The WSIS Tunis Looking ahead

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Introducing CENTR

What is CENTR?

- *Council of European National Top Level Domain Registries*
- *Forum for TLD managers*
  - Primarily ccTLDs
    - Also includes gTLDs
  - Mainly European
    - Membership from 5 continents
    - Developed and emerging TLD markets, like .AF, .IR
- *Open to **all** Top Level Domain Registries in the world*

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CENTR's Membership

- 3 Members categories
    - Full Members
    - Associate Members
    - Observers
- Members vote on admission of new members

CENTR's Membership

- AFGNIC Afghanistan (.af)
- STA Andorra (.ad)
- ISOC.AM Armenia (.am)
- NIC.AC Ascension Is. (.ac), Diego Garcia (.io), St Helena (.sh)
- NIC.AT Austria (.at)
- DNS Belgium Belgium (.be)
- Digital Systems Bulgaria (.bg)
- CIRA Canada (.ca)
- CARNet Croatia (.hr)
- UCY-DNS Cyprus (.cy)
- CZ.NIC Czech Republic (.cz)
- DENIC Germany (.de)
- Dansk Internet Forum (.dk)
- FICORA Finland (.fi)
- AFNIC France (.fr), Mayotte (.yt), Reunion (.re), St. Pierre & Miquelon (.pm), Wallis & Futuna Is. (.wf)
- GibNet Gibraltar (.gi)
- GR-Hostmaster Greece (.gr)
- Island Networks Guernsey (.gg), Jersey (.je)
- CHIP Hungary (.hu)
- IEDR Ireland (.ie)
- IPM Iran (.ir)
- ISNIC Iceland (.is)
- ISOC-IL Israel (.il)
- IT-NIC Italy (.it)
- JPRS Japan (.jp)

- LITNET NOC Lithuania (.lt)
- **LATNET, Latvia (.lv)**
- RESTENA DNS-LU Luxembourg (.lu)
- NIC Malta Malta (.mt)
- NIC-Mexico Mexico (.mx)
- SIDN Netherlands (.nl)
- ISOCNZ New Zealand (.nz)
- NORID Norway (.no), Bouvet Is. (.bv), Svalbard & Jan Mayen Is. (.sj)
- Palestinian Registry Palestine (.ps)
- NASK Poland (.pl)
- FCCN Portugal (.pt)
- RNC Romania (.ro)
- Ros-NIIROS Russia (.ru)
- RED.ES Spain (.es)
- ARNES Slovenia (.si)
- IIS Sweden (.se)
- SWITCH Switzerland (.ch), Lichtenstein (.li)
- SITA (.aero)
- **Vatican – Holy See (.va)**
- Nominet UK United Kingdom (.uk)
- NeuStar United States of America (.us)
- VeriSign (.com, .net)
- Afilias (.info)
- Public Interest Registry (.org)

CENTR's output

- Newsletter, "*Domain Wire*", 2 issues a year

- Surveys
  - A-level survey, covering the registries management main aspects
  - B-survey, covering legal issues related to registries
  - Other surveys upon request of our members

- Comments and positions on several topics that may have an impact on our members

- Outreach programme, providing registries of developing countries with financial and technical support

CENTR in the international arena

- The European Commission participates in CENTR as an observer
- Regular contacts with ICANN-IANA staff and the other ccTLDs regional organisations
- Associate member of the European Internet Foundation
- Participation within the WGIG-WSIS process
- Regular attendance of all the international Internet fora and meetings

Benefits of diverse participation

- CENTR values participation from many different registries
  - Western and Eastern Europe, Americas, Asia, Oceania
  - Different regulatory regimes, Internet community expectations, use of domain names etc.
  - Different challenges in ensuring stable DNS/Internet
- Provides added value
  - Brings different perspectives to discussion
  - Helps to define guidelines and best practices that benefit everyone
  - Comes to agreed opinions on certain aspects of the international arena

CENTR and the Internet governance

CENTR and the WSIS-WGIG process

- Accredited business entity in the WGIG-WSIS process since 2003

- Participation in the four WGIG open consultations

- Liaison with the WGIG Secretariat through information exchanges and participation in events (CENTR Open Day)

- Participation in the ccTLD workshop organised by the WGIG Secretariat in Geneva, July 2005, and in the ccNSO workshop held in September

- CENTR comments:
  - First CENTR comment to the WGIG process, April 2005
  - CENTR Comment to the WGIG final report, August 2005

The key factors for the CENTR Community

- Critical importance of the stability, security and robustness of the Internet infrastructure

- The principles of transparency, democracy, multi-stakeholder, inclusiveness approach for any Internet governance model

- Subsidiarity

- The importance of an environment that encourages innovation and investment

- The role of the private sector

- The importance of making existing mechanisms linked to key objectives

The working definition of Internet governance

- "*Internet governance is not just Internet names and addresses*" (WGIG report)

- The Domain Name System is only a small part of the entirety of Internet governance issues

- According to CENTR Comment to the WGIG final report, it should be clearer that governments, the private sector and the civil society participate on an equal footing "*to shape the evolution and the use of the Internet*"

The oversight function

- *ICANN should continue to be the forum for cooperation for DNS issues as a service to the community, and that ICANN should focus on its core function of technical co-ordination as well as on improving inclusiveness in its processes* (CENTR Comment to the WGIG final report)

The forum

- The proposal of creating an Internet forum left many ccTLDs perplexed

- According to the CENTR Community, the forum should only
  - *Serve as a vehicle for the exchange of concerns and ideas of various sectors*
  - *Make provision for the effective participation of all stakeholders including non-governmental sectors from developing countries*

- The regional bodies to complement the forum already exist

The proposed models

● The CENTR Community highlighted that the proposed models:

- – Are too bureaucratic

- – Fail to meet the WSIS criteria that call for full involvement of the private sector, civil society and international organisations

- – Fail to address subsidiarity and local determination principles

Critical issues

- It is fundamental to distinguish between:

  - Those issues that may require restructuring of the present arrangements

  - Those that can be (and are expected to be) resolved within the existing frameworks

- Keep in mind that most issues are local and regional and as such are best solved at the national level

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The future

- The "free spirit" of the Internet as a milestone and the key of any future development

- Knowledge exchange and innovation for the growth of the Internet

- Open and transparent dialogue so that all voices are heard

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Questions?

Thanks for your attention

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