



MEAC School on Internet Governance

Fahd Batayneh | APSIG | September 2016

Introduction

- Was suggested by the members of the very working group that worked on ICANN's engagement strategy in the Middle East
- The idea was suggested in 2013, and was executed in 2014
- A 5-day workshop that covers various aspects of Internet Governance in a friendly and cozy setup
 - Participants are given pre-work prior to the start of the school
 - Participants are subscribed to an alumni mailing list after the school concludes to keep them involved and interested in IG

The MEAC Region



Statistics

Item	Worldwide	Region
Population	~ 7 billion	~ 750 million
Internet Population	~ 3 billion	~ 220 million
Internet Penetration Rate	42.86%	29.33%

Work Modalities

- A Steering Committee (SC) comprised of the organizers, local host, sponsors, and some community members.
 - The SC consists of 5-7 members
 - The SC develop the agenda, suggest faculty members, and evaluate/score applications received
- ICANN Staff provide full support (mailing list, teleconference calls, communication)
- The local host provides full support on the ground such as encouraging local participants to attend, venue, food and beverage...
- Faculty members are a mix of local, regional, and international experts

Kuwait City, Kuwait [2014]



<https://community.icann.org/display/MES/MEAC-SIG+2014>

Tunis, Tunisia [2015]



<https://community.icann.org/display/MES/MEAC-SIG+2015>

Beirut, Lebanon [2016]



<https://community.icann.org/display/MES/MEAC-SIG+2016>

The Agenda

- Contained a mixture of sessions, panels, mocks, and role-plays
- Developed by the Steering Committee
- Agenda covers many topics such as Introduction to IG, the I* Organizations, the Stakeholder Groups in IG, Human Rights and IG, Digital Rights and Privacy, IG for Development, Mobile Internet, Internet of Things, the Digital Economy, the Internet and Accessibility, Internet Public Policy, and many others

Participation

- The school attracts 30-35 participants with an equal mix of locals and MEAC regional attendees
 - Local host is requested to identify up to 16 candidates to attend the school bearing in mind gender balance and stakeholder balance
 - Attendance from outside the host country have to fill out an application form, and have to go through a competitive process of vetting and scoring (MEAC-SIG 2016 attracted 230 applications from outside the host country)
- Participants selected to attend and confirm their attendance have to do some pre-school homework, and everything is posted on the MEAC-SIG working space

pkSIG and MEAC-SIG

- Pakistan is part of the MEAC region
- We were approached by Pakistani stakeholders to assist them in kick-starting pkSIG as an annual event
- The first edition of pkSIG was held in Islamabad on 5-8 October 2015 (4-day event)
- The second edition of pkSIG is scheduled to be held in Lahore, Pakistan on 26-29 November, and ICANN have been approached to be part of the Steering Committee

Questions?!



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