

UNESCO Internet Universality Indicators Webinar to the HRILWG and USRWG

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I C A N N | G A C

Governmental Advisory Committee

Agenda

1. Background, purpose and objective of the call
(10 mins) - *HRILWG co-chairs*
2. Indicators that may be of interest to the GAC and why
(20 mins) - *UNESCO*
3. What can be done in terms of implementation within the WS2
recommendations implementation context
(10 mins) - *UNESCO/HRILWG co-chairs*
4. Discussion - *HRILWG and USRWG*
(20 mins)

Agenda Item 1. Background and Call Objective

- **ICANN70 Meeting** - Introduction to UNESCO's Universality Indicators (Giacomo Mazzone)
- **ICANN70 GAC Communique** - "Among the next steps relative to the WS2 recommendations implementation process, the **HRILWG will be consulting with UNESCO to explore its "Universality Indicators for the Internet"** issued in 2019 which measures how elements of diversity, disability, language, human rights, among others, are represented in the Internet environment in a given country."
- **Objective of the webinar** - Continue discussions stemming from the ICANN70 session and exchange views on whether the Universality Indicators should be considered within the GAC WS2 (Work Stream 2) recommendations implementation process.
- **WS2:** November 2019, approval of 116 recommendations divided into the eight groups
- Our focus: Recommendations to improve Diversity and Recommendation for a Framework of Interpretation for Human Rights

Agenda Item 1. Rec. 1.1. Defining Diversity - The seven elements of diversity

- The core issues concerning the issue of diversity revolve around **the need for a uniform definition of the parameters of diversity** and a community discussion on the ones already identified:
 - **Geographic or Regional Representation**
 - **Language**
 - **Gender**
 - **Age**
 - **Physical Disability**
 - **Diverse Skills**
 - **Stakeholder Group or Constituency**
- **This list may not be exhaustive.** Each of the ICANN groups have some elements of diversity that are important to them based on their role within ICANN but not necessarily important to other groups across ICANN.
- **Additional elements of diversity** that are identified as important to GAC:
Developed, developing and underserved region.

- **WS2 Recommendation 1.1. The Elements of Diversity, Description of Issues:**
 - *“**Language:** All languages should be possible to be represented in ICANN for the organization to position itself as a fully global multi-stakeholder entity. There is a need to improve the balance between the six official languages at ICANN: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. However, ICANN manages the IANA functions that offers IDN services to some entities who do not use any of these six official languages, and it is very important that ICANN improve its ability to communicate with this group of stakeholders so that they can be better engaged.”*
 - *“**Physical Disability:** This element refers to the consideration of individuals across a range of different physical disabilities to participate in ICANN activities at various levels.”*

- **The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD):**
 - *“**Language** includes spoken and **signed languages and other forms of non spoken languages.**”*
 - *“**Persons with disabilities** include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”*
 - *The Convention does not explicitly define the word “disability”; indeed, the Preamble to the Convention acknowledges that “disability” is an evolving concept.*

Agenda item 1. Cooperation possibilities

- **10 December 2009, UNESCO signed the agreement with ICANN**

The UNESCO-ICANN cooperation agreement is intended to assist with the process of expanding the adoption of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs).

(<https://www.icann.org/en/announcements/details/icann-signs-two-historic-agreements-with-un-agencies-11-12-2009-en>)

- **28 October 2017, ICANN60 Meeting** included a session where technical experts engaged with UNESCO about possible indicators to assess Internet development.

(<https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-consults-internet-indicators-icann60>)

Agenda Item 2. UNESCO Presentation

Agenda Item 3. WS2 Implementation

- **Rec. 1 - Diversity**

- Definition of diversity (rec 1.1)
 - HRILWG agreement that prior to implementing Recs 1., the primary issue is to come with a common definition of diversity (coordination with USRWG)
 - To what extent could the Universality Indicators fit in the WS2 Recommendations 1 Implementation?

- **Rec. 3 - Human Rights (recs.3)**

- To what extent could the UNESCO's Internet Universality Indicators fit in the WS2 Recommendations 3 Implementation?

Agenda Item 4. Discussion / Key Takeaways

- ICANN72 HRILWG Session objective
- HRILWG/USRWG collaboration - Next Steps