Asia-Pacific School on Internet Governance (APSIG)

Satish Babu, Chair, APSIG
Overview

- Background
- Governance
- APSIG 2020 Annual Meeting
- The Future
• The Asia-Pacific region is large and considerably diverse
• Participation from different regions and nations in Internet Governance (IG) was somewhat low in the last decade
• Many IG practitioners felt the need for a capacity building initiative in the region
• Prof Kilnam Chon took the initiative to found a regional School on Internet Governance (SIG) in 2015
APSIG: Objectives

• APSIG has the following objectives:
  • Provide a capacity building mechanism to IG practitioners &
    national and sub-regional SIGs organizers in Asia-Pacific
    through its annual meeting, in both traditional IG topics as well
    as emerging technologies
  • Provide support to existing SIGs in the region
  • Provide support for setting up new SIGs and related initiatives
  • Provide a platform (“The All SIGs Group”) for SIGs to network
    and discuss matters relevant to them
  • Participate in SIG-related international activities (eg., the IGF
    DC on SIGs)
  • Provide support to other IG initiatives (including IGF and APrIGF)
From 2015 to 2019, APSIG was governed by a small committee chaired by Prof Chon.

In Jan 2019, a committee was set up from the APSIG community to draft APSIG bylaws.

The drafting was completed in Jun 2019 and the bylaws formally adopted in July 2019.

Membership was opened to the community (37 members have joined).

Elections were conducted under the Bylaws and the new Executive Committee took charge on 1 Sep 2019 for a 2-year term.
APSIG Executive Committee

• The elected EC consists of:
  • Satish Babu, Chair (India)
  • Mubashir Sargana, Vice Chair (Pakistan)
  • Dr Govind, Vice Chair (India)
  • Shreedeep Rayamajhi, Secretary (Nepal)
  • Ms. Nadira Al Araj, Treasurer (Palestine)
According to the provisions of the bylaws, APSIG constituted its Advisory Council in Dec 2019.

The following are the members of the Advisory council:

- Prof Kilnam Chon
- Pablo Hinojosa
- Ms. Shita Laksmi
- Leonid Todorov
After discussions within the APSIG and APrIGF communities, it was decided to co-locate APSIG with APrIGF for 2020.

An MoU for this was signed between APSIG, APrIGF Secretariat and the APrIGF 2020 local hosts.

The annual APSIG event is therefore scheduled for 30-31 May 2020 at Kathmandu, just after APrIGF.

Approximately 40 Fellows + 10 local Fellows from Nepal will participate in APSIG 2020.

Details on the program will be available shortly on the APSIG website.
Future Plans

- With its new bylaws and an elected EC, APSIG has progressed closer to being a community-driven initiative.
- The APSIG leadership has decided to work closely with other community organizations within APAC including APTLD.
- The co-location of APSIG was also in this spirit.
- For the future, APSIG hopes it can work effectively as a part of the Asia-Pacific Internet Governance community.
Thank You!