

IGF 2016 Workshop Report Template

Session Title	WS 234: Linking Connectivity, Human Rights & Development
Date	Wednesday , December 7
Time	09:00 - 10:00
Session Organizer	Fabro Steibel – ITS Rio Micek, Peter - Access Now
Chair/Moderator	Micek, Peter - Access Now
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Ephraim Percy Kenyanito, Access Now
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Lead Speakers: Bhardwaj, Manu - U.S. Department of State Jorge, Sonia - Alliance for Affordable Internet Nguyen, Carolyn - Microsoft Chinmayi Arun – Centre for Communication Governance, NLU-Delhi Viola, Mario - Institute for Technology & Society (ITS Rio) Secondary speakers: Hu, Xianhong - UNESCO Mackinnon, Rebecca – Ranking Digital Rights
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration policies and identity verification requirements can negatively impact access and connectivity. • Connectivity gaps will not be solved by the private sector acting alone, but rather require partnerships between international finance, multilateral, and multistakeholder institutions in conjunction with businesses, civil society, and national governments. • Content serving rural, last mile, and marginalized communities should not depend on text based communications, due to illiteracy. • Businesses depend on guidance from local communities and civil society stakeholders to ensure sustainability and efficacy of connectivity development projects.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation	Mario Viola presented a case regarding the blocking of uncertified mobile phones by the Brazilian National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel), in which ITS Rio played an important role in pushing the agency back in such initiative, by highlighting the possible impacts on the rights of the users, especially the ones from low income classes, that are the main users of these "no certified" mobile phones, which are the main tool for them to access the

	internet.
<p>Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>Gender issues became a focal point, as well as the manner in which people access the internet. Women are 50% less likely to use the internet than men in some communities. In feudal parts of India, for example, in patriarchal families women are not allowed to touch mobile phones. Some village edicts declare women are not allowed devices. If women are not afforded private access to the internet, they are less likely to engage online.</p> <p>Mandatory identity requirements and device certification policies should be avoided and negated in internet access and connectivity programs, platforms, and initiatives. Governments should not require registration to purchase SIM cards, national ID programs should not be linked to internet access, and access itself should not be seen as a privilege but as a right.</p> <p>Key infrastructure stakeholders at the international level, including finance ministers, lack an informed perspective about the key role of ICTs in economic and social development. The connectivity discussion must be grounded on inclusion and diversity. The digital rights approach should take a primary role. Researchers should focus on the global south, and ask, what are the dimensions of access? The human rights voice is often missing as well. Programs like Global Connect attempt to give visibility to human rights considerations.</p>
<p>Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>Policymakers should ensure that connectivity policies do not require legal identity documents to access digital services.</p> <p>Initiatives promoting connectivity and investment in information and communications technologies must bring civil society and local communities to the table as an equal stakeholder.</p> <p>The Human Rights Principles for Connectivity and Development, currently being drafted by multiple stakeholders, led by Access Now, provide needed guidance to these initiatives. Such principles should be incorporated into the safeguards, investment, and development policies of finance institutions.</p>

