

# Code of good practice on information, participation and transparency in internet governance

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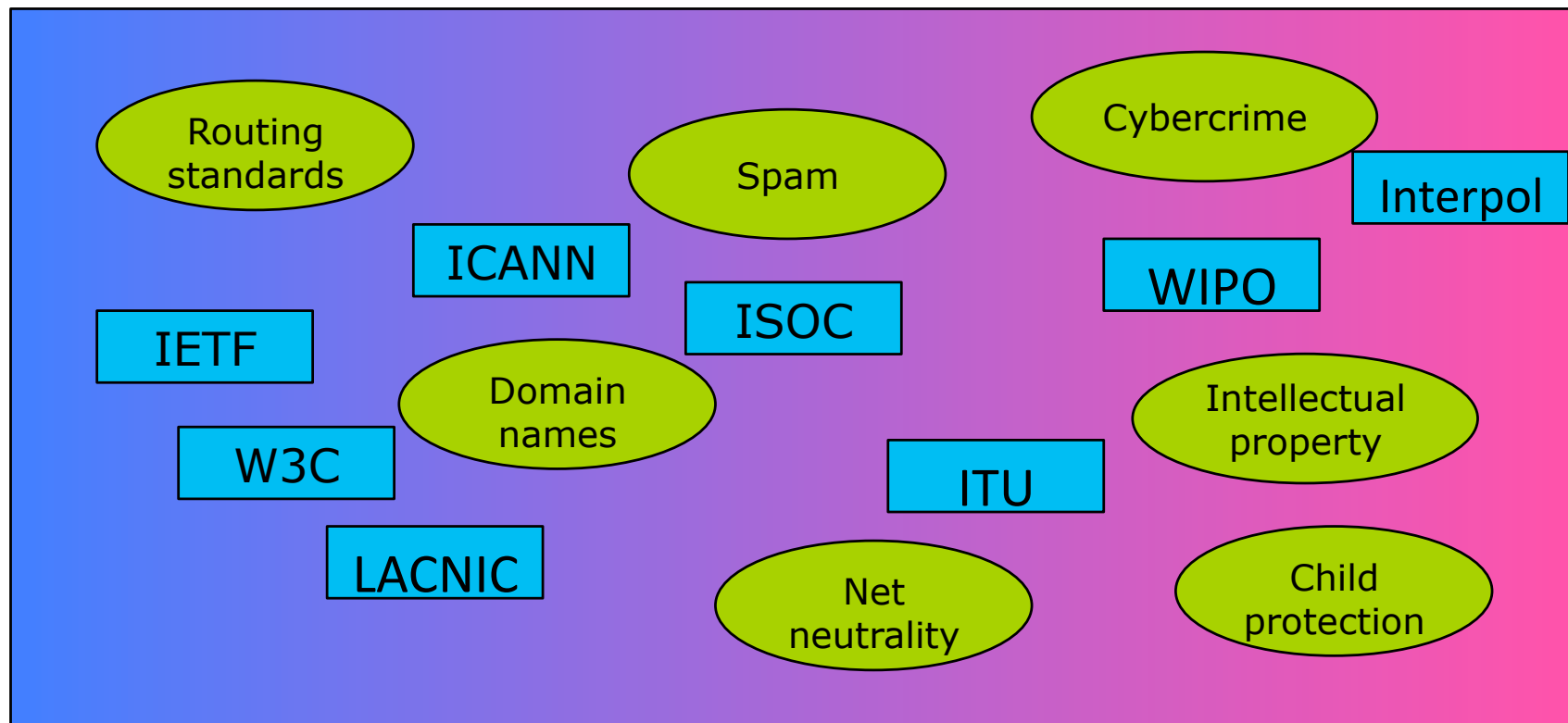
Association for Progressive Communications

