

**Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability activities
at the Internet Governance Forum,
Vilnius, Lithuania, 14 – 17 September 2010**

The Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability contributed to the 5th session of IGF in different ways. Three events took place during the IGF this year involving the activities of the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD). ITU-T TSB support the DCAD in terms of secretariat with an accessibility coordinator as staff, a DCAD web, under the umbrella of the accessibility mandate, in the WTSA Division.

The DCAD was engaged in several events in different ways and modalities: the events are as follow:

- 1. The third face-to-face meeting of the DCAD, held on the 16 September 2010**
- 2. Workshop no. 180**
- 3. Workshop no. 182 organized in collaboration with EBU**
- 4. Participation to the Workshop 114, organized by NOMINET**

The report of each activities is reproduce in details as follow.

**1. DCAD Activity no. 1:
3rd face-to-face meeting of DCAD: 16 September 2010**

The third meeting of the DCAD was held on 16 September, with the participation of some 30 delegates from IGF, including Africa, northern Africa (Tunisia), Latin America and north America. Two Tunisian participants expressed their willingness to contribute to the work of DCAD in the future. The meeting was chaired by Andrea Saks, DCAD coordinator.

Remote participation was also possible through webex and captioning. The remote participation was ensured and coordinated by the DCAD secretariat. The documents are available on the DCAD website and on the IGF website.

The meeting followed the agenda as following:

1. Introduction
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Report of the second meeting of the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD) *Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 16 November 2009*
4. Feedback from the IGF Participants on accessibility measures taken at this IGF meeting
5. Remote Participation
 - a. Comments and experiences
6. Feedback on the two workshops: What did we accomplish?
 - a. Workshop no. 180: "From Athens to Vilnius: Beyond the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities" (organized by DCAD)
 - b. Workshop no. 182: "Can mobile 'Apps' create a new golden age of Accessibility?" (organized by EBU and DCAD)
7. Next Steps and future activities
 - a. Survey?
 - b. A report on the improvements of accessibility at IGF over the last five years as an outcome?
8. Work Plan for 2010
9. Any other business
10. Close

The conclusions of the meeting were as follows:

- a) Feedback from the IGF Participants on accessibility measures taken at this IGF meeting and that it was noted that everyone was temporarily disabled due the fact the meeting rooms had no ceilings and there was constant ambient noise. IGF had every main session and every workshop captioned and it was possible for everyone to function whereas without it would have made it impossible
- b) Remote Participation: Comments and experiences were expressed and brief report given by Ms. Virginia Paque from the the DiploFoundation online IG capacity Building programme coordinator that there were 600+ Remote participants, 32 and more hubs, 35 and more remote

panelists. Ms. Paque stated that it wasn't perfect but that it worked and worked very well for such a large attempt and that the captioning was an important partner for remote participation

- c) Feedback on the two workshops : What did we accomplish was explored and it was felt that we should continue to participate. The IGF Youth forum attended all the 3 workshops and the DCAD meeting. After contributing their experiences, it was decided to invite them to present at the next DCAD workshop at the 6th IGF meeting providing funding could be found.

Within the DCAD, the next steps and future activities the following points were discussed:

- a) to discuss over the creation of a survey was discussed but no firm plan was decided, prior identification of adequate resources within the DCAD participants.
- b) to discuss around the possibility to draft a report on the improvements of accessibility at IGF over the last five years, should proper resources within the DCAD participants being identified. as an outcome was suggested as part of the new work plan, prior identification of adequate resources within the DCAD participants.

**2. DCAD Activity no. 2:
IGF workshop no. 180 "From Athens to Vilnius: Beyond the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities",
organized by the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability, 16 September 2010**

The workshop was organized as an activity of the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD). ITU is one of the founder Members of the DCAD. The aim of the DCAD is to facilitate interaction between relevant bodies, and ensure that ICT accessibility is included in the key debates around Internet Governance in order to build a future where all sectors of the global community have equal access to the Information Society.

