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Liberia First School of Internet Governance(IrSIG)

Historical Overview of the Internet and Internet Governance (Global, Regional and National)



Liberia Chapter

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Internet Governance History

Class Outline

1970s INWG/IP

1980s IANA, IETF

1990s IFWP/ICANN, RIR/NRI

2000s WSIS/WGIG - Tunis Agenda (Internet Governance) and IGF

2010s (WCIT and) NETmundial Multistakeholder Statement, IANA Transition



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1960 the Early Days

1970s International Networking Group (INWG)

1980s IETF

1990s Domain Name Debates

1998~ ICANN

2000s World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)

2014 NETmundial

2016 IANA Transition

Remarks and Issues



The Early Days(1960s)

- DARPA Net was initiated in the later 1960
- TCP/IP was invented in mid 1970s
- The IETF was established in 1986

- The DNS war(1994-1998)
- The NSF Subcontracted the DNS to « Network Solutions » in 1994
- The Internet Community was not happy with this
- ICANN was formed in 1998



1. INWG in 1970s

International Network Working Group (INWG) in early 1970s to coordinate on Internet Protocol (IP) development between USA and Europe.

- * First known coordination internationally.
- * Failed at the last moment, and they went in different directions.



2. IETF in 1980s~

1986~ Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

Open Process and Open Meeting

- Online documentation

- Rough consensus

No Stakeholder

1992 ISOC Formed

The Internet Society (ISOC) was formed in 1992 to further technical standards for the internet and to promote its use.



2009 ISOC Liberia Chapter was chartered as a Chapter of the Internet Society

3. Domain Name Debates in 1990s

1996: International Ad Hoc Committee (IAHC) on new Top Level Domain Names

1998: International Forum on White Paper (IFWP) on management of Internet names and addresses

- Geographical diversity
- Various stakeholders/constituencies
- Creation of ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) was created in 1998 as a not for profit organization that took on elements of internet governance and management in particular some of the of IANA. Most notably ICANN deals with policies relating to top level domains ccTLDs, gTLDs etc.; under a mandate from but not on behalf of the US Government. The relationship between ICANN and the world community, in particular the US Government, is an emerging process.

4. ICANN in 1998~

Internet Cooperation on Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

- Geographical diversity; Meeting, Board
- Open Process; Meeting, Document
- Board – Technical Community,
Nominating Committee (Geographical Diversity),
At-Large,
CEO,
Liaison
- (Limited) Multistakeholderism at DNSO



5. World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)

UN-sponsored summits in 2003 and 2005 with

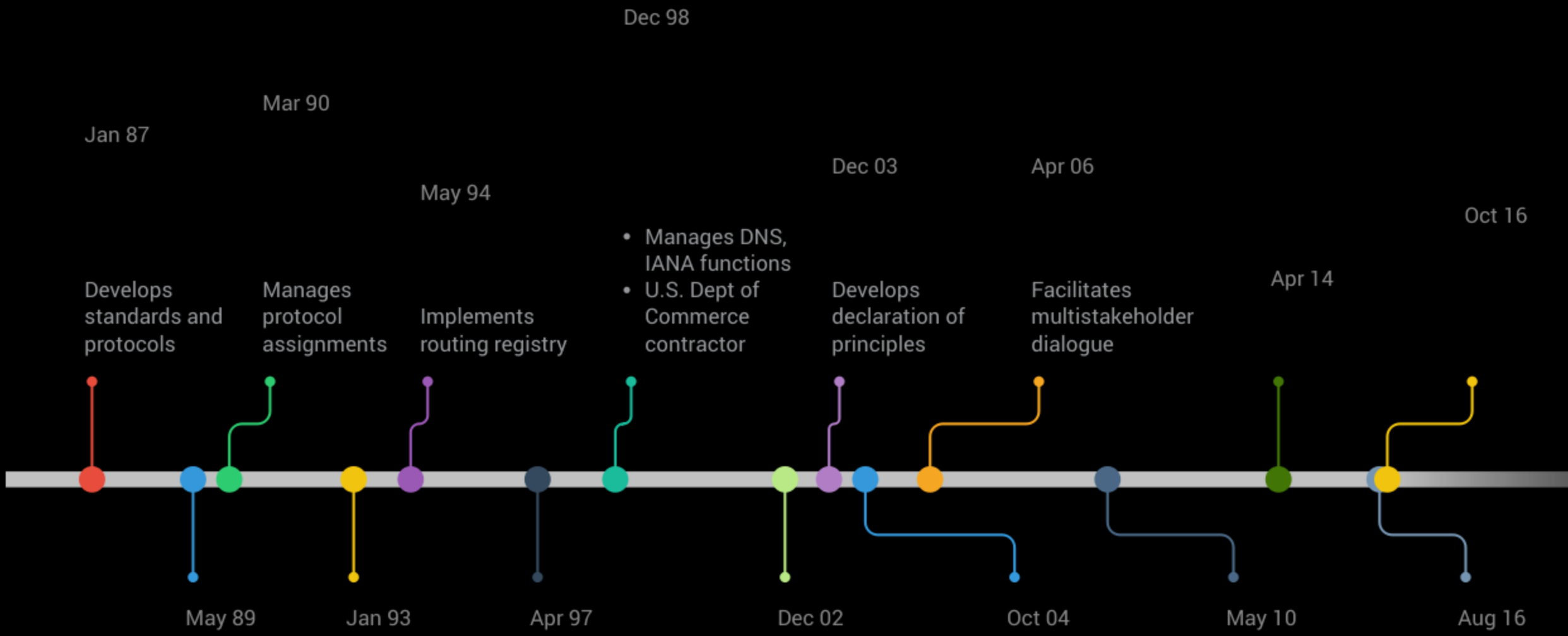
- Tunis Agenda for Information Society in 2005
- Internet Governance Principle through
- Working Group on Internet Governance in 2005
- Internet Governance Forum, 2006~

