

IGF Meeting 2009-11-18

Statement by Talal Abu Ghazaleh, Chairman, UNDESEA-GAID

Sharm, 18/11/2009

Mr. Chairman,

- As Co-chair of the UN ICT IF, I enthusiastically promoted the establishment of the IGF at the UN Forum on Internet Governance, which I chaired in that capacity (Berlin, Nov. 19, 2004)
- I continued to fully support IGF all the way since its inception as UN ICT IF, and subsequently as GAID chair, and always as TAGOrg Chair.
- TAGOrg proudly served on the UN SG WGIG since its establishment.
- Today, once again I wish to applaud IGF success under its able leadership.

Mr. Chairman,

- Noting that IGF and GAID are twin brothers born out of the WSIS process.
- And in a spirit of support for IGF under the debate about its future sense of direction
- I wish to suggest that IGF/GAID have a lot to gain by combining their agendas through the development of a creative formula.
- There can only be added value in such synergy, coordination, harmony and partnership.
- Just like ICT and the internet are coherently interlinked, so should IGF and GAID.
- In that process I look forward to losing my job as GAID Chair.

Mr. Chairman,

- I would appreciate it if this statement be considered as part of the proceedings.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

My regards and respect to you, my distinguished colleagues.