

**Working Group In-progress Report
to
APNIC Member Meeting (AMM)**

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**APNIC 31, Hong Kong
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Working Group - Facts

- Formed at APNIC 30, August 2010, Gold Coast, Australia
- Original Charter – To discuss specific proposals in which Governments can further develop their involvement and report back at APNIC 32
- Present strength of Working Group Subscribers – 61

Discussion Statistics:

- Revised Proposal First Posted : **17 January 2011**
- Number of posts since revised proposal first posted: **28**
- Number of people participating in discussions: **12**
- A final report of discussions and recommendations to be presented in APNIC 32 AMM and APNIC EC

Revised Proposal Summary

- Public Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC) - a framework to institutionalize the private ~ public engagement within APNIC on matters relating to Public Policies encompassing all the facets of Internet.
- PPAC's role will be to advise APNIC on matters relating to Public Policies Issues for development of internet in the region.
- It will pro-actively advise APNIC on new policy / emerging developments in respective regions and will provide a platform to participate in all such developments.
- It will also provide APNIC an opportunity to participate in the policy developments of respective member countries. Industry inputs are always important for consideration in any policy matter.
- PPAC in APNIC is proposed to be a multi stakeholder formal advisory body comprising of:
 - Government Representatives
 - Industry participants

Revised Proposal Summary...contd.

- One of the key role of PPAC will be to provide advice to APNIC on issues of public policy and other policy matters relating to internet like addressing resources, privacy, security etc.
- PPAC also proposes to consider activities and policies as they relate to the governments and industry, particularly in matters where there may be an interaction between APNIC policies and national laws or international agreements.

Proposed PPAC will be:

- **A multi stakeholder group having representatives of both Government and Industry.**
- **Representing issues critical to the growth of Internet.**
- **Recommend policy proposals, which address all facets of Internet.**
- **Work on a consensus based framework for the growth of Internet.**
- **Provide a ongoing collaboration among all stakeholders.**
- **Recommend policies supporting the security and stability of the Internet. Assist in combating against misuse of ICTs.**

Proposed PPAC will not be:

- **A standalone platform representing only the Government or the interest of any specific stakeholders.**
- **Representing issues only of a particular region.**
- **Will not be working on majority principle.**
- **Will not take up a issue which is in conflict with national laws and regulations of the members.**

Revised Proposal Summary

- PPAC aims to provide an interface with appropriate inter-governmental organizations and other institutions on matters under their purview and related to the Internet community;
- Advise all stakeholders in proposing ways and means to accelerate the availability and affordability of the Internet in their regions;
- Discuss public policy issues to foster sustainability, security, stability and development of the Internet;
- Facilitate the exchange of information and best practices.
- Strengthen and enhance the engagement of stakeholders in existing and/or future Internet policy developments;
- Identify emerging issues, bring them to the attention of APNIC and, where make suitable recommendations wherever appropriate;
- Discuss, issues relating to critical Internet resources be it numbering or any other;
- Work as an advocacy agency to help the govt. to make informed decision in overall interest of growth of internet.

Summary of Questions / Views

- Opinions were expressed on the Role and Importance of Government Vs Industry in the Growth of Internet.

- There were questions on “taking up an issue which is in conflict with a member nation”. Also what are the disadvantages / effect of this proposal.

- There were questions on the draft proposal Vs the current process and whether it will adhere to the present process.

- Opinions were expressed in support of Government’s role in the growth of Internet and being one of the stakeholder in the PPAC.

- In summary, the queries were relating to understanding how the proposed committee will function.

- There were views in support of the proposal, Need further deliberation to firm up the fine print.

Summary of Clarifications

- It was explained that Government provides enabling policy framework which helps growth of a sector. There is no denial that industry is an equal partner in the growth of internet. However, unless there are policies which provides conducive environment, growth is difficult to be achieved. That's why we suggest forming the said advisory committee, which will bring thoughts from both Government and Industry to arrive at policies for growth of internet.

-The intent behind specifying the same was to make discussion conflict free. The National Laws in each country drive reforms. In case of a conflict requiring some regulatory changes in current laws, decision may be arrived at by consensus and consultation.

-There are no perceivable effects on members. That's what our intent has been. In case there is a specific issue which you want to highlight, we would be glad to evaluate the same in line with our proposal.

- The objective here is to set up a standalone committee which will support APNIC in a ongoing manner. It will not be a onetime committee set up to look into a specific issue of a host of issues. There is no intention to bypass existing governance structure.

In the proposal it has been outlined the proposed Governance Model for the Advisory Committee. How it has to function needs further discussion which we can certainly take it up as a next step.

Next Steps / Recommendations

- The revised proposal with new name “Public Policy Advisory Committee” be amended.
- Significant Interest demonstrated by the community by:
 - Joining the working group (61 as on date).
 - Participating in the deliberations and
 - Providing concrete inputs and suggestions
- Continued interest of the larger community members to work on the fine print and structure needed.
- The conclusive framework of the proposed committee with recommendations to be presented in AMM at APNIC 32 and APNIC EC

Useful Links

- To join the working group:

<http://mailman.apnic.net/mailman/listinfo/wg-government>

-To view collection of prior postings in the working group:

<http://mailman.apnic.net/mailling-lists/wg-government/>

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