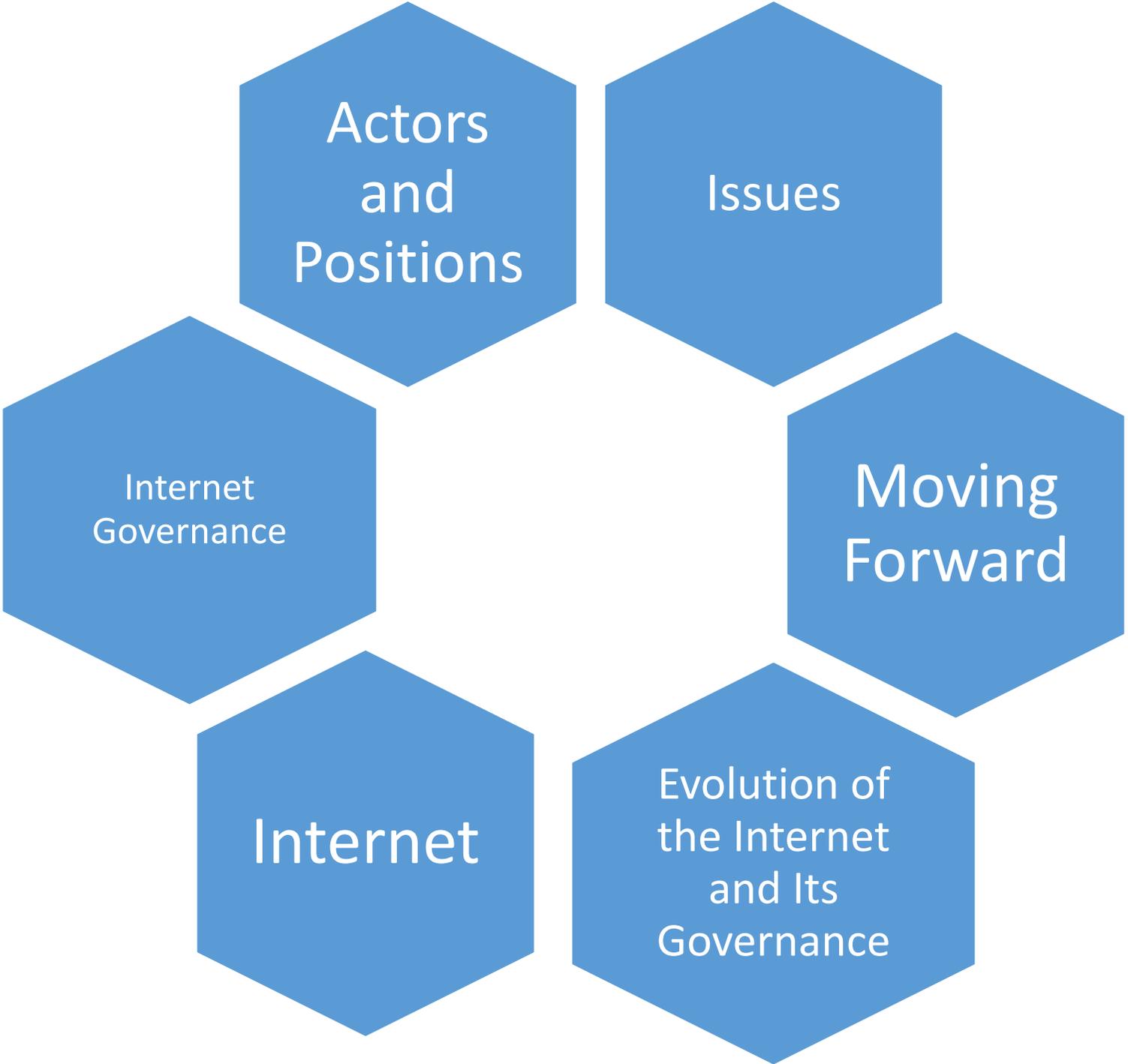# INTERNET GOVERNANCE AND THE POLITICS OF THE DNS INDUSTRY

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In only a few years, the Internet has revolutionised trade, health, education, and, indeed, the very fabric of human communication and exchange. Moreover, its potential is far greater than what we have seen in the relatively short time since its creation. In managing, promoting, and protecting its presence in our lives, we need to be no less creative than those who invented it. ***Clearly, there is a need for governance, but that does not necessarily mean that it has to be done in the traditional way, for something that is so very different.***

