

## IGF Dynamic Coalition on DNS Issues

Meeting minutes

Meeting No. 5

Cisco WebEx

June 12, 2019

**Present:** Maarten Botterman, Susan Chalmers, Jennifer Chung, Melinda Clem, Mark Datysgeld, Jothan Frakes, Lianna Galstyan, Manal Ismail, Peter Koch, Nik Smith, Mark Svancarek, and Dennis Tan Tanaka.

**SEEDIG:** Colleagues from the South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG) kicked off the meeting with a readout from their UA-focused session in Bucharest. This side event during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual SEEDIG meeting was titled *Multilingual Internet: local scripts by default*. The overall goal was to bring together governments and ccTLD operators from South Eastern Europe and the neighbouring area to discuss ways and means to advance multilingualism on the Internet in the region. The session included sharing of experiences from countries where IDNs are implemented: the Serbian ccTLD's policy allowing the registration of domain names in languages of all national minorities; the Serbian Ministry of Culture attempt to determine the use of Cyrillic domain names by all public entities; Bulgaria's challenges generated by the fact that the two separate entities manage .bg and .br, etc. Participants also underlined the important role of governments in promoting multilingualism online, including IDNs, and discussed options for policies that governments could develop to encourage the use of national scripts on the Internet. SEEDIG colleagues will circulate a key insights from the meeting to the DC-DNSI list.

**IGF MAG Mtg No 3:** The third and final in-person meeting of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group took place from June 5-7 in Berlin. Several opportunities to raise Universal Acceptance as a topic during the IGF2019 in November were identified:

- *Workshop Session* – Within the **digital inclusion** theme, at least four different workshop proposals focusing on Universal Acceptance were submitted, out of a total of about 107 workshop proposals. Across the three IGF main themes – Digital Inclusion, Data Governance, and Safety, Security, Stability and Resilience – only 60 workshops, or 20 workshops per theme – will be accepted. It is likely that at least one workshop proposal on Universal Acceptance will be included within this list of 60. Results should be published by the IGF Secretariat within a week.
- *Main Session* – The IGF will feature several Main Sessions, which are typically held in larger rooms and attract higher level participants, and which feature translation into the six UN languages. This session will focus on the mechanisms needed to ensure that multistakeholder community is adhering to achieving the SDGs, as it pertains to digital inclusion, with hopes of Universal Acceptance being one specific area to highlight. The DC-DNSI will remain engaged in this working group in the coming weeks and continue advocating the importance of UA-readiness.
- *Thematic Introductory and Wrap-Up Sessions* – Each IGF main theme will feature an introductory and wrap-up session at the beginning and end of the week, respectively. These sessions present an opportunity to raise Universal Acceptance as a topic under the digital inclusion theme.

- *Dynamic Coalition Session* – This is the main event for the DC-DNSI. The Secretariat has yet to determine the length of the session – it will be either 60 or 90 minutes. The organizing team has advocated for the longer of the two. Planning of this session with the DC-DNSI list will begin shortly.

**EuroDIG:** On June 18, from 12:00 – 14:00, the DC-DNSI will hold a Day 0 session at EuroDIG titled: [“Encouraging a Multilingual Internet,”](#) that will serve to convene members of a small, and anyone who is passionate about promoting greater digital inclusion. The audience will hear from leading experts in the field of Universal Acceptance and will have a unique opportunity to engage with panelists and ask critical questions to what short and long-term solutions, or best practices should be explored and implemented. Remote participation will also be available, so the DC-DNSI Secretariat strongly encourages all coalition membership to participate.

**Survey update:** Our proposal for funding a global, public sector survey on UA awareness and buy-in was favorably received by the UASG. A survey company has been selected. The survey has been integrated into their budget and planning process and submitted to ICANN for final approval. There is a status meeting with those principals at the next ICANN meeting in Marrakech. We will alert the DC-DNSI when we have final word and will begin collecting interested participants.

**IGF session planning:** The group discussed broad ideas for the IGF Dynamic Coalition Session in November, which will focus on how to promote Universal Acceptance-readiness within the public sector. Best practices and illustrations were requested for the session, and the group should take care to ensure that new gTLDs are included within the discussion, in addition to IDNs. It will also be important to convey the importance of UA-readiness to promoting meaningful access, preserving cultural identity, and preventing digital divides.

**APriIGF:** Colleagues involved in the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum announced an upcoming session on Universal Acceptance during the APriIGF this July in Valdivostok, Russia. The session will take place on July 17<sup>th</sup> and remote participation will be available.

**Other:** Universal Acceptance will be discussed during the upcoming ICANN meeting in Marrakech. Further, the group can look forward to receiving ground-breaking research on UA-readiness across the top 1,000 websites, including recommendations relating to technical specifications that will help solve UA-related problems.

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