The Global IGFs and Continuous Reviews of the WSIS Process(Process 2006 –Today)

2003 (10 – 12 December) Geneva – 1st WSIS meeting

Commentators suggest that the first WSIS meeting found a way forward for Internet Governance hence it created the working group on Internet Governance (WGIG) to look deeper into the issues of Internet Governance and prepare a report for the second phase of WSIS.





Jan 87

Mar 90

Dec 98

May 94

Dec 03

Apr 06

Oct 16

Develops standards and protocols

Manages protocol assignments

Implements routing registry

- Manages DNS, IANA functions
- U.S. Dept of Commerce contractor

Develops declaration of principles

Facilitates multistakeholder dialogue

Apr 14

May 89

Jan 93

Apr 97

Dec 02

Oct 04

May 10

Aug 16

Manages IP

Manages IP

Manages IP

Assigns global unique identifiers

6. NETmundial in 2014

- revised Internet Governance Principle with refined Multistakeholderism
- The Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance, also known as NETmundial, is convened to discuss two important issues relevant for the future evolution of the Internet, in an open and multistakeholder fashion:
 - 1. Internet Governance Principles, and
 - 2. Roadmap for the future evolution of the Internet Governance Ecosystem



7. IANA Transition

IANA transition was completed in 2016.

Remark: IANA transition is primarily domestic governance issue in USA, but global governance issue in the rest of the world.

Note: On 14 March 2014, the US Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced the intention to transition the oversight of key Internet functions, including the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) to the global Internet multi-stakeholder community.

The NTIA currently contracts with ICANN to carry out the IANA functions and has a Cooperative Agreement with Verisign under which it performs related root zone management functions.

Transitioning NTIA out of its role marks the final phase of the privatisation of the DNS as outlined by the U.S. Government in 1997.



8. Remarks and Issues

1. Domestic Internet Governance vs Global Internet Governance
2. Applicability of Internet Governance to Digital Governance including

IoT Governance

Data Governance

Cybersecurity Governance (UN GGE on Cybersecurity,...)

AI Governance (,...)



Development of National and Regional IGFs in Africa

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) process was introduced in African countries at the end of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

Africa's contribution on the Internet Governance (IG) debate is weak and most countries are left out of the process

African institutions and Internet governance



Internet Governance Development in Africa

- The African Union is organizing an annual Africa Union Open Forum during IGFs highlight the outcome of the African IGFs and discuss the Internet Governance Challenges in Africa
- National IGF are being established and enabled by member States; However, more needs to be done as roughly 2/3 of African countries currently do not have multi-stakeholders forums on IG
- Regional IGF initiatives(NAIGF, CAIGF, SAIGF, EAIGF, WAIGF) are organized with varying degree of strength and resources
- At the continental level, the African IGF is organized annually since 2012



INTERNET GOVERNANCE AND AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES

Many international organizations have played an important role in Africa Internet history. Their actions were significant in the area of infrastructure, policy, capacity building and more. This section is trying to summarize some of these actions by international organizations and research centers.

From an African perspective, internet governance requires not only an understanding of the variability in access to and use of the internet across the continent, but also an understanding of the disparities between developed and developing countries' abilities to effectively participate in global internet governance debates.



LIBERIA AND THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE DEBATES



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Thank you.

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- ❖ ISOC Internet Governance Event Toolkit, <http://www.internetsociety.org/igtoolkit>
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