# Internet governance issues and organisations

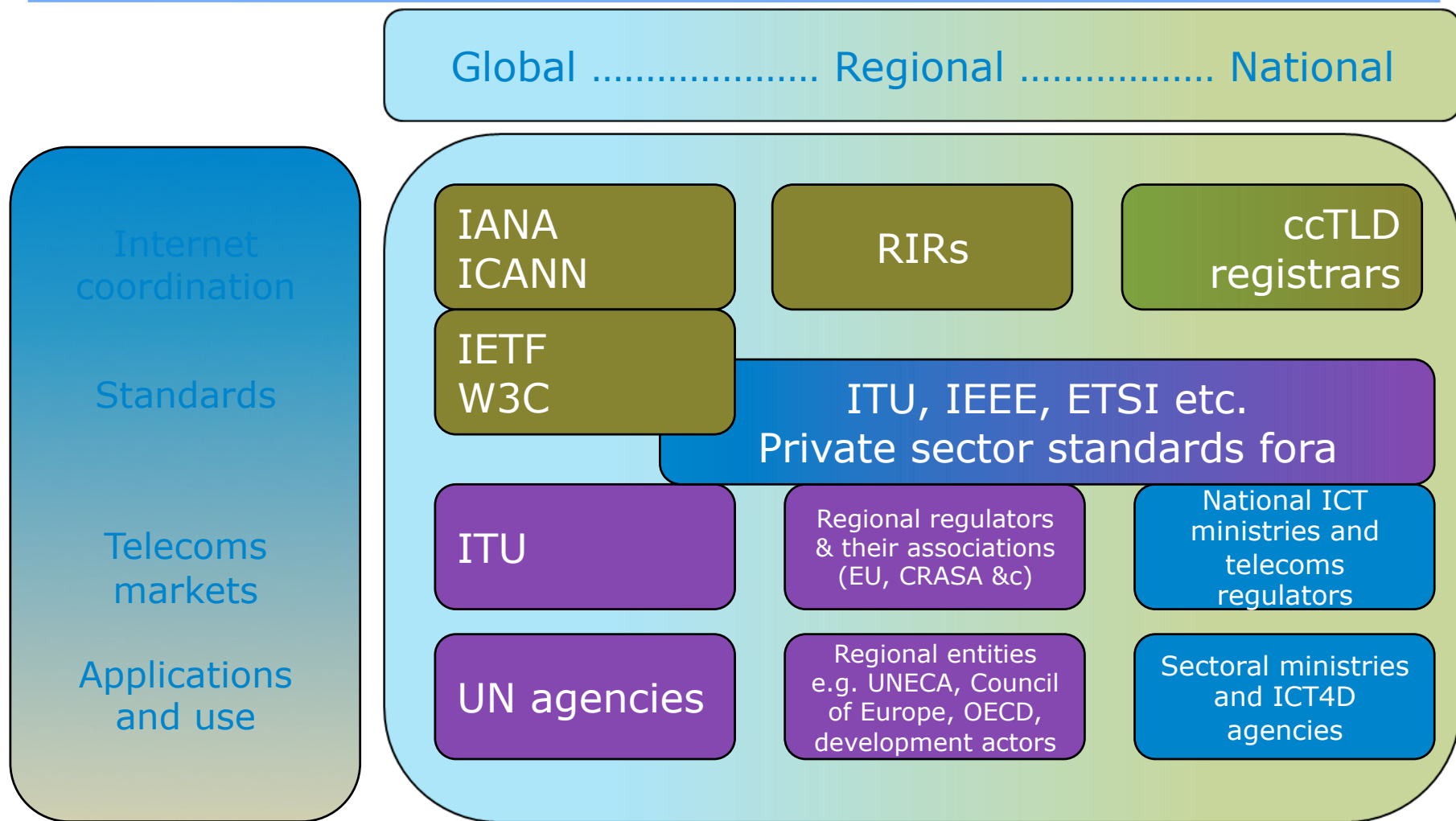
Narrow

Internet Governance

Broad



# Global, regional and national issues



# Code of good practice

## ❑ Sponsored by:

- ❑ APC - Association for Progressive Communications
- ❑ Council of Europe
- ❑ UN Economic Commission for Europe

