

**Statement by the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore on the
“Desirability of the Continuation of the Internet Governance Forum”**

The Internet is constantly evolving with new technological developments introduced at a rapid pace, bringing unprecedented opportunities as well as unique challenges to societies all over the world. The speed at which this transformation is taking place calls for informed discussion and deliberation over various governance issues that may arise as a result of the Internet and its associated developments.

Governments have an important role to play in Internet governance – not only by implementing policies that will ensure citizens have access to the Internet and ensuring a safe and secure Internet, but also in creating a conducive investment environment for service providers and operators to rollout and upgrade the Internet infrastructure. Technical and commercial aspects of the Internet architecture, however, are best left to the private sector and free market forces. This is also in line with Singapore’s light-touch and technology-neutral regulatory approach towards the Internet.

Likewise, civil society organisations and individual communities have a role in creating relevant content and community services that cater to the unique needs and situation of each society. Given the multiple roles played by different stakeholders in relation to the Internet, IDA believes that a multi-stakeholder model is the most appropriate for Internet governance issues.

Since its inception in 2006, the Internet Governance Forum (“IGF”) has brought numerous stakeholders together to engage in dialogue on Internet governance issues. As such, IDA considers the Internet Governance Forum a useful and open platform for different stakeholders to discuss and exchange diverse views on issues relating to Internet governance. IDA therefore supports the continuation of the IGF’s mandate.