- Kofi Annan - Global Forum on Internet Governance (New York, 24 March 2004)
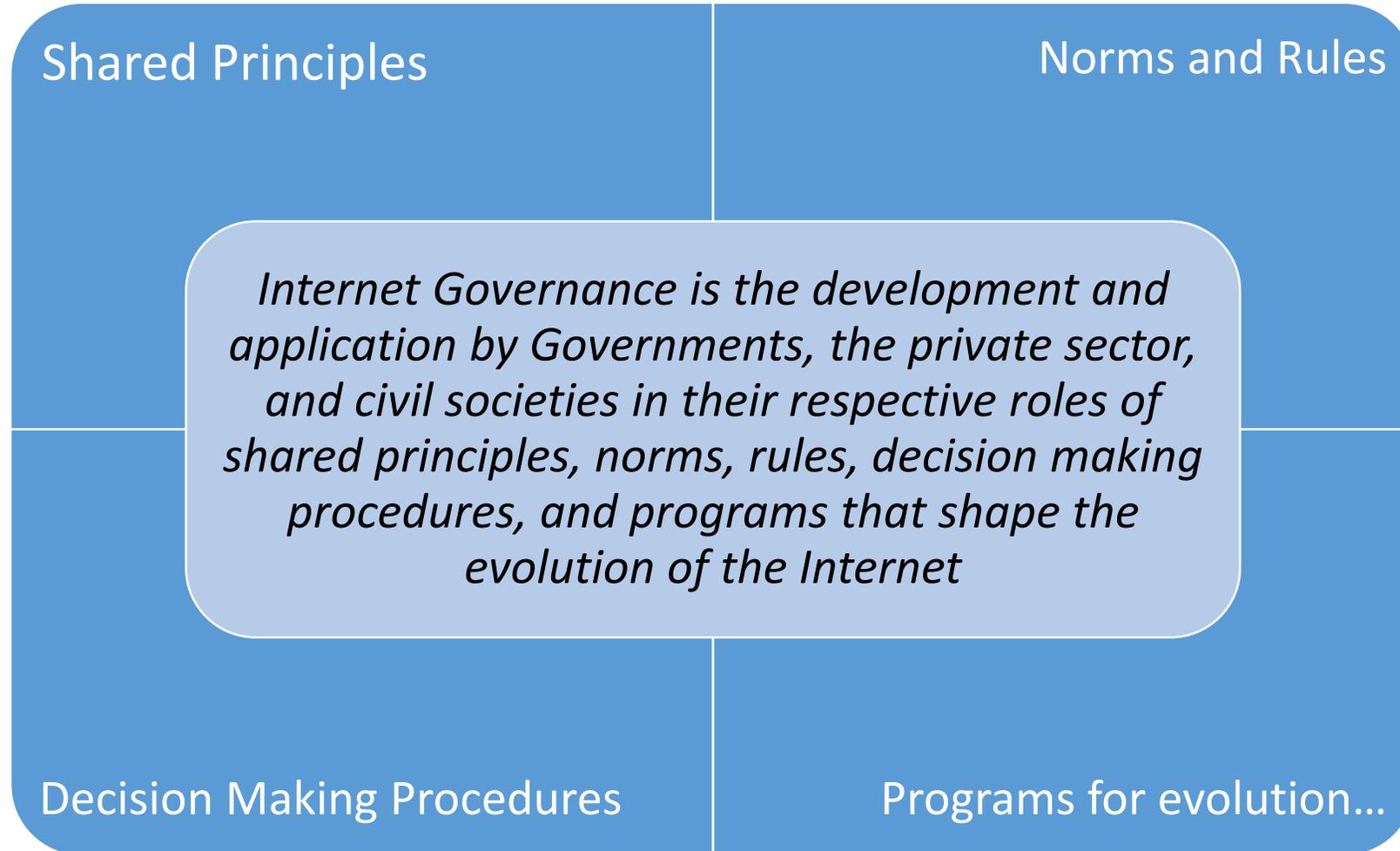
Around 40% of the world population has an internet connection today. In 1995, it was less than 1%. The number of internet users has increased tenfold from 1999 to 2013. The **first billion** was reached in 2005. The **second billion** in 2010. The **third billion** in 2014.

