

V2.0

Chris Disspain messages

related to IGF secretariat financing

Legal notice ;

These messages were posted on the public [Mailing List](#) of the Internet Governance Caucus, and can be retrieved there. This document is simply an excerpt of the [List Archives](#) and does not constitute the first public disclosure of those mails, which have been also mentioned and quoted publicly on a blog. The last mail has been posted on the [Mailing List](#), as one can read, at the explicit request of the author.

Mails from Chris Disspain(24 may 2007), Markus Kummer (24 may 2007), Chris Disspain (10 june 2007)

De:	Chris Disspain
Enviada:	qui 24.05.2007 15:44
:	mkummer@unog.ch
Cc:	igf_members@intgovforum.org
Assunto:	[igf_members] Todays meeting

Nitin, Markus,

A number of advisory group members met tonight to discuss today's meeting and I am sending this to you and the list to express our concerns.

Firstly, we were under the impression that even though the advisory group has yet to be officially reconstituted we were meeting here following yesterdays open consultation as the advisory group **in anticipation of formal approval from the Secretary General**. In fact this meeting has turned into another open consultation seeking to set the agenda for and strucutre of the igf.

I want to make it clear that most of us have no problem with critical internet resources being an agenda item in a main session if agreed. Rather, we are concerned that there appear to be fundamental changes being mooted which are unacceptable to and may lead to the withdrawl of some non government and perhaps even government participants.

Overall the topics and format of were a success and to ensure the continued enrollment of all stakeholders should be maintained.

Chief amongst our concerns is the concept, that seems to have been 'agreed' in today's session, of final recommendations arising from the igf. In effect, a negotiated document. This is way outside of the mandate of the igf and is, simply, unacceptable to the majority of non government people here.

We are dismayed that this meeting seems to have been taken over by government officials well versed in international manoeuvring or 'UN games'. It is likely that this will marginalise the legitimate concerns and interests of developing countries for whom issues such as access are key. This is not what these meetings were intended to be.

There is a grave danger that financial support and general involvement of non government participants will be withdrawn.

I intend to raise these issues at the meeting in the morning but thought it courteous to let you and the rest of the list know in advance.

Regards,

Chris Disspain.

De: MKUMMER@unog.ch

Enviada: qui 24.05.2007 18:21

: ceo@auda.org.au

Cc: igf_members@intgovforum.org

Assunto: Re: [igf_members] Possible Spam: :Today's meeting

Dear Chris,

Many thanks for your mail and for sharing your thoughts with us.

Firstly, let me assure you that today's meeting was not meant to agree on anything, but rather to help us move towards a common understanding.

In this regard, I think, the meeting was very helpful. Let me also assure you that nothing was agreed in today's session. There is an old saying in trade negotiations: "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed." This also applies to our process.

Let me state at the outset that throughout the process we tried hard to make sure that all stakeholders would buy into the process and we have every intention of continuing to do so. I agree with you that, as you put it, "the topics and format of were a success and to ensure the continued enrolment of all stakeholders should be maintained".

The issue of recommendations came up in these discussions. **We have to accept that this is part of the IGF mandate, whether or not we like it.**

Whether or not it is possible to agree on any recommendation is yet another story.

Personally, I am very encouraged to note that government representatives seem to take a stronger interest. You may remember that at the February meeting some concern was expressed about the disinterest of governments. It was felt then that the absence of government involvement, ultimately, could weaken the IGF.

I take issue with your remarks with regard to your continued support.

As you know, **I very much appreciate the financial support of the Internet community, including your company's contribution. However, your remarks in the long run tend to undermine the independence and neutrality of the Secretariat.** Having said that, I would like to

invite those who share not your views to contribute to the financing of our Secretariat, thus broadening the base of our support.

I look forward to discuss these issues at tomorrow's meeting.

Best regards

Markus

Subject:

Post to cpsr.org

From:

"Chris Disspain" <ceo@auda.org.au>

Date:

Sun, 10 Jun 2007 11:58:02 +1000 (EST)

To:

<Jeremy@Malcolm.id.au>

CC:

<igf_members@intgovforum.org>

Hi Jeremy,

Below is a post from you to cpsr.org. It appears to follow someone posting to the cpsr list an IGF list email from me to Markus Kummer along with Markus' response.

Ø This reflects extremely badly on Chris Disspain and auDA, though it has bolstered my flagging respect for Markus Kummer.

Really? As a lawyer, you should know better than to pass gratuitous comment on matters in respect to which you have no background knowledge and are unaware of any context. Given that you know me personally, I am surprised that you didn't feel it necessary to pick up the phone and talk to me. You never know, you might have learnt something.

Further, as someone who has, supposedly, made a study of the WSIS and now the IGF, it's disappointing that you haven't grasped the underlying philosophy of the advisory group, that one represents oneself and not one's organisation. Or maybe you have and the reference to auDA is merely self-serving.

Finally, as a supposed student of the internet one imagines that you do know the etiquette of lists that are not public lists and posts made to them. Assuming you do, it might be worthwhile if you remembered it occasionally.

I have posted this to the IGF list. **Please do me the courtesy of posting it** to the cpsr.org list.

Chris Disspain

CEO - auDA

's Domain Name Administrator

ceo@auda.org.au

www.auda.org.au