IGF 2014
ISOC Open Forum Report

Title of the Open Forum: Internet Society Open Forum - ISOC @ IGF: Dedicated to an open accessible Internet
Date: Tuesday, 2 September 2014
Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Brief Summary of Forum:
The Internet Society has held Open Forums at IGFs in order to connect with IGF participants interested in promoting an open accessible Internet, ISOC chapter members attending the IGF, and other interested parties.

During IGF 2014, holding an Open Forum allowed the Internet Society and participants to engage in a debate about key current issues, to introduce team leads on issues ranging from global engagement, promoting future IGFs and funding for same, and to provide perspectives from the ISOC and IAB senior staff, engaging with participants at the meeting/remote participating.

Main issues raised during the forum:
• The IANA transition and ISOC’s perspective
• Global Internet governance engagement and the promotion of national and regional IGFs.
• The role of Netmundial and WEF activities and what this means for the broader IG landscape.
• ISOC and its chapters and how to mobilize resources, support the main IGF, and focus on issues of relevance across regions to promote an open and accessible Internet and more open participation in events.

Conclusions drawn from the Open Forum:
• Ongoing and active engagement in regions and with ISOC chapters/staff is key.
• Need to promote IGFs at the national and regional level.
• Engage better with stakeholders both globally and regionally on IG issues, including the role of IGF/strengthening (IGFSA), role of stakeholders, and messaging/social media contact to keep debate open/fresh/consistent.

Follow-up Action:
• Greater support to national and regional IGFs as a feeder to the main IGF.
• Strong leadership needed on IGFSA (Raul Echeberria lead and also ISOC’s VP for global engagement) and ISOC regional teams to increase activities with stakeholders in general on IG and IGF issues (promoting best practices and suggesting additional best practices).
• Public support for the IGF and messaging re same, using more social media in long-term lead up to the next IGF.

Panelists:
Kathy Brown (ISOC CEO), Raul Echeberria (ISOC VP Global Engagement), Russ Housley (IAB Chair), Sally Wentworth (ISOC VP Public Policy)

Reported out by: Jane Coffin (Director, Development Strategy, ISOC)