Internet Users in the World

Year (as of July 1)

@http://www.internetlivestats.com/internet-users/
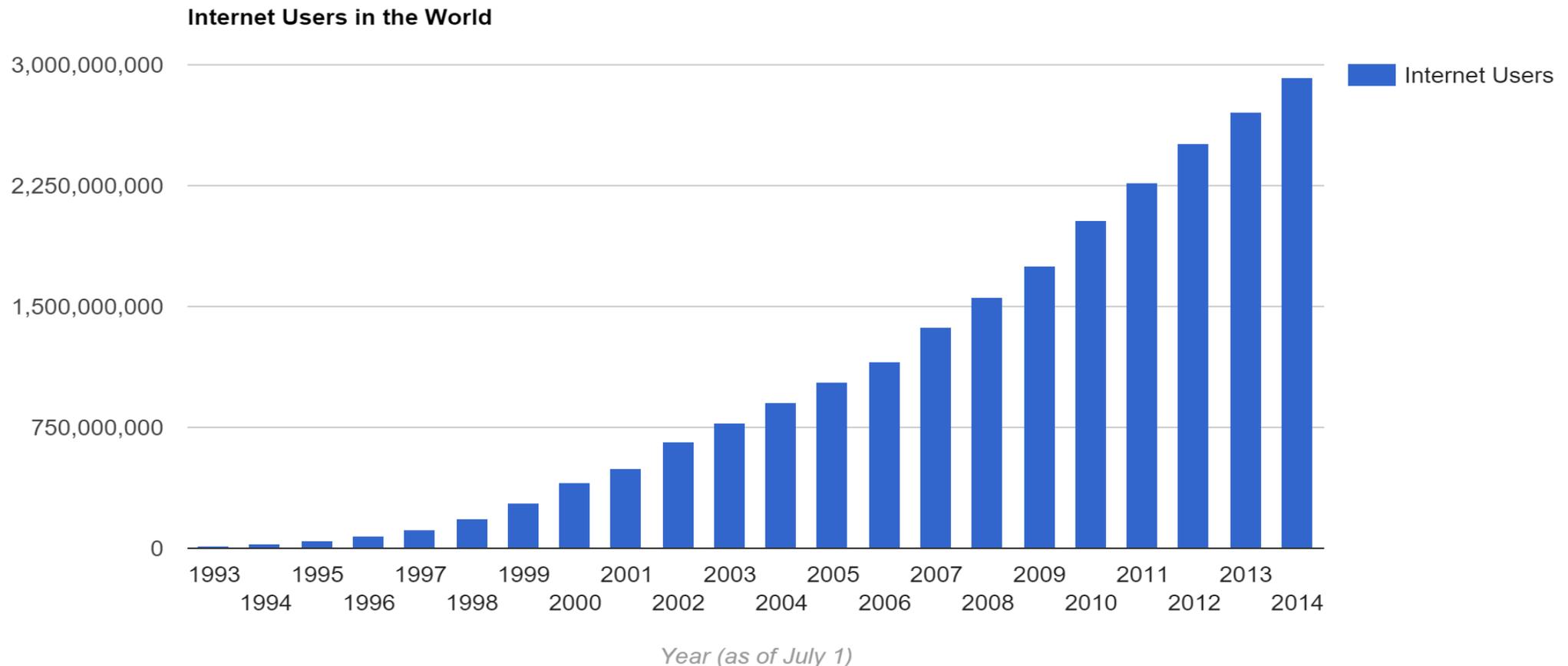
- Worldwide B2C e-commerce sales amounted to more than 1.2 trillion US dollars in 2013
- Most expensive companies are internet and technology based companies
- Cyber-attacks are costing businesses $400 to $500 billion a year and this does not include the greater number of unreported cases.
- In 2014 for the first time, all 193 United Nations Member States now have national websites
- 96% of Internet users have their personal Information online.
- Major social impact on education, health, agriculture etc.
- Social networks