The event was held on 16 September, with the participation of some 40 delegates from IGF, including Africa, northern Africa (Tunisia), Latin America and north America. Remote participation was also possible through webex and captioning. The remote participation was ensured and coordinated by the DCAD secretariat and ITU-T Accessibility Coordinator Alexandra Gaspari. The documents are available on the DCAD website and on the IGF website

The participants could hear the 4 relatively new speakers presenting on the following items:

Claudia Gray, Universidad de las Américas-Puebla, Mexico

"Internet accessibility and development" (World Telecommunication Development Conference 2010 Hyderabad, India)

Jorge Plano, Argentina

"Web Accessibility and Older Persons"

Axel Leblois/Martin Gould, G3ict, Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs

"Benchmarking ICT Accessibility/closing the gap"

A DCAD panel was organized for an Q & A session from the audience:

Fernando Botelho, Brazil, Gerard Ellis, Ireland, Cynthia Waddell, USA, Peter Major, Advisor, Hungary, Shadi Abou-Zahra, Egypt/Austria.

Like last year the BBC World News, Jonathan Charles, moderated the session and highlighted the key aspects of the progress made by DCAD into the work of IGF.

It has to be highlighted that ITU-T and TSB and the Canadian fund for IGF related activities made the participation of most of the speakers possible. The speakers thanked the ITU-T accessibility coordinator and the ITU-T Director for the constant support.

Presentations of the workshop can be found at:

<http://www.itu.int/themes/accessibility/dc/workshops/201009/index.html>

**3. DCAD Activity no. 3:
Workshop no. 182, organized by EBU and Dynamic Coalition on
Accessibility and Disability: "Can 'Apps' create a new golden
age of Accessibility?"**

The event was held on 15 September, with the participation of some 60 delegates from IGF, including all the continents. Remote participation was also possible through webex and captioning. The remote participation was ensured and coordinated by the EBU secretariat. The documents are available on the DCAD website and on the IGF website. The workshop was proposed by the WBU/EBU with the support of the DCAD and UNESCO.

What do people with disabilities need to benefit from 'applications' on 'Internet Enabled Devices'? They will be a critical part of mobile Internet. 'Apps' hold tremendous promise to help people with disabilities to connect and participate. Today applications such as voice control and others are available giving a new meaning to accessibility. Is this the beginning of a new age of accessibility? The future may belong to 'Internet enabled devices', which will include smart phones and net-books. We move to a new world where a plethora of executable applications, downloaded from the Internet, helps us, amuses it, and monitors us. The session will examine Apps and what people with disabilities want and need from IADs.

The workshop began with an examination of the possibilities today for Accessibility Apps. It turned to an analysis of the role key bodies can play in helping to make the golden age a reality. Finally, the workshop drawn conclusions and recommendations for the future.

The participants could hear the several speakers, most of them new to the work of DCAD, presenting on the following items:

Part 1:

What is the situation today 'on the ground'?

Part 2:

What are the technical accessibility requirements? (with the participation of the DCAD members)

1. What has the World Wide Web Consortium done so far for handhelds?

Shadi Abou-Zahra W3C, DCAD member

2. What can be the Role of the Real Time Text Task Force?

Arnoud van Wijk R3TF, DCAD member

3. What has been done, and what needs to be done in standards and guidelines?

Arun Mehta, DCAD member

Part 3:

Interactive Session and Summary

Like last year, the BBC World News journalist, Jonathan Charles, moderated the session.

4. **DCAD Activity no. 4:
participation to the Workshop 114 "Digital inclusion: reaching
the most socially excluded people in society", 15 September
2010**

This workshop was held on Wednesday 15 September 2010: the DCAD coordinator co-chaired the meeting and many DCAD members, as well as the secretariat actively participated to this event. This workshop discussed the existing barriers to citizens being able to get online and highlight the experiences of countries that are working to tackle this problem. The youth forum participated expressing their views very strongly and wanted to be heard and for Libraries not to closed but available for home work with ICT equipment available for homework. This view was also expressed at the main forum
