A newcomer's impressions on IGF 2008
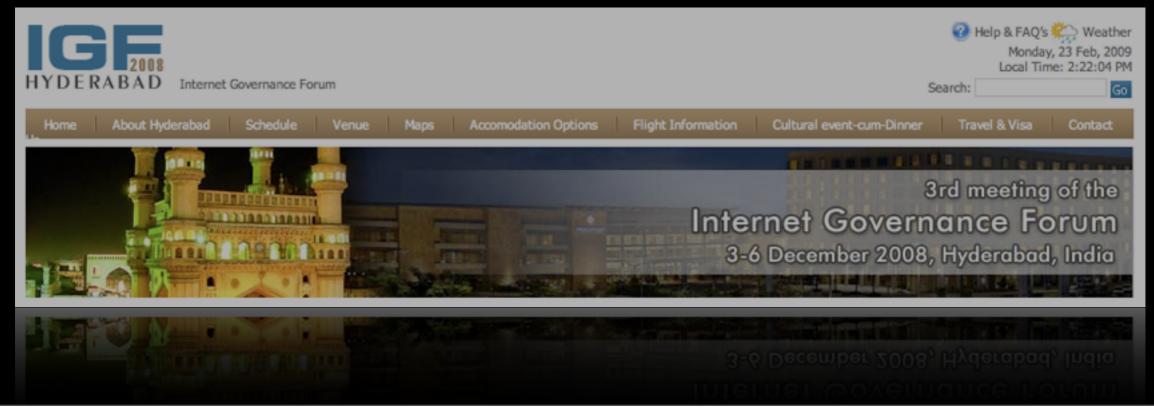
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Outline

- How I was able to attend

- Important points I learned in the meeting

- My thoughts on IGF 2008

How I was able to attend

- APNIC's fellowship program - Internet Governance Forum at Hyderabad, India

- These fellowship programs are very useful for countries such as the Philippines because the travel fund is usually a problem for us

POLICE: ATTACKERS CAME FROM PAK   LIVE

Mumbai

LOG ON TO
IBNLIVE.COM

5 TAXIS USED IN OPERATION

CNN IBN
ibnlive.com

POLICE CHIEF SAYS

Dingy used to land near gateway of India

07:29pm

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

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Important points

- IXs have a very big impact in optimizing domestic routing

- "No single government in the world should govern any critical internet resource"

- Distribution of IP addresses was uneven throughout the world. Prioritization should be done for the remaining IPv4 addresses

Important points

- The Philippines is not the only country wherein the ccTLD is not controlled by the government

- Sometimes government control of ccTLDs, is good.

  - *sometimes it is NOT so good*

Important points

- Difficult to locate SPAM in the legal framework of things

- Both a legal and technical solution is needed to combat this

Important points

- IT laws from other countries are an important basis in crafting local laws
  - *but the "local realities" need to be considered*

Important points

- There are two groups who run the Internet:

  - *the technical people who "run" it*

  - *the policy people who try to regulate it*

Important points

- Time needs to be given to research on Internet access of disabled people

- About **5 billion people** in the planet still do not have access to the internet

Important points

- There are some entities in the Internet that are considered as "gatekeepers"

- These so-called gatekeepers have a considerable amount of power in influencing the information that is given back to users

  - *Are ISPs gatekeepers?*

  - *Are content providers gatekeepers?*

Important points

- A question was raised on Google collaborating with the Chinese government in filtering content inside China's great firewall

    - *Google answered back that they need IGF in order for international policies to be put into place to shield them from such demands*

Important points

- Some commented that Google should open up its search algorithm to public scrutiny since it is basically filtering our access to information

- Some said that filtering should not be done at all

  - *Information should be freely available to anyone*

Important points

- A multi-stakeholder model was adopted at IGF, as opposed to WSIS (its predecessor) wherein there was a comment that not all voices were represented

Important points

- There was an observation on how things are decided on the Internet

- Technical people write the RFCs and technical documents, and sometimes, they do not think about the political/economic/social consequences of their proposals

Important points

- The politicians sometimes decide on something they do not really fully understand based on the over-simplification of the technical write-ups

- They said the divide on these competencies should be bridged, and the IGF is a good forum to bridge this gap

My thoughts on IGF 2008

- There was a comment that the IGF was more of a talk shop

- Someone mentioned that the IGF being a talk shop depended on those that attended it

My thoughts on IGF 2008

- If an attendee went to IGF 2008, listened to the arguments, then came back to his country and did nothing to improve the Internet locally, then indeed, that attendee is a contributor to IGF being branded as a talk shop

My thoughts on IGF 2008

- The IGF is a good forum for Internet decision makers to meet and discuss the future of the Internet

Thank you.