​To: Ginger Paque, Civil Society Coordination Group

Cc: BestBits members

Fr: Nadira Alaraj, Liaise of BestBits to the CSCG

Dt: March 16, 2016

Re: BestBits nominee to ​CSTD WG on Enhanced Cooperation

The listing of BestBits candidacy to CSTD WG on Enhanced Cooperation is comprised of

* Anriette Esterhuysen
* C​hinmayi Arun​
* ​Lea Kaspa​r​
* ​Parminder Jeet Singh​
* ​Wisdom Donkor​

There was no voice from the Best Bits community members to be able to formulate a short listing, hence, I forwarded all the nominees posted on this list.

In this file I included the nomination application of Chinmayi Arun and Lea Kaspar and attaching in a separate file the applications of Anriette Esterhuysen, Parminder Jeet Singh, Wisdom Donkor.

Will you needing any further information, I will be ready to provide.

**Appendix (I)**

**Bios for nominees:**

**Anriette Esterhuysen** is the executive director of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), an international network of organizations working with Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) to support social justice and development. Prior to joining APC Anriette was executive director of SANGONeT, an internet service provider and training institution for civil society, labour and community organizations in southern Africa. She was active in the struggle against Apartheid and from 1987 to 1992 did information and communication work in development and human rights organizations in South Africa and Zimbabwe. With many others, she helped establish email and internet connectivity in Southern Africa. SANGONeT hosted a Fidonet hub that provided universities and nongovernmental organizations in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with email links to global networks as part of a collaboration between the APC and the United Nations Development Programme. Anriette served on the African Technical Advisory Committee of the UN's Economic Commission for Africa's African Information Society Initiative and was a member of the United Nations ICT Task Force from 2002 to 2005, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Task Working Group on Financing Mechanisms, and the Commission for Science and Technology for Development Working Group on Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Improvements. She was a member of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group from 2012-14. Anriette was one of five finalists for IT Personality of the Year in South Africa in 2012, an award which recognises a person who has made an outstanding impact on the South African ICT industry. She was inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame as a global connecter in 2013. Currently Anriette is a member of the Global Commission on Internet Governance. She has published extensively on ICTs for development and social justice. She holds a BA in social sciences and two postgraduate qualifications (one in musicology and one in library and information science) from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Chinmayi Arun**

I currently serve as Executive Director of the Centre for Communication Governance at National Law University Delhi. I have ties with multiple global, regional and domestic organisations owing to my involvement in various facets of internet governance. For example, I am a Faculty Associate of the Berkman Centre for Internet & Society at Harvard University, on the Board of Directors of Digital Asia Hub and an Academic Expert with the Internet & Jurisdiction Observatory. I am also a Fellow of the Centre for Internet & Society, Bangalore and a member of the Government of India’s multi stakeholder advisory group for the India Internet Governance forum. I have been teaching and researching information policy since 2010. I was already working on questions relating to enhanced co-operation and multi-stakeholder governance by the time I started actively engaging with the global internet governance space in 2012, which is the year that I spoke at the Internet Governance Forum, and participated in the World Conference on International Telecommunications.  In the policy space, I have participated as a civil society representative at various Internet Governance fora.  These include the WICT 2012, the WSIS+10 Review negotiations and the UNESCO Connecting the Dots conference. I have been invited to speak on expert panels at the sidelines of the WSIS+10 High Level Meeting and the Connecting the Dots conference. As an Executive Director of CCG, I supervise a team of researchers dedicated to following global internet governance processes, and domestic internet processes. We engage equally with global institutions like ICANN (through the Non-Commercial Users Constituency) and with local institutions and processes like the Law Commission of India’s media law reforms and the Indian Net Neutrality consultations.

**>  short bio of one paragraph,**

Lea Kaspar heads [Global Partner Digital](http://www.gp-digital.org/)'s (GPD) programmatic portfolio and leads the organisation’s international policy arm. Since joining GPD in 2012, she has been concentrating upon facilitating multistakeholder dialogue and civil society engagement in international internet governance debates. She has developed and coordinated information sharing, capacity building, and advocacy initiatives at the Global Conference on Cyberspace (GCCS), NETmundial, the WSIS+10 Review process, the 2013-2014 UN CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC), and various processes of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). She is a member of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), a member of the UK Multistakeholder Group on Internet Governance (MAGIG), and sits on the Steering Committee of the UK IGF.

