



**UNITED NATIONS
COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT**

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Geneva, 18 January 2011

Dear colleagues,

As you are aware, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) decided at its inter-sessional meeting on 17 December 2010 that the Working Group on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) be made up of 22 member states: Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Ghana, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lesotho, Lithuania, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tunisia and the United States of America (one nomination is still missing from the Group of Eastern Europe).

At the same meeting, the Chair of the CSTD also invited the following stakeholders to interactively participate in the Working Group, bearing in mind the established rules of procedure of ECOSOC, who will remain fully engaged throughout the process: five representatives from the business community; five representatives from civil society; five representatives from the technical and academic community; and five representatives from Intergovernmental organizations.¹

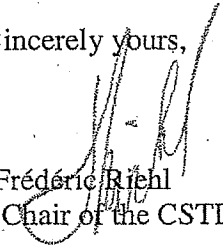
I am looking forward to starting the work of the Working Group in the same spirit of cooperation in which the discussions on its establishment during the inter-sessional meeting were held. Given that the Group has very little time for the completion of its tasks, I took the liberty of proposing a tentative timeline for the Group's work, which you will find in the attached document.

¹ For more information, please consult the report of the meeting, available at http://www.unctad.org/sections/un_cstd/docs/cstd2010d19_report-wsis_en.pdf

In order to advance with the work of the Group, in particular with the drafting of the report, I am also sending you a proposed outline for your consideration and feedback. I would be grateful if you could send your suggestions, thoughts and recommendations for each of the themes proposed under points II to VIII of this structure to the CSTD Secretariat (cstdwg-igf@unctad.org) by no later than 31 January. The Secretariat will compile all contributions into a first draft report to be discussed at the Working Group's first meeting scheduled to be held in Montreux, Switzerland from 25 to 26 February 2011.²

Finally, it would be very much appreciated if you could communicate the name and contact details of the person representing your country / stakeholder group in the Working Group to the CSTD Secretariat at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,



Frédéric Riehl
Vice Chair of the CSTD

² More information on the meetings and the proposed working timeline, please consult the appended roadmap.