, 2014
  - Where is the second edition taking place at, when?

An Infographic of the Ecosystem



Questions?!

Fahd Batayneh
Coordinator, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Middle East
E: fahd.batayneh@icann.org
W: http://icann.org/

twitter.com/icann
twitter.com/fahdbatayneh

gplus.to/icann

facebook.com/icannorg

weibo.com/ICANNorg

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