**Parminder Jeet Singh**

**(***full Bio in the attached file***)**

Parminder is Executive Director of IT for Change, an India based NGO, in Special Consultative Status with UN's Economic and Social Council. This Special Status has been granted to IT for Change for its work at the global level on Information Society issues at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and thereafter.

IT for Change's core mandate is to work at the intersection of new ICTs and progressive social change, from the standpoint of equity and social justice. The interests of marginalized sections, including women, remain IT for Change's key focus. IT for Change is widely acknowledged to be a key actor bringing representation of voices from the South, and those generally of marginalized sections, to global forums on information society and Internet governance. IT for Change works in a range of developmental sectors – chiefly, governance, gender, education and community informatics. It has extensive partnerships and networks with a diverse set of development actors in all these areas, both at the national and global level. Many of these networks have been built and developed by IT for Change. I**t is from such a hands-on experience in different sectors of development, and trusted relations with diverse actors in each sector, that IT for Change forms its perspectives on various Internet governance (IG) issues and brings them to global forums.** A detailed account of IT for Change's work is available in its annual reports. ….

**WISDOM DONKOR**

I am a Ghanaian , 39 years of age and work with the National Information Technology Agency as engineer and currently the IT Manager with specialization in e-government and infrastructure, Internet Governance and Open Government Data initiatives policies and platforms. I also work as the technical lead person for the Ghana Open Data Initiative Project and also lecture part time at the Ghana Telecom University College (Centre for Professional Development Unit). I was the immediate past Vice General Secretary of the Internet Society Ghana Chapter and currently the National Secretariat Manager of the Information Technology Association of Ghana (ITAG) and also serve as the Secretary (ex-officio) to the Executive Management Committee of which Prof Nii Quaynor is the Chair and President. I have being involve in the IT Industry for over 10 years in areas of ICT Policy development, Internet Governance, Open Government Data, Software Design and Development, Databases and Consolidation, Open Source Software Technologies, Data Divide Privacy and Security, Big Data and analytics, Data Management and technologies, and Human Resource Planning and Development and also consult to many local organisations and several ICT projects across Ghana and Abroad.

**Appendix (II)**

**Compiled endorsement list:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Nominees | Comments for endorsement | +1 endorsements |
| Anriette Esterhuysen  anriette@apc.org  Gender: Female  Region: South Africa, Africa | *​Kleinwächter, Wolfgang*: ​  you have my full Support and all your arguments are well formulated. And as Peter Major, the chair of WGEC, has said in Marrakesh, if the IANA Transition is completed, we have a new point of departure for the discussion. |  |
| Chinmayi Arun  [chinmayi.arun@nludelhi.ac.in](mailto:chinmayi.arun@nludelhi.ac.in)  Gender: Female  Region: India, Asia Pacific | ​​*Sunil Abraham***:**I would like to strongly support Chinmayi's nomination. Her personal research output and the prodigious output of her team at CCG-NLU never ceases to amaze and impress me. Most other research organisations including mine pale in comparison. She will be an asset on the WGEC and I hope she is selected. | Suresh Ramasubramanian |
| Lea Kaspa​r  lea@gp-digital.org  Gender:Female  Region: Croatian Eastern European | [Renata Aquino](https://plus.google.com/u/0/115640175609997386339?prsrc=4): I support Lea's nomination It is great to have a Bestbits participant in this. |  |
| ​Parminder Jeet Singh​  [parminder@itforchange.net](mailto:parminder@itforchange.net)  Gender: Male  Region: India, Asia Pacific |  |  |
| Wisdom Donkor  [wisdom.donkor@data.gov.gh](mailto:wisdom.donkor@data.gov.gh)  Gender: Male  Region: Ghana, Africa |  |  |

Name: Chinmayi Arun

Gender: Female

Region: India, Asia Pacific

Primary Institutional Affiliation: Assistant Professor, National Law University- Delhi and Executive Director of the Centre for Communication Governance at National Law University Delhi (other institutional affiliations are listed in my bio).