WHAT IS INTERNET GOVERNANCE - WSIS

Shared Principles

Norms and Rules

Internet Governance is the development and application by Governments, the private sector, and civil societies in their respective roles of shared principles, norms, rules, decision making procedures, and programs that shape the evolution of the Internet

Decision Making Procedures

Programs for evolution…

The UN General Assembly Resolution S6/103 2001 endorsed the Convening of a World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) in two phases, Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005.

EVOLUTION

DARPANet
- Develop a resilient communication network which would continue to function effectively in the face of enemy attack. ARPANet

TCP/IP
- The fundamental idea was to create a distributed network to ensure that data packets can take different paths through the network in order to avoid traditional barriers and control mechanisms.

IETF
- Established to basically set standards and manage the further development of the Internet through a cooperative, consensus based decision making, involving a wide range of individuals. There was neither central government nor planning and grand design for the Internet.

EVOLUTION

DNS Wars

- In 1994 the US National Science Foundation which managed the key infrastructure of the Internet decided to subcontract the management of the domain name system (DNS) to a private US company. This led to an outcry by the Internet community (often referred to as the DNS war) and brought new interests such as nation states and international organizations into the discussions.

ICANN

- The agitation ended with the establishment of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) which has become the main focus for IG debates.

WSIS

- Placed the Internet Governance debate on the United Nations diplomatic agenda. WSIS 2003 established a Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG). WGIG produced a report which led to the second WSIS 2005 in Tunis. Primary among the report was the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

EVOLUTION

IGF
- an experiment in multilateral diplomacy under the auspices of the United Nations.

ITU
- In 2006 the ITU announced that it would have a stronger focus on cybersecurity and development assistance thus stepping into the realm of IG.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- The creation of the .xxx domain which was the point where ICANN crossed the Rubicon from being a technical administrator of the DNS to as policy administrator;
- This further led to the opening up of top level domain names from the know .com, .net, to .anything
- The internationalization of domain names
- Debates on the role of governments in the management and running of ICANN
- The emergence of social media which can be harnessed for doing anything including mass mobilization
- The confrontation between governments and corporations eg. China and Google
- The country wide blackout of the Internet first implemented by Egypt in the wake of the so called "Arab Spring"
- The hosting of the Net Mundial and World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) which all turned out to be a struggle on who manages the Internet
- The privacy issues and role of governments in the wake of the Snowden revelations and arguments surrounding net neutrality.

