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Voices from Asia-Pacific

Internet Governance Priorities and Recommendations

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Presented on behalf of APDIP by:

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APNIC



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What is ORDIG?

Open Regional Dialogue on Internet Governance

- WGIG/WSIS are the platforms, ORDIG has tried to give the Asia-Pacific region some voice

ORDIG Advisory Panel

- ORDIG is advised by a distinguished Panel of Advisors from government, academia, private sector and civil society across the region

ORDIG Partners

- principally with UNESCAP and APNIC
 - APNIC role: staff support, editorial support for website
- with financial support from IDRC



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ORDIG Advisory Committee

Pankaj Agrawala, Joint Secretary, Department of IT, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, India

Izumi Aizu, Secretary, Internet Governance Task Force of Japan, Japan ([bio](#))

Alan G. Alegre, Coordinator, Foundation for Media Alternatives, Philippines

Sanjib Raj Bhandari, CEO, Mercantile Communications, Nepal

Valerie D'Costa, Director, International Division, Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore, Singapore

Dr. Gihan V Dias, Programme Director, Technology, Standards and Compliance, ICT Agency, Computer Science and Eng. Dept. University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

Thinley Dorji, Managing Director, Bhutan Telecom, Bhutan ([bio](#))

Dr. Thaweesak Koanantakool, Director, National Electronics and Computer Technology Center, Thailand

Fuatai Purcell, Secretary, ICT Advisor, Samoa National ICT Committee, Samoa

Dr. Budi Rahardjo, Head of IDNIC, Indonesian ccTLD registry, Indonesia

Dr. Masoud Shafiee, Deputy Minister for ICT/Education and Research, Ministry of Information and Communications Technology, Iran

Karaitiana Taiuru, Managing Director, Net Home Internet Solutions, New Zealand

Yan Hong Qiang, Deputy Director, Development and Planning Division, Telecommunication Administration Bureau, Ministry of Information Industry, People's Republic of China ([bio](#))

What has ORDIG done?

We have consulted (**sub-regional consultations**)

- At UNESCAP's sub-regional consultations
- and others consultations with CONGO, APRICOT, APEC TEL

And we have consulted (**online forum**)

- qualitative and opinionated
- 180 participants; 27 countries; 350 posting on multiple threads

And we have consulted (**online survey**)

- Quantitative results - based on issues
- Multi-lingual (English plus 11 regional languages)
- Over 1200 respondents from 37 countries

Narrowed it down (**research**)

- Focused on identified issues from ORDIG consultations
- Commissioned research on these issues throughout the region



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What have we found out from all this?

Our findings/recommendations are summed up in the ORDIG Paper and Policy Brief

- There should be some guiding principles in discussing Internet Governance
- In general, six key recommendations have surfaced
- Specifically, policy recommendations are provided according to dimensions of Internet Governance – Infrastructure; Logical; Content; and Social/Developmental dimensions



Guiding Principles

- Adopted from WGIG
 - Terms ‘governance’ and ‘govern’ mean more than ‘government activities’
 - Enabling dimension includes organized and cooperative activities between different stakeholders
 - Internet governance encompasses a wider range of conditions and mechanisms than IP numbering and domain names
- ORDIG principles
 - Broad, holistic and oriented towards human development
 - Balancing global and local interests
 - Maintain stability and interoperability

Survey Outputs

Table 2: Asia-Pacific Concerns and Priorities (ranked by level of dissatisfaction)

Rank	Issue	% dissatisfied	% satisfied
1.	Cybercrime	94	5
2.	Virus	93	6
3.	Spam	93	7
4.	Illegal Content	82	16
5.	Privacy	66	31
6.	Availability/Cost	61	38
7.	Reliability/Speed	59	40
8.	Wireless	59	25
9.	Availability of Public Info	58	39
10.	E-Commerce Payment	53	37
11.	Local Language Software	53	39
12.	IPR	52	31
13.	Local Content	52	42
14.	Internet Telephony	51	30
15.	Network Interconnection	47	39
16.	ISP Market Conditions	46	34
17.	Secure Server/Encryption	44	33
18.	Technical Standards	37	39
19.	IDNs	37	23
20.	DNS Management	35	44
21.	IP Address	32	40



General Key Recommendations

Subsidiarity

- Local coordination, input and solutions are required for issues such as IDNs, ccTLDs, and localized content/software
- For this, multi-stakeholder approaches are required at the national, and grassroots/community levels

Governments have a role

- Foster and enable an efficient market environment
- Establish and monitor broad competition principles; ensuring benefits are equitably maximized
- Develop National ICT agendas to optimize resources and ensure coordinated participation in national/international governance processes

Multi-Stakeholder participation is required

- Governance mechanisms should include all affected stakeholders in decision-making processes and implementation
- Key stakeholders include the government, private sector, and civil society

General Key Recommendations (cont'd)

Preserve cultural diversity

- Bodies responsible for international Internet governance functions should reflect priorities of all effected cultures
- Representation in decision-making processes to facilitate measures/implementation in an effective and culturally appropriate manners

Enhance Participation with capacity building

- Governance topics are complex and require technical knowledge and other forms of expertise
- To participate substantially, stakeholders need information, knowledge, resources and opportunities

Supplement law with other tools

- Law may be supplemented by innovative mechanisms, including codes of conduct, self-regulatory mechanisms, and multi-stakeholder collaboratives
- Technology itself can play a role in achieving governance goals, particularly FOSS for network stability and the development of local content/software.



The Dimensions...and Specific Recommendations

Infrastructure

- **Access costs** – ensure competitive environment; ease ISP licensing; liberalize access to international bandwidth; promote diversity in domestic infrastructure; encourage “peering” between ISPs
- **Voice Over Internet Protocol** – Legalise VOIP; implement Quality of Service laws; allocate number resources...
- **Wireless** – adopt spectrum management regimes that embrace unlicensed spectrum; promote wireless as technology to bridge the digital divide

Logical

- **Domain Name System** – maintain one and only one authoritative root; promote local authority over ccTLDs; begin implementation of IDNs even if technical standards have not yet been perfected
- **Internet Protocol Address Management** – develop fair and equitable mechanisms for IPv6 allocations
- **Technical standards** – increase participation in int’l standards-creating bodies; use FOSS to promote open standards



The Dimensions....and Specific Recommendations (cont'd)

Content

- **Content 'pollution'** (spam, viruses, spyware...) – ensure legal steps do not diminish openness of the network...
- **Cybercrime** (online fraud, phishing, terrorism...) – promote codes of conduct and self-regulation....

Social and Developmental

- **Cultural diversity** – enhance localized software and local content; protect indigenous intellectual property rights
- **Participation and capacity building** – make special effort to enhance developing country participation; supplement participation with capacity building; promote multi-stakeholder decision-making



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What now? The immediate and foreseeable future

ORDIG next steps

- Forward the views/recommendations to WGIG and WSIS
 - We have presented the views/recommendations from ORDIG to WGIG; the next step is to ensure that these are taken forward to WSIS as well
- ORDIG Country Reports in production, for selected countries
 - Country consultations

Internet governance issues will be ongoing

- Continue with information dissemination
- Help with building capacities
 - Develop Internet Governance toolkits
 - Promote national level capacity building efforts (i.e. national task forces on Internet Governance)
- Watch outcomes of WSIS Phase II



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Thank you!

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