

BCS – Response to IGF MAG Chair’s Call for Information on Concrete Actions and Decisions

The BCS (<http://www.bcs.org/> [1]) has attended and presented workshops at the last 4 UN-IGF and also at UK-IGF for the last 5 years and EuroDIG in 2011. We felt that EuroDIG did not offer any benefit. In comparison the UN-IGF was very beneficial and offered a very good return on investment of time and resources, hence our workshop submission again this year.

As a direct result of our workshops at UN-IGF we have made a number of effective decisions, the key ones are:

Formation of the specialist group on the Internet of Things

Continuation of the Identity Assurance Working Group

Further research in to identity assurance and identity governance

It has also resulted in the publication of 3 yearbooks with various finding and decisions about identity governance and identity use on the Internet which can be found here:

<http://policy.bcs.org/content/identity-assurance-working-group> [2]

It has affected the BCS views of online identity and resulted in a number of position papers and guidance documents

This work has fed directly in to identity systems of the UK Government and the work of the Digital Policy Alliance, including helping ministers make decisions about the use of identity and online services. Decisions on the types of technology and the cultural and ethical aspects of identity and privacy have all be influenced directly by the UN-IGF. We hope this will continue as there is still much work to be done in this area.

I think that the key things are where we feel the work we have done has influenced the UK and EU Governments - so there are the inputs to the annual UK Government and Internet Conferences (e.g. the recommendations last year) and the inputs direct and via DPA/EURIM to EU regulation and consultations (I think these have informed the UK views on Data Protection and e-sigs and e-trust regulations specifically. Also the inputs on Identity and Payments to the World Wide Web Consortium proposed standards. I also think we influenced the debate on anonymity on the Internet and overall the UK has pushed for the protection of children from abuse online through the IGF - e.g. the UNICEF declarations last year.

Regards

Andy, Louise and Ian.