

IGF 2017

- Session Title: The Road to Full Connectivity for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDs
- Date: 21st of December, 2017
- Time: 12:20 hours
- Session Organizer: First Secretary Miguel Candia Ibarra
- Chair/Moderator: First Secretary Miguel Candia Ibarra
- Rapporteur/Notetaker: (None)
- List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations:
 1. Mme. Maritza Delgado, International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
 2. Mme. Jean Coffin, Internet Society (ISOC)
 3. Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, DiploFoundation, Geneva Internet Platform (GIP)

- Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):

The general discussion revolved around the fact that developing countries coming from the three groups face problems to achieve sustainability and affordability of services and to ensure good quality in connectivity, due to commercial and geographical constraints.

The issue of the importance of an effective cooperation between the developing countries and the international organizations, financing institution, through know – how and the transfer of technologies, was touched upon with clear understanding that more should be done, to empower developing countries in order for them to be able to fulfil their commitments towards the SDG's contained in the 2030 agenda.

- If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each presentation:

Mme. Delgado spoke about the report on connectivity that the ITU is releasing and the impact that these indicators may have on the policymaking of LLDC's, LDC's and SID's as well as on the work of the ITU for the next years towards these nations.

Mme. Coffin also referred to the ISOC report on the matter and the work that the internet society is carrying out to benefit them as well as touch upon the realities faced by these states in their day by day business. She also explained the functioning of ISOC as to clarify the nature of their work and thus allow better and more effective contact.

Mr. Kurbalija explained the deep impact that the LLDC's, LDC's and SID's face, making emphasis on human resources from small island developing states and how the international community need to do better to ensure that all states receive the necessary opportunities to fully participate in the global agenda.

- Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways (3 paragraphs):

The Digital Minister from the Chinese Taipei, Madame Audrey Tang showed a path of success for their economy, based on the development of critical infrastructure, digital education and cooperation.

Delegates coming from SIDS mentioned that alliances and cooperative work will help the efforts of the more vulnerable and least developed states, and cost sharing could be a way of reducing the elevated costs of the services, that affect negatively quality and speed of internet and broadband services.

Gender Reporting

- Estimate the overall number of the participants present at the session:

40 – 50 persons.

- Estimate the overall number of women present at the session:

50% or more.

- To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women's empowerment?

It was recognized as a pillar for sustainable development and the realization of SDG 5 and primary human rights, but it was under the scope of national efforts towards development agendas.