

Topic D: Challenges in how to create more awareness about Internet Governance at the national and regional levels, and why stakeholders should be actively engaging

Japan IGF operates two synergistic activities.

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I'd like to introduce the typical features of Japan IGF.

Japan IGF tries to overcome the challenges “how to get more participants from various stakeholders” and “how to create more awareness about the existences of various issues” by devising a unique model on top of existing IGF activities.

Japan IGF consists of two typical types of activities, which are mutually complement and synergistic.

One is “annual meeting”. From its inaugural meeting in 2011, it has dealt with hot topics that were usually discussed in global arena. Its program is designed by its steering committee with diverse members. Most individual participants are from Internet-related organizations, academia, and the national government. They share and exchange the information regarding various issues related to Internet Governance discussed in the global arena. Through these kinds of activities, we try to attract participants from various stakeholder sectors mainly through related organizations.

The other is “bottom-up continuous discussion” which is a discussion platform that anyone can bring in topics. This has bimonthly physical meetings whose agenda is designed by diverse members of its coordination group. There have been 16 bimonthly meetings so far. We also operate a mailing list with decent traffic for information sharing and discussion. About 300 participants contribute to the discussion in his/her personal capacity. This leads to expansion of awareness mainly by human network, usually in a topic-based community or in an organization. Also, a scheme is defined and used to create a team to produce tangible products through “bottom-up continuous discussion”. A statement about IANA transition and a document for security principles have been the products from such teams.

By having and synergizing these two unique activities, more individuals and

organizations, we believe, become aware and join the discussion platform. Moreover, we can expect discussion among participants becomes more energetic.