

Call for nominations for CSTD WG on Enhanced Cooperation

The Civil Society Coordination Groups (CSCG) is seeking civil society nominations from developed and developing countries as well as from economies in transition, all geographic areas, and policy orientations to serve as civil society representatives on the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC), the announcement for which can be found at <http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1193>. More information about the WG proposal can be found at http://unctad.org/meetings/en/Presentation/CSTD_2015_s11_Major_en.pdf. While the exact timeframe for the working group has not been established, nominees are asked to consider a service period of 2016-2017 (and eventually the beginning of 2018).

Peter Major, the Chair of the CSTD, has appointed CSCG as the focal point for appointments of Civil Society representatives on the WGEC, and CSCG has correspondingly established a nominations committee (Nomcom) for this selection task. We are seeking one CS representative from each of the five geographical areas: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe, GRULAC, and WEOG. The Chair has requested that we include, to the extent possible, selection of former members of the previous working group in order to ensure the continuation of institutional memory, and the point in the UNGA resolution to “take into consideration the work that has been done on this matter so far.” While remote participation will most probably be available, he also notes that remote participation “may not be very efficient in case of intensive debates and drafting”. In addition, he notes that “As for funding, the Secretariat of the CSTD will try and find means to facilitate participation from developing countries”.

Nominations should be submitted to the CSCG’s nominations committee via the email address [nomcom06 \[at\] internetgov-cs \[dot\] org](mailto:nomcom06@internetgov-cs.org) no later than 15 March 2016, or via one of the member coalitions (IGC, Best Bits, JNC, NCSG, APC) following their procedures. Independent civil society experts (i.e. those who are not nominated by a civil society organisation or network) are welcome to send self-nominations directly to the CSCG nomcom by the same deadline.

Nominations should include a short bio of one paragraph, one paragraph of motivation to be a civil society representative to the WGEC, one paragraph describing substantive proposals or a vision on “how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda”, and one paragraph describing experience or qualifications to represent civil society on the WGEC. Name, gender, regional/geographical, as well as any appropriate affiliation information and contact information should be included as well. Proficiency in English is necessary for communications within the WGEC. It is understood that nominees must be able to attend (most) meetings as established by the WGEC.

About CSCG and the current nomcom:

The Civil Society Coordination Group (CSCG) exists solely to ensure a coordinated civil society response and conduit when it comes to making civil society appointments to outside bodies. It comprises representatives of the coalition members of the Best Bits, Association for Progressive Communications, Internet Governance Caucus, Just Net Coalition, and Non-Commercial Stakeholders Group of ICANN.

As per the CSCG's procedures (available at <http://internetgov-cs.org/procedures>), for any selection task, the CSCG will determine selection criteria and announce them as part of a call for candidates, which will then be circulated as appropriate, in this case as broadly as possible across as many different constituencies as possible.

Selection criteria for WGEC:

- substantive proposals or a vision on "how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda";
 - experience in or qualifications to represent civil society on the WG;
 - English language proficiency;
- all to be evaluated using the information submitted with the nomination. Final selection will consider gender and geographical location, to ensure an appropriate balance.

All members of the CSCG nomination committee are required to consider the interests of civil society as a whole, and not just those of their own coalition, in determining appropriate representatives. The nomination committee will take into account geographic and gender balance in determining their final selections, while considering also the need for the breadth of viewpoints/worldviews represented within civil society to be represented.

Please feel free to contact us if you need further information or to discuss how we can work together to ensure our mutual objective to ensure the best possible civil society representation on this Working Group. The co-chairs of CSCG, Ginger Paque and Ian Peter, are available for inquiries.

The members of the CSCG nomcom for the CSTD WGEC are:

Deirdre Williams, representative of the Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus (IGC), and recent Co-Coordinator of the IGC

Chat Garcia Ramilo, representative of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), and Deputy Executive Director of APC

Ginger (Virginia) Paque, non-voting Co-Chair of CSCG, and with Diplo Foundation, Internet Governance Programmes (contact: [virginiap \[at\] diplomacy \[dot\] edu](mailto:virginiap@diplomacy.edu))

Ian Peter, non-voting Co-Chair of CSCG, independent (contact: [ian \[dot\] peter \[at\] ianpeter \[dot\] com](mailto:ian@ianpeter.com))

Nadira Alaraj, representative of Best Bits

Norbert Bollow, representative of the Just Net Coalition (JNC), and
Co-Convenor of JNC

Robin Gross, representative of ICANN's Non-Commercial Stakeholders Group
(NCSG), and member of the NCSG Executive Committee

Information on the Previous WGEC

Previous representatives from civil society

Mr. Carlos A. Afonso, Executive Director, NUPEF Institute

Ms. Avri Doria, Independent Researcher

Ms. Grace Githaiga, Associate, Kenya ICT Action Network

Ms. Joy Liddicoat, Programme Leader for Human Rights on the Internet, Association for
Progressive Communications

Mr. Parminder Jeet Singh, Executive Director, IT for Change

Documents produced during or following previous WGEC meetings can be found on the CSTD
website. Of particular interest:

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=330>

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=396>

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=425>

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=545>

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=610>