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UNITED NATIONS

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE**

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Geneva, 6 May 2009

Dear colleague,

Invitation to an informal consultation on "A Code of good practice on public participation, access to information and transparency in Internet governance"

**13 May 2009, 1 to 3 p.m.
Salle VII, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

On behalf of our partners in the above-mentioned initiative (the Council of Europe and the Association for Progressive Communications), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is pleased to invite you to take part in a lunchtime discussion on a code of good practice on public participation, access to information and transparency in Internet governance:

Venue: Salle VII, Palais de Nations
Time: 1 to 3 p.m.
Date: 13 May 2009

Lunch will be provided.

The consultation will launch the next phase of the initiative that the Council of Europe, UNECE and APC launched at the second Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Rio de Janeiro. Previous work, which drew on experience in established IG bodies and elsewhere to develop thinking about best practice, was discussed at last year's May IGF consultation and in a workshop during the Hyderabad IGF, with platform participation from ISOC, ICANN and the NRO.

The next phase of work is built around mapping existing practice in key Internet governance entities. Based on an initial mapping exercise conducted by Professor David Souter, we have identified a set of *principles* and *challenges* that will form the basis of the 13 May 2009 discussion.

The discussion will be critical in deciding how we move forward with this work over the next six months, before the IGF in Sharm el Sheikh. We intend at that Forum to present a draft code of good practice. We are strongly committed to doing this in dialogue and partnership with Internet governance actors and other stakeholders.

The aim of the 13 May meeting is to have an informal discussion amongst a range of people with a good deal of experience in this area in which participants can talk about their personal experience as well as that of their organizations.

We hope very much that you will join us on 13 May to help us move forward with this important initiative that could be of substantial value to the Internet community in the years ahead.

We would very much appreciate and welcome your participation. Please RSVP to public.participation@unece.org.

Yours sincerely,



Han Hansell

Chief, Trade Policy and Governmental Cooperation Section
Trade and Timber Division, UNECE

on behalf of the Council of Europe and Association for Progressive Communications

Attachments:

Agenda

Information and participation in Internet governance – a summary note
on the second phase of work by the Council of Europe, UNECE and APC