



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
**INFORMATION SOCIETY AND MEDIA DG**

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**  
**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**  
**FIRST OVERVIEW**

Global Forum Venice 5-6 November

**JF SOUPIZET**  
**HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
**DG INFSO**

These views are those of the speaker and may not represent the EC position



# WHY A PUBLIC CONSULTATION?

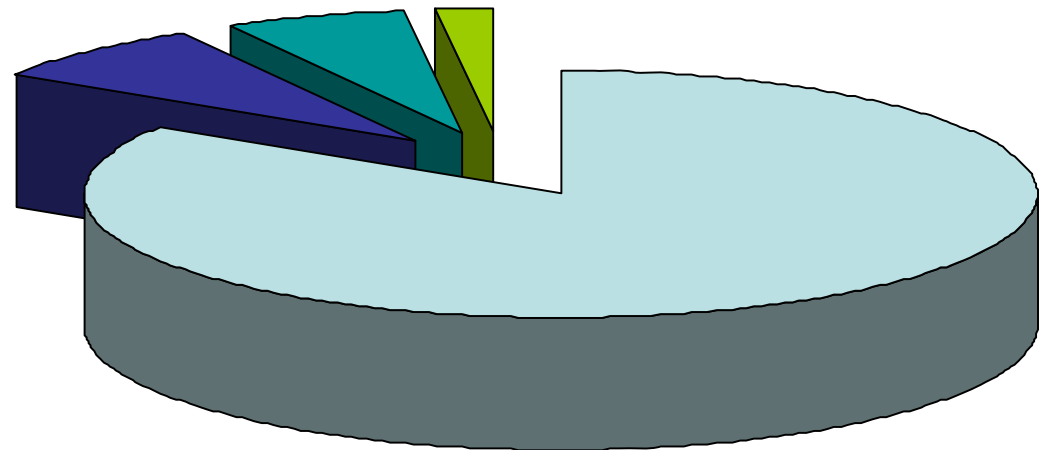
- **External dimension**: European Union is a strong player in the ICT sector but more attention needed on the global dimension of the Information Society.
- **Internal dimension**: ICT is an important part of EU growth and jobs strategy but so far not an issue of any broad debate at European level
- **Coherence of policies**: between Information society and EU external relations (political dialogues, trade issues, international ICT cooperation under FP7, economic cooperation and development aid)



# THE RESPONDENTS

**About 60 ANSWERS from different regions:**

- ***85% from EU stakeholders***
- ***5% from North America***
- ***10% from Latin America***



# THE RESPONDENTS *(follows)*

## ANSWERS from different stakeholders:

- **EU Telecom operators**

*(France Telecom, British Telecom, Deutsche Telekom, Telefonica, Telecom Italia)*

- **EU industry organizations**

*(ETNO, EICTA, ESOA, CEN/CENELEC, CEEP...)*

- **Institutions and NRAs**

*(Ministers of Spain and UK, NRA of Portugal, Austrian Chamber of commerce...)*

- **Other categories**

*(Internet registers, Software organisations, private persons...)*



# THE RESPONDENTS *(follows)*

## ANSWERS with different focuses:

- Objectives
- Regulatory issues, market access, trade issues
- Innovation and research on ICT
- Global Issues



# OBJECTIVES

**ISSUE:** What should be the broad priorities and countries where the EU should develop ICT cooperation?

- **Answers:**

- **Regulation** (common rules and legal certainty),
- **Research** (collaboration and infrastructures),
- **IPR** (licensing rules and protection),
- **Standards** (promoting common adoption without promoting a specific standard),
- **Liberalisation of markets**

*With Industrialised and emerging countries.*

- **Fight against poverty and development of human capital**

*With developing countries and Africa.*



# REGULATORY ISSUES - 1

**ISSUE:** Which issues have to be prioritized in the cooperation on regulatory frameworks, and with which countries? Then, which are the subjects where the share of experience between EU and foreign countries should be focused?

- **WHICH ISSUES:**

Transparency towards customers,

Removal of market barriers,

Harmonization of regulatory frameworks,

Prevention against anti-competitive practices

Free and equitable trade.



# REGULATORY ISSUES - 2

- **WHICH COUNTRIES:**

- *China but even other BRICS (for transparency),*
- *Russia,*
- *USA and other industrialised (for sharing experiences on regulatory frameworks).*

- **WHICH SUBJECTS FOR COOPERATION:**

- EU export issues,
- ICT global development (VoIP, MobileTV),
- Human capital building,
- Incentives for private investments,
- Radio spectrum management,
- Market regulation (WTO Reference Paper).





# RESEARCH: ICT COLLABORATION - 1

**ISSUE:** 7th FP provides opportunities for international activities but which areas should have **priority** and what **criteria** should be applied, and what are the expected **benefits**?

- **Priorities:** internet technical challenges, communication technologies, content related; security
- **Criteria:** quality of partners and impact on market
- **Benefits:** shared knowledge, risk reduction, access to market



# RESEARCH: ICT COLLABORATION - 2

- **ISSUE:** reciprocal participation of EU organisations in non-EU research programmes is important? And are the existing rules adequate?
- **First priority is to find good partners**
- **More than reciprocity, is important to ensure the respect of contractual agreements**
- **Existing FP7 rules are suitable, but there is the need of more flexibility and market-orientation**



# RESEARCH: INFRASTRUCTURES

**ISSUE:** What should be the priorities of Europe regarding international cooperation in the domain of e-infrastructures?

- **Interconnectivity / interoperability**
- **Global science projects**
- **Bringing costs down**



# GLOBAL ISSUES - 1

- **There are** several selected areas which, due to the new global challenges, deserve special attention.
- **The strategic** selection of the themes would be of crucial importance for Europe.
- **What role** should international research **collaboration** play in addressing global challenges of the 21st century?



# GLOBAL ISSUES - 2

- **Environment / Sustainable growth**
- **Risk reduction and crisis management**
- **eInclusion – fight against poverty**
- **Health (aging – pandemics)**

 **CHALLENGES COULD BECOME  
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and large networks**
- **Developed / developing countries emerging markets**



# GLOBAL ISSUES - 3 other issues

- **Network and Information security:**
  - Harmonisation of legal regimes,
  - Support to research cooperation,
  - Information & Best Practices sharing.
  
- **IPv6**
  - IPv4 exhaustion combined with IPv6 roll-out is a global matter,
  - Implementation of IPv6 should be led by private sector,
  - Governments have a role in raising awareness.



# GLOBAL ISSUES - 4 other issues

- **Internet Governance:**

- The multi - stakeholder nature of the IGF is appreciated,
- Need to improve regional dialogue and cooperation,
- Divergent comments on network neutrality,
- Freedom of expression is an important principle.

- **Digital Divide:**

- Involve all the stakeholders (*governments, private companies, associations*).



# AGENDA

- **June 2007 - launch of public consultation**
- **September 2007 – end of public consultation**
- **December 2007 – stocktaking workshop in Brussels**
- **May 2008 – a Commission Communication**







# EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## INFORMATION SOCIETY AND MEDIA DG

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

outcomes now on

**<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice>**