Contact: [chinmayi.arun@nludelhi.ac.in](mailto:chinmayi.arun@nludelhi.ac.in)

**1. Short bio**

I currently serve as Executive Director of the Centre for Communication Governance at National Law University Delhi. I have ties with multiple global, regional and domestic organisations owing to my involvement in various facets of internet governance. For example, I am a Faculty Associate of the Berkman Centre for Internet & Society at Harvard University, on the Board of Directors of Digital Asia Hub and an Academic Expert with the Internet & Jurisdiction Observatory. I am also a Fellow of the Centre for Internet & Society, Bangalore and a member of the Government of India’s multi stakeholder advisory group for the India Internet Governance forum. I have been teaching and researching information policy since 2010. I was already working on questions relating to enhanced co-operation and multi-stakeholder governance by the time I started actively engaging with the global internet governance space in 2012, which is the year that I spoke at the Internet Governance Forum, and participated in the World Conference on International Telecommunications.  In the policy space, I have participated as a civil society representative at various Internet Governance fora.  These include the WICT 2012, the WSIS+10 Review negotiations and the UNESCO Connecting the Dots conference. I have been invited to speak on expert panels at the sidelines of the WSIS+10 High Level Meeting and the Connecting the Dots conference. As an Executive Director of CCG, I supervise a team of researchers dedicated to following global internet governance processes, and domestic internet processes. We engage equally with global institutions like ICANN (through the Non-Commercial Users Constituency) and with local institutions and processes like the Law Commission of India’s media law reforms and the Indian Net Neutrality consultations.

**2. My Motivation to be part of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation**

I have a keen interest in governance models as a result of my academic work. As an Indian woman who works in the internet governance space, I speak frequently with people who offer varied, even contentious, perspectives on the meaning of Enhanced Cooperation and multistakeholderism. It is very important to understand and engage with these different points of view, and to work out inclusive ideas and models around which consensus can be built. I can see the enormous impact that this group’s report might have and would like to do my part to help think through what ‘enhanced co-operation’ means and how our articulation of its meaning can reflect global public interest, and the concerns of my region especially those of marginalised vulnerable people.

The previous Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation did an excellent job of mapping all the internet governance institutions and identifying areas within internet governance that need closer attention. This is a good time (especially given the outcome of the WSIS+10 review) to take this work forward and work towards shared understanding of the meaning of this contested, yet crucial concept.

1. **3. Substantive proposals or a vision on “how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda”**

I believe that there is more space for mutual understanding and consensus than most people realise. It is important to use the previous working group’s extensive research on different internet governance institutions, along with the work of scholars who have been writing about multi-stakeholder models around the world, to highlight the nuance within the enhanced co-operation debate. This will help stakeholders focus on the specific areas and details that are of particular concern to them.  I see the criticisms of multi-stakeholder models as valuable learning opportunities to work out ways in which internet governance can be made as inclusive, transparent and accountable as possible. Engaging with the WSIS+10 Review has shown us that despite the emerging consensus on multistakeholder models of governance, there can be significant barriers to civil society participation. To this end, establishing clear terms of civil society engagement in the various IG and IG related institutions will help facilitate the “full participation of all stakeholders” as per the Tunis Agenda (para 31).

**My experience or qualifications to represent civil society on the WG.**

I have previously represented civil society at many international institutions. Chief among these was WICT, 2012, IGF (2012, 2013 and 2015), WSIS+10 Review meetings and the WSIS forum. As an academic participating under the civil society umbrella, my expertise has been called upon at many of these fora. I was a panellist at the UNESCO Connecting the Dots Conference and at a UNESCO-organised side event at the WSIS High Level Meeting. I have collaborated with research centres at Harvard University and Oxford University, and am my organisation’s representative at several international networks including the Global Network of Internet and Society Centres, the Global Network Initiative and the Digital Asia hub. I do therefore have experience of translating priorities from the Asia Pacific region to a global level.

I have also been a part of multi-stakeholder governance domestically, as a member of the Indian MAG, as a consultant to the Law Commission and as a participant in open consultations held by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India and the Department of Telecommunication. Our research agenda at the centre focuses on constructive ways to support inclusive, multi-stakeholder governance – my colleagues and I host public briefings and discussions before every major global internet governance event and circulate material to help other stakeholders engage more effectively.