.com

·ком Cyrillic

קום· Hebrew

کوم· Arabic

·कॉम Devanagari

·คอม Thai

○**コム** Katakana

○**点看** Simplified Chinese

○**點看** Traditional Chinese

·**닷컴** Hangul

.net

·**नेट** Devanagari

○**大拿** Simplified Chinese

·**닷넷** Hangul

ISSUES

Policy and Regulatory

Technical

Content

Internet Governance
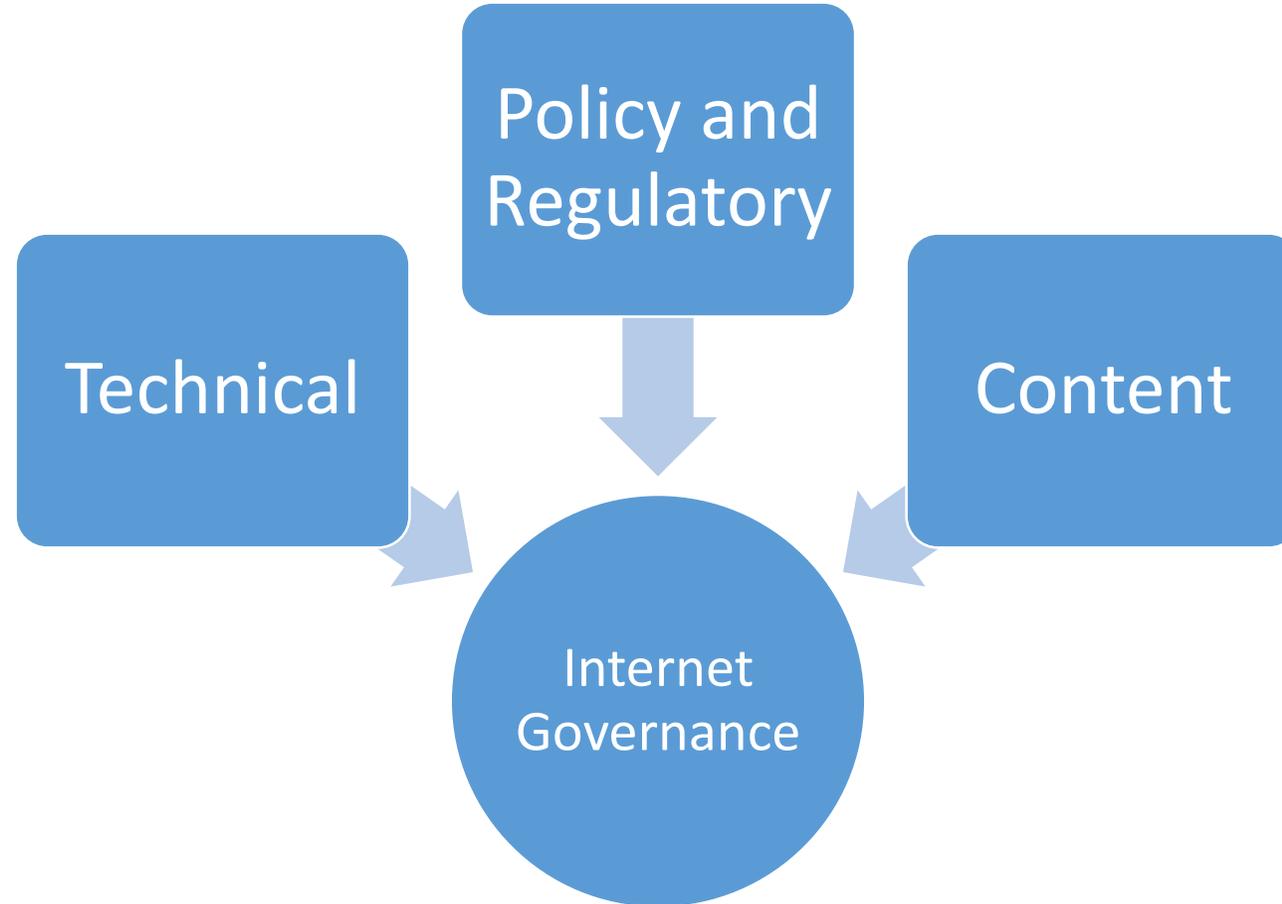
Technical Issues

- Internet Infrastructure is now predominantly controlled by the private sector due to liberalization
- Establishment of Technical Infrastructure Standards is often by private and professional institutions e.g. wifi standards
- Allocation of IP Numbers by RIRs
- The management of the DNS and creation of new zones
- Management of CCTLDs their creation and deletion
- Internationalization of domain names
- Roles of ISPs and IBPs
- Cloud Computing and Network Neutrality
- Infrastructure related security issues
- Convergence

Policy and Regulatory Issues

- International Regulations and Conventions GATT, GATS WIPO WTO etc
- Soft Laws such as declarations and resolutions –eg WSIS
- Jurisdiction in law enforcement especially in the area of cybercrime- Territory, personality and effects principles
- Intellectual Property rights
- Development of policies governing the use of the Internet and their applications
- Human and Labour rights on the Internet
- Privacy and Data Protection
- ICANN regulation and oversight