## ❑ Built from:

- ❑ Workshops at IGF 2007, 2008, 2009
- ❑ Experience of:
  - ❑ existing IG entities
  - ❑ environmental transparency agreements (Aarhus Convention)
- ❑ Discussion with:
  - ❑ ISOC - Internet Society
  - ❑ ICANN
  - ❑ IETF - Internet Engineering Task Force
  - ❑ W3C - World Wide Web Consortium
  - ❑ RIRs - including LACNIC

# Objectives of the code:

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- ❑ *to provide stakeholders who have an interest in Internet governance with guidelines that they can use in their efforts to improve information, participation and transparency*
- ❑ *to maintain and enhance inclusive engagement with Internet governance as the Internet becomes increasingly important in society and increasingly interconnected with other public policy spheres*

# Aspirations for the code:

**that Internet governance entities will use it to:**

**review their experience, current arrangements and practices,** from first principles, to ensure that they continue to meet their commitment to transparency, information and participation

**consider and compare them** with those in other Internet governance entities, to see if there are ways of working in other entities that they might usefully import into their own arrangements

**provide a framework through they can develop their arrangements and practices** as the Internet continues to grow in terms of technology, applications and user communities

# Definitions

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## Internet governance

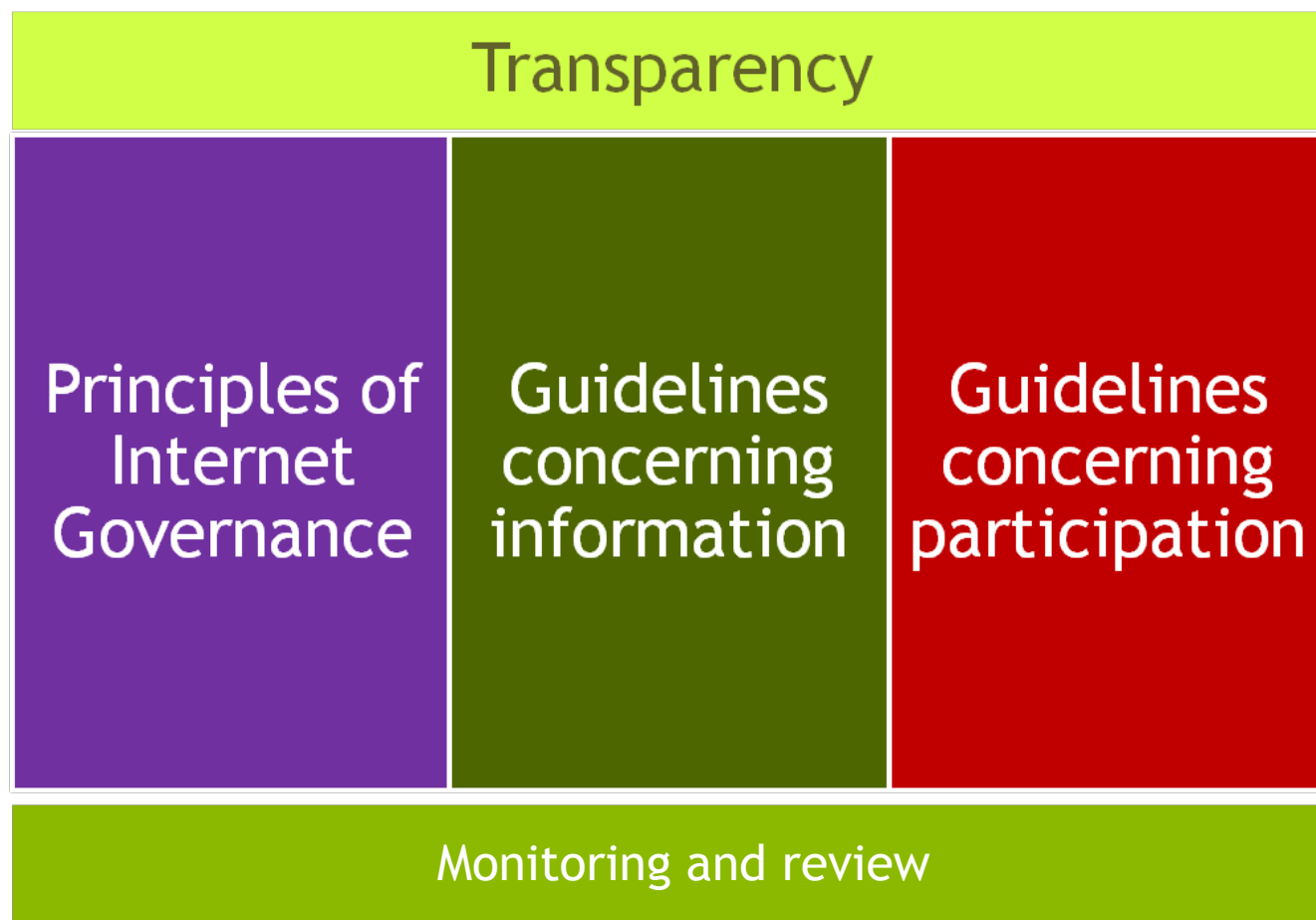
- ❑ *The development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society ... of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.*