Samples of my comments on internet governance are available [here](http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/on-multistakeholder-governance-of-the-internet/article7440857.ece) and [here](http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/the-trouble-with-hurried-solutions/article4200604.ece). I do want to emphasise that as a researcher, I always approach these questions with an open mind and find that my position evolves as I read and discuss these issues with others.

**Lea Kaspar**

**>  short bio of one paragraph,**

Lea Kaspar heads [Global Partner Digital](http://www.gp-digital.org/)'s (GPD) programmatic portfolio and leads the organisation’s international policy arm. Since joining GPD in 2012, she has been concentrating upon facilitating multistakeholder dialogue and civil society engagement in international internet governance debates. She has developed and coordinated information sharing, capacity building, and advocacy initiatives at the Global Conference on Cyberspace (GCCS), NETmundial, the WSIS+10 Review process, the 2013-2014 UN CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC), and various processes of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). She is a member of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), a member of the UK Multistakeholder Group on Internet Governance (MAGIG), and sits on the Steering Committee of the UK IGF.

**> one paragraph of motivation to be a civil society representative to CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation,**

Following the conclusion of the WSIS Review Process, the WGEC will become a critical space to shape the normative landscape of global internet governance. It will present an opportunity to push a positive agenda for change, and, at the same time, pose a threat to the gains that we, as a global community, have made since the WSIS in 2005. With a growing trend to close and limit the space for public interest voices in internet governance debates, civil society will have a key role at WGEC to resist a reading of enhanced cooperation that is reserved for governments, and instead offer a vision that involves all stakeholders, based on the principles of openness, transparency and inclusiveness. Furthermore, WGEC will be an opportunity for civil society to build on the outcomes of the 2013-14 WGEC and NETmundial by demystifying the flexible, issue-based understanding of roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in internet governance. Building on the insight gained during WGEC 2013-14, my engagement  in the WSIS Review, and my experience on the IGF MAG, I would be privileged to contribute to this outcome by bringing my skills and expertise to the Working Group as one of its civil society representatives.

**> one paragraph describing substantive proposals or a vision on “how to further implement enhanced cooperation as** **envisioned in the Tunis Agenda”, and**

The notion of enhanced cooperation as a principle of governance matters insofar as it contributes to achieving the WSIS vision of a “people-centered, development-oriented information society”. Although anchored around the question of the role of governments, enhanced cooperation in support of the WSIS vision cannot be achieved without the involvement of all stakeholders. The most important immediate task in further implementing it will therefore be to clarify the roles of responsibilities of different stakeholders in internet governance. A starting point for this task is provided in the [NETmundial outcome document](http://netmundial.br/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/NETmundial-Multistakeholder-Document.pdf) which states that “the respective roles and responsibilities of stakeholders should be interpreted in a flexible manner with reference to the issue under discussion”. As a member of the WGEC, I would seek to leverage the NETmundial outcome, as well as the mapping output of WGEC 2013-14, in order to develop practical recommendations to promote a flexible, issue-based understanding of roles and responsibilities, and a vision of enhanced cooperation based upon principles of openness, transparency, and inclusiveness.

**> one paragraph describing experience or qualifications to represent civil society on the CSTD Working Group.**

I have been an active member of the global internet governance community since 2012, focused on facilitating meaningful civil society engagement in international forums and processes, including at the recent WSIS+10 Review and the 2013-14 WGEC. During the 2013-14 WGEC, I participated as an active observer in 4 out of 5 meetings of the Group. Following its establishment, I joined the WGEC Correspondence Group, and played a critical role in developing the mapping output of the Group, which served as the basis for the CSTD [mapping report](http://www.giplatform.org/sites/default/files/CSTD_2014_Mapping_Internet_en%20Dec%202014.pdf) issued in November 2014. Through this engagement, I gained invaluable insight into the dynamics of the enhanced cooperation debate that I would seek to leverage as a civil society representative in the group’s reboot.

**> Name, gender, regional/geographical, as well as any appropriate affiliation information and contact information should be included as well.**

Gender: Female

Nationality: Croatian (UN regional group: Eastern European)

Affiliation: Global Partners Digital, UK

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**Lea Kaspar**

Head of Programmes and International Policy | GLOBAL PARTNERS DIGITAL

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