# Multistakeholder roles and processes in Internet governance

Desiree Miloshevic
@Des, Internet Public Servant, FLO(t)I
#MEAC_SIG: Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet governance
Kuwait 26 May, 2014

# Concept of Multistakeholder IG

# How to make "public policy" for the internet?

# a "MS" approach definition

- "The aim of multi-stakeholder processes are to promote better decision making by ensuring that the views of the main actors concerned about a particular decision are HEARD and INTEGRATED at ALL stages through dialogue and CONSENSUS building."

# Question of stakeholder's roles

- Idea of Multistakeholder participation is not a concept unique to Internet governance

- WSIS/Tunis Agenda para 35. loosely attempted to define roles of stakeholders in IG

# Origins of MS

- What are the origins of MS approach to Internet governance?

- How does MS processes relate to your organisation and the region?

- Do you coordinate with organisations of traditional gov regimes top-down or bottom-up organisations?

- Is there a space for co-evolution? (WTPF, WTDC, ?)

# Origins of MS governance approach

- Key Internet technical Organisations practiced the bottom-up, consensus based and MS approach to IG for more than a decade

- Roots in early Net culture ideals, complete decoupling from government participation (

- https://projects.eff.org/~barlow/Declaration-Final.html

# WSIS

- Geneva Declaration of Principles (2003)

- Geneva Plan of Action (2003)

- Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (2005)

- http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs2/tunis/off/6rev1.html

- Tunis Commitment 2005

# Multistakeholder approach

- Private sector

- Civil Society

- Technical Community

- Academia

- Governments

- ...stakeholders working together on an equal footing

# Tunis Agenda on MS

- A working definition of Internet governance is the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

- 35. We reaffirm that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations. In this respect it is recognized that:

- Policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.

- The private sector has had, and should continue to have, an important role in the development of the Internet, both in the technical and economic fields.
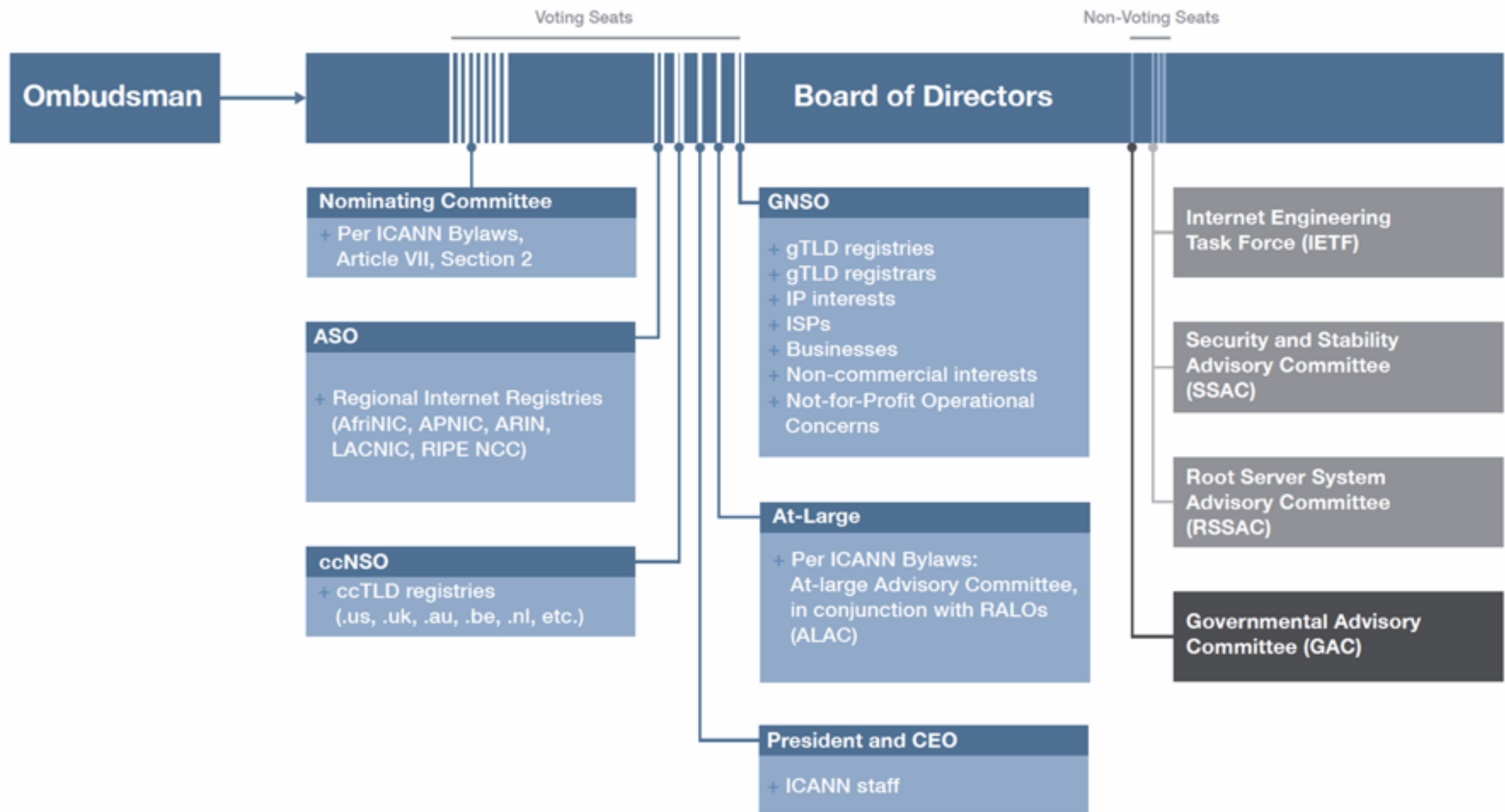
# Tunis Agenda on MS... cont.