Content Issues

- Deals with the application and use of the Internet
- Internet Commerce, banking and virtual money
- Consumer protection and cybersecurity
- Taxation and Digital signatures
- Development and socio-cultural issues
- Rights of access especially for people with disabilities
- Content regulation and freedom of expression
- Educational Standards and Child safety online
- Multilingualism and cultural diversity

ACTORS AND POSITIONS

- Prevent and Minimise the risk of fragmentation of the Internet
- Maintain Compatibility and Interoperability
- Safeguard Rights and define responsibilities
- Protect end users from Misuse and abuse
- Encourage further development

Governments	Private Sector	Civil Society	Technical Community	International Organizations
• Policy Authority for Internet Public Policy Issues including the international aspects	• Development of Internet especially in the technical and economic aspects	• Awareness and promotion of citizens rights in the developmental aspects	• Development of Internet related technical Standards and policies	• Coordination of Internet related public policy issues

Internet Governance Forum Matrix

Internet Governance Forum

Multi-stakeholders Advisory Group

Secretariat

Meetings

Dynamic Coalitions

Initiatives

Cybersecurity and Trust; Internet Economy; Inclusiveness and Diversity; Openness; Enhancing Multistakeholder Cooperation; Internet and Human Rights; Critical Internet Resources and Emerging Issues.

Moving Forward - WSIS + 10 Review

- Nation States should avoid actions that would disrupt the benefits of Internet
- Responsibility of member states to protect cyber security and stresses the importance of stakeholder participation in matters of trust and security.
- Promote access to the Internet through encouraging development of infrastructure and Focus on Capacity Building
- Extension of the IGF Mandate for another 10 years
- Continue to encourage participation in international, regional and national discussions on Internet governance while encouraging all actors to develop their capacities
- Continued Dialogue for enhanced cooperation

Shared Principles

Norms and Rules

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Decision Making Procedures

Programs for evolution...

The Politics

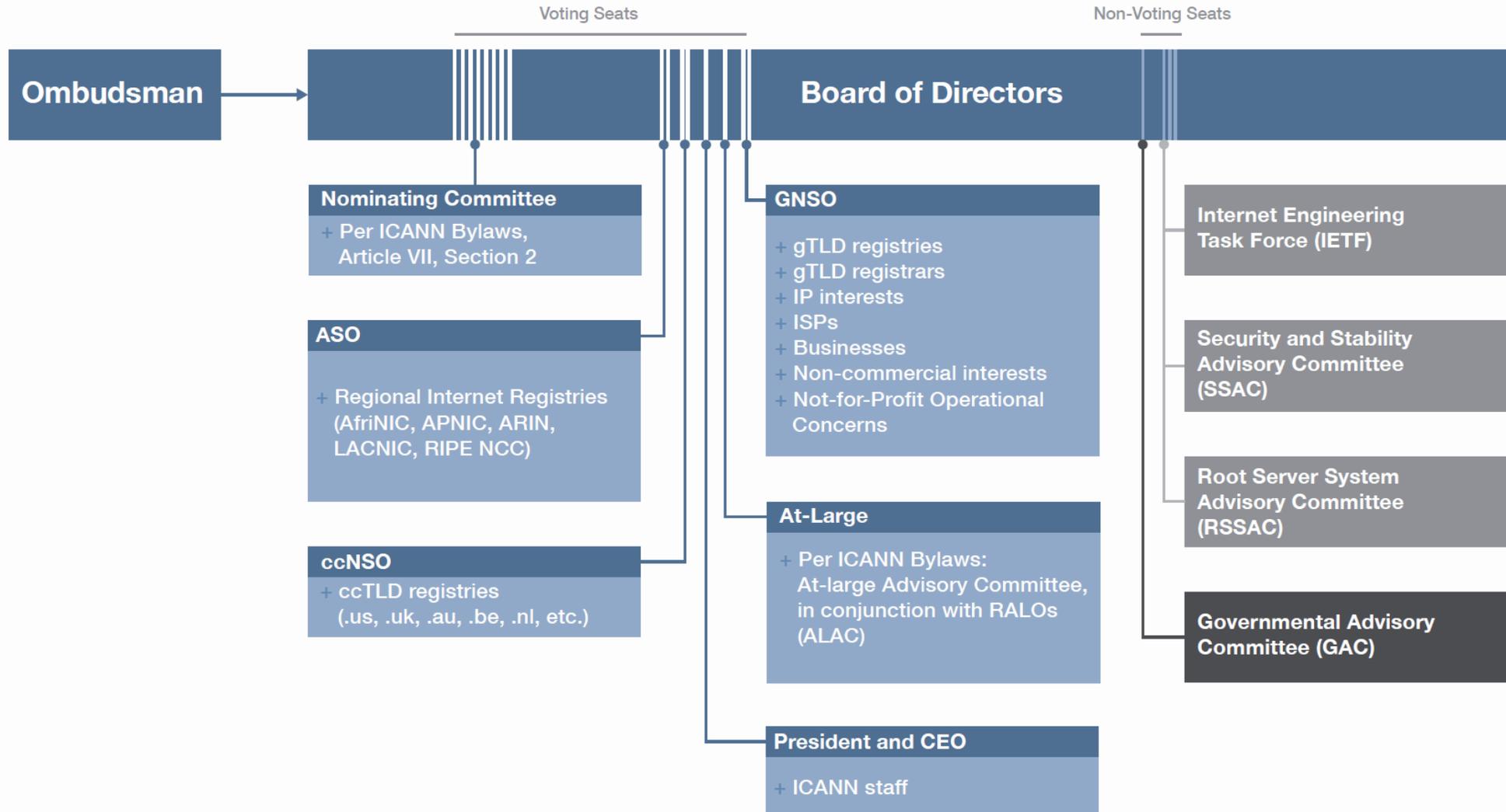Religion Race Nationality Social Class Region (Dis)ability Unity Ethnicity Language Sexuality Gender

