



## **Statement from CERN\* on Internet Governance**

Ranging from the transport network to end-user applications, the scientific community invented the technologies that form today’s Internet. Scientists also deployed them worldwide, creating a global infrastructure for academia and research. These developments, done by and for scientists, were then successfully transferred to society at large.

Nowadays, scientists are developing and deploying the next wave of infrastructure and applications. The objective is no longer to share information only, but also to share computing resources: computing power, storage capacity, and scientific data. This is called the Grid. Sharing computing resources is particularly relevant for scientists in developing countries to efficiently participate in advanced and technologically demanding projects. If appropriate governance directions are given, the Grid has the potential to successfully permeate all levels of society, as the Web has done.

Like the Internet and the Web, the Grid will require operational coordination. One central component of a Grid system is the computer security infrastructure and, in particular, mechanisms to ensure authentication, such as personal identification. This is an area where coordination is necessary to avoid an excessive and detrimental fragmentation of the resulting infrastructure.

In summary, we recommend that the conditions, which permitted technologies developed by scientists for their own purposes to be directly transferred to society, be analyzed, and from this analysis to derive governance principles for the successful transfer of the next wave of technologies and infrastructure that science is deploying.

François Fluckiger  
CERN Representative to the Internet Governance Forum

CERN  
IT Department  
1211 Geneva 23  
Switzerland

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