Taken from WGIG 2004

## Decision-making

- ❑ *All processes involved in debating and deciding policies, standards, coordination and administration of and for the Internet, and those concerned with the Internet's relationship with other public policy spheres.*

# Pillars of the code



# Principles of Internet Governance

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## ❑ WSIS principles:

- ❑ Multilateralism
- ❑ Transparency and democracy
- ❑ Multistakeholderism
- ❑ Equitable distribution of resources
- ❑ Access for all
- ❑ Stable and secure functioning of the Internet
- ❑ Multilingualism

## ❑ Code of good practice:

- ❑ Participation of all stakeholders from all societies
- ❑ Engagement of all including end-users, non-users and future users
- ❑ Engagement at all levels - global, regional, national, local
- ❑ Engagement with other public policy domains with which the Internet interacts

# Guidelines concerning information

- ❑ Information includes:
  - ❑ background information which enables people to understand decision-making processes
  - ❑ materials which form part of the decision-making process
- 1. Open, transparent and inclusive decision-making.
- 2. Public availability of all information (open discussion of any exceptions).
- 3. Active facilitation of access to information and knowledge about internet decisions.
- 4. Information resources aimed at inclusive audience, including non-specialists, in diverse languages and formats.
- 5. Accessible points of contact.

# Guidelines concerning participation

## □ Participation means:

- *opportunities, for those that wish to do so, to contribute to decision-making processes which (they believe) affect them (or in which they believe they should be heard)*

1. Active encouragement of participation by all who are concerned, with expectation that views will be considered
2. Inclusion of those who are under-represented, including end-users, non-users and future users
3. Openness to proposals from all who wish to make them
4. Publicity for opportunities to participate and ways to participate, including outreach to non-specialists
5. Offline, remote and other forms of participation suited to those who cannot easily travel to meetings

# In addition:

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- ❑ Active engagement with international governance bodies in areas which intersect with Internet governance
- ❑ Regular monitoring and review of implementation of the code of practice with Internet governance entities

# Next steps

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- ❑ Presentation of the agreed Code of Good Practice at the 2010 IGF
- ❑ Review of current practice in partnership with specific Internet Governance entities:
  - ❑ global, regional, national
- ❑ Development of principles for national Internet governance spaces
- ❑ Development of approaches to improving knowledge and understanding of IG issues and debates

# Contact points

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