



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

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Honourable Mme Sherry Ayittey, CSTD Chairperson
Minister of Environment, Science and Technology of
Ghana
P.O. Box M 232, Accra
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Geneva, 5 November 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 19 July 2010 the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) tasked its Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) to establish a working group to **propose improvements to the Internet Governance Forum.**

In particular, the CSTD was asked to:

- establish a working group in an open and inclusive manner, to seek compile and review inputs from all UN member States and all other stakeholders on the improvement of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in line with its mandate as set out in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;
- report to the next substantive session of the ECOSOC session in 2011 with recommendations as appropriate.

According to its mandate, the Working Group will have to report to the next CSTD in May 2011. At the same time, the General Assembly is expected to take a decision on the continuation of the IGF by December 2010. Should the mandate of the IGF be extended, this report is to constitute an input from the Commission to the General Assembly, through ECOSOC.¹

The Hon. Sherry Ayittey, Minister of Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana, the current Chair of the CSTD, delegated the task of establishing the CSTD Working Group on IGF to Mr. Frederic Riehl, vice Chair of the CSTD.

In accordance with the Working Group's mandate, the Chair of the Working Group is seeking input from all stakeholders. The principal issues in this consultation are set out in the questionnaire which can be found in Appendix 1 to this letter. An online version of the questionnaire as well as background documents can be found on <http://www.unctad.org/cstd>.

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(addressee)

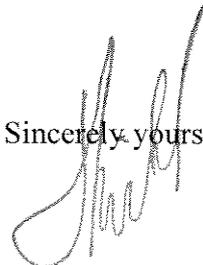
¹ A more detailed timeline can be found Chair's tentative road map of activities of the CSTD Working Group on IGF available at http://www.unctad.org/sections/un_cstd/docs/cstd2010d02_en.pdf

Please note that a separate consultation is being undertaken by CSTD in relation to the five year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) as a whole (http://www.unctad.info/en/CSTD_WSIS5), and that another consultation on "enhanced cooperation" is currently being undertaken by UNDESA. You should make any comments on these issues within those consultations rather than in response to this questionnaire.

CSTD invites you to respond to these questions by 19 November 2010, to: cstdwg-igf@unctad.org.

In accordance with ECOSOC resolution 2007/8 on "Flow of information for the follow-up of the World Summit on the Information Society," your inputs will be made available on the CSTD website in their original language as contributions to the fourteenth session of the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frédéric Riehl', written over the text 'Sincerely yours,'.

Frédéric Riehl
Vice Chair of the CSTD