- Civil society has also played an important role on Internet matters, especially at community level, and should continue to play such a role.

- Intergovernmental organizations have had, and should continue to have, a facilitating role in the coordination of Internet-related public policy issues.

- International organizations have also had and should continue to have an important role in the development of Internet-related technical standards and relevant policies.

- 36. We recognize the valuable contribution by the academic and technical communities within those stakeholder groups mentioned in paragraph 35 to the evolution, functioning and development of the Internet.

# Evolution of the MS model

- Various technical organisations

- ICANN (98-)

- WSIS (2003-2005)

- IGF (2006-)

- NetMUNDIAL (2014)

# An MS example: ICANN

Voting Seats

Non-Voting Seats

**Ombudsman**

**Board of Directors**

**Nominating Committee**
+ Per ICANN Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2

**ASO**
+ Regional Internet Registries (AfriNIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC, RIPE NCC)

**ccNSO**
+ ccTLD registries (.us, .uk, .au, .be, .nl, etc.)

**GNSO**
+ gTLD registries
+ gTLD registrars
+ IP interests
+ ISPs
+ Businesses
+ Non-commercial interests
+ Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns

**At-Large**
+ Per ICANN Bylaws: At-large Advisory Committee, in conjunction with RALOs (ALAC)

**President and CEO**
+ ICANN staff

**Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)**

**Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)**

**Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)**

**Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)**

# IGF

TRAIL BLAZER for opening participation to all stakeholders

+

Composition and selection of IGF MAG members

# Importance of MS approach

- Importance of MS model as a way to govern the Internet

- The approach aims to create Trust between the actors and solutions that provide mutual benefits. The approach is people-centered and everyone involved takes responsibility for the outcome.

# Importance of MS model ...

- Because of the inclusive and participatory approaches used, stakeholders have a greater sense of ownership for decision made. They are more likely to comply with them"

# Attributes and Challenges

- Multiple MS models, approaches, processes

- No single firm definition

- Lack of capacity for some stakeholders to participate in the MS process

- In authoritarian regimes and Intergov orbs, the acceptance of MS processes in Internet public policy decision making is often just RHETORIC!

# MS processes

- based on participatory democratic practices:

- openness for participation

- transparency

- accountability

- not all stakeholders

- importance of individual/user participation

# The art of MS IG policy making

- "Making each stakeholder equally unhappy..." M. Kummer

# Questions?

- @Des;