PERPECTIVES AND INTERESTS

Definition avoids the main words

- Internet
- Governance

ICANN

Voting Seats

Non-Voting Seats

Ombudsman → **Board of Directors**

Nominating Committee
+ Per ICANN Bylaws,
  Article VII, Section 2

ASO
+ Regional Internet Registries
  (AfriNIC, APNIC, ARIN,
  LACNIC, RIPE NCC)

ccNSO
+ ccTLD registries
  (.us, .uk, .au, .be, .nl, etc.)

GNSO
+ gTLD registries
+ gTLD registrars
+ IP interests
+ ISPs
+ Businesses
+ Non-commercial interests
+ Not-for-Profit Operational
  Concerns

At-Large
+ Per ICANN Bylaws:
  At-large Advisory Committee,
  in conjunction with RALOs
  (ALAC)

President and CEO
+ ICANN staff

**Internet Engineering
Task Force (IETF)**

**Security and Stability
Advisory Committee
(SSAC)**

**Root Server System
Advisory Committee
(RSSAC)**

**Governmental Advisory
Committee (GAC)**

Who Controls the Internet?

The Battle to control the Internet has evolved through the last 15 years

- ITU
- ICANN
- A UN Special Organisation
- The United States of America
- Multi-stakeholders

Who Controls the Internet

- On March 14, 2014, NTIA announced the intention to transition its stewardship role and procedural authority over key Internet domain name functions to the global Internet multistakeholder community.

- NTIA stated that it would not accept any transition proposal that would replace the NTIA role with a government-led or an intergovernmental organization solution.

- For two years, Internet stakeholders have been engaged in a process to develop a transition proposal that will meet NTIA's criteria.

- On March 10, 2016, the ICANN Board formally accepted the multistakeholder community's transition plan and transmitted that plan to NTIA for approval.

- On June 9, 2016, NTIA announced its determination that the transition plan meets NTIA's criteria, that the plan is approved, and that the transition process can proceed pending the completion of ICANN's implementation and testing activities.

- Congress will now assess NTIA's evaluation of the transition plan and evaluate the transition plan itself.

- Meanwhile, legislation has been introduced in the 113th and 114th Congresses which would prevent, delay, or impose conditions or additional scrutiny on the transition.

- WHAT IS THE CASE IN NIGERIA????

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS….