WITSA PROGRESS & ACTIVITY REPORT

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2017

Executive Summary

Highlights

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Secretary General

WITSA

PROGRESS & ACTIVITY REPORT

UN Agencies

UNCTAD

- Great strides have been made between UNCTAD and WITSA in 2015:
  March 2015 MOU signed between UNCTAD (March 24, 2015) Secretary General Kituyi and WITSA Chairman Gutierrez signed this landmark agreement in Geneva, Switzerland at the United Nations Building.

- WITSA hosted a reception for 100 people after the signing reinforcing WITSA's brand.

- SG Poisant participated in UNCTAD's session at WSIS event May 27th in Geneva as a follow up to the MOU;

- Torbjorn Frederickson, UNCTAD accepted an invitation to moderate an International Trade & Economic Development session at WITSA's WCIT 2016 in Brasilia, Brasil.

- SG Kituyi's office contact SG Poisant to express interest in participating in the 2016 WCIT program. SG Poisant it following up.

- SG Kituyi is confirmed as the opening speaker at the WCIT 2016.

- WITSA was approached by UNCTAD to join in its Aid for eTrade Initiative. Additional information is required before WITSA will decided to join; however, it appears very likely that we will join.

- Anders Halvorsen and SG Poisant had a call with Ms. Kati Suominen, one of the principals of the eTrade Initiative to learn more about it.

- A call also took place between stakeholders and UNCTAD on July 1st and the initiative was approved at the July 17-22 UNCTAD Ministerial in Nairobi and was renamed eTrade for All.

- WITSA agreed to be a member of the eTrade Advisory Group, which will be set up by the end of 2016 with a possible meeting in Washington, DC. An initial fee for the first 18 months is $850 for an association member.

- A first meeting of the UNCTAD eTrade for All initiative will likely take place in Geneva in April 2016.

- September 2016- Torbjorn Fredriksson is confirmed as a moderated a trade session at the 2016 WCIT in Brasilia, Brasil on October 4th. WITSA's relationship with UNCTAD remains very strong.

- October 2016-Torbjorn Fredriksson did a brilliant job moderating a plenary session panel on Trade at the WCIT 2016 WITSA congress in Brazil. Unfortunately, SG Kituyi had an unexpected meeting with SG Moon (UN) and missed the Brasil congress. He did however, write a letter of apology to SG Poisant and committed to participate in future WITSA events.

- November-February 2017 The new UNCTAD eTrade for All initiative was launched with a first conference call of members, including WITSA. Disussions focused on activities related to UNCTAD's annual eCommerce Week in Geneva on 24-28 April:

Another preparatory caqll was scheduled for March 23rd.

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Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- WITSA submitted a membership application to ECOSOC on May 27, 2015. The status of application is pending until the UN General Assembly meeting to take place in December.
- Application sent to the Committee on NGOs for consideration in January 2016 and pending committee approval.

On June 15th, we received a response from the NGO Committee would defer a decision until the 2017 regular session, which will take place January 30-February 8, 2017. We have asked Sergei Martynov, WITSA Advisory Council member and former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus to look into the matter as well.

July-No Change

August-Mr. Alberto Padova, Acting Chief at NGO Branch, Office for ECOSOC Support, Department of Economic and Social Affairs UN, on August confirmed that WITSA's application is on schedule to be considered in January 2017.

October/November 2016-WITSA is still waiting to hear from ECOSOC in January 2017.

January-February 2017: The NGO Branch informed WITSA that, at it's January27-February 2nd meeting, two members had concerns regarding WITSA's application. Iran requested that all references to Nizar Zakka be removed on all posted WITSA sites. China requested that WITSA change it's reference to Taiwan in accordance with the UN naming protocols. These requests are not acceptable to WITSA. WITSA will consider re-submitting its application at a future meeting if Iran's and China's objections are withdrawn.

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Internet Governance Forum (IGF)
- October 30, 2015 A Halvorsen & SG Poisant participated in **The High Politics of Internet Governance conference call**-on December 15-16 in New York, the United Nations is convening a General Assembly High-Level Meeting to review the goals of the

World Summit on the Information Society after a decade (WSIS+10) and to craft a future vision for the information society.

- An IGF meeting took place in Brasil (Nov 2015). Silvia Bidart attended the meeting on behalf of WITSA.

- Anders Halvorsen will be attending the IGF meeting 2016

- The 2016 Internet Governance Forum (IGF) will take place on Dec. 6-9 in Guadalajara (theme: 'Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'). Posted on this recently at http://witsa.org/witsa-wp-site/global-news/2016-internet-governance-forum-to-be-held-in-guadalajara-december-6-

- No change in April/May On June 8, WITSA filed a workshop proposal with the Technology Education Institute, and GIIC. The proposed workshop's theme is "Global Digital Economy Supports UN-SDGs"

- July -August No change

- September Anders Halvorsen received word that WITSA has a workshop approved at the 2016 Internet Governance Forum (IGF) will take place on Dec. 6-9 in Guadalajara. Anders is likely to attend.

- October/Nov-no change. Anders attended remotely and was a remote coordinator of the workshop. A workshop report was subsequently submitted to the IGF.

- January-February: No change

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Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)

WITSA members Silvia Bidart and Hossam Elgamal were appointed as members to this prestigious organization. Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)-

- At the March 2016 MAG meeting in Geneva, WITSA members Silvia Bidart and Hossam Elgamal were re-appointed as members to this prestigious organization. Mr. Omar Ansari, CEO of the National ICT Association of Afghanistan (NICTAA) was also appointed for the new term.

- No change in April-November

- January-February 2017: No change.

UNESCO

- Chandrasekhar participated in the conference program on behalf of WITSA in Paris in March 2015.
- On May 27, 2015 SG Poisant met Mr. Cedric Wachholtz, Program Specialist UNESCO, Paris, France in Geneva at the WSIS Forum. Cedric was involved in inviting WITSA to participate in a conference in Paris, France in March 2015. SG Poisant discussed WITSA's potential involvement in UNESCO.
- No change in April 2016-February 2017

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International Trade Center (ITC)

- March 24, 2015, Chairman Gutierrez and SG Poisant met with Andrea Santoni, a representative from the ITC in Geneva to discuss offering WITSA a business benching marking tool.
- SG Poisant met with Martin Labbe and Andrea Santoni at the International Trade Center headquarters in Geneva on May 26th to discuss the ITC's business tool.
- On May 31st SG Poisant evaluated the tool and made recommendations.
- Further discussion is necessary between WITSA & the ITC regarding their tool.
- No change. SG Poisant will visit the ITC the next time in Geneva.
- No Change-July-November 2016.
- December-February 2017 Dr. Poisant once again reviewed a revised tool and found it to be of little value to WITSA members.

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International Telecommunications Union-(ITU) Geneva-ITU 193 Member States

- March 25, 2015-Chairman Gutierrez/Secretary General Poisant met with Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, the head of Strategic Planning and staff to discuss ITU's future plans.
- During the month of May 2015, SG Poisant had several follow-up meetings with the ITU's Secretary General in Geneva. He was aware of WITSA and expressed a desire to work together.
- Mr. Lamanauskas invited SG Poisant to speak at the ITU Telecom World 2015 in Budapest, Hungary http://telecomworld.itu.int/ from Oct 12-15th. SG Poisant accepted

and participated in several sessions, as well as served as a judge in their entrepreneur awards program.

- During the World Summit in Budapest the Emerge Initiative was launched. *Vision of Emerge:* That rich ICT innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in emerging economies are built through close collaboration between public, private, academia and civil society actors, resulting in **small, young and nimble firms with high-growth potential** in the ICT/technology/internet sectors.

- WITSA signed on as an Emerge member.

- In October, WITSA invited the ITU to participate in the WCIT 2016 in Brasil.

- WITSA will continue to pursue a formal relationship with the ITU.

- In December, SG Poisant was notified that Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, the head of Strategic Planning was leaving the ITU for the private sector. SG Poisant wished him well and contacted Mr. Jose Maria Diaz Batanero, from the Strategic Planning Department to continue dialogue between the ITU and WITSA.

- On December 23rd, SG Poisant submitted a request to be a speaker at the 2016 ITU Summit in Bangkok. (Nov 15-18, 2016).

- SG Poisant to have call with ITU on February 1st to discuss Bangkok and Brasil events.

- The ITU provided two potential speakers for the WCIT 2016. It is unlikely two will be selected, as WCIT's traditionally do not have more than one person from any organization speaking. SG Poisant to inform the ITU.

- The ITU appointed Bruno Ramos, Head of ITU's regional office for the Americas to participate in the 2016 congress in Brasil.

- June-The ITU requested and received a WITSA member from Kenya to commit to a speaking at an ITU meeting in Nairobi, Kenya in September 2016. Waudo Siganga appointed Dr. Ogony to speak on Tuesday, 6 September on the subject of "Coping with new skills requirement in a changing ICT environment".

- No Change July/August

- September SG Poisant referred WITSA's member in Bangkok to speak at the ITU's November 2016 meeting.

- No change in October/ November.

- December 2016-February 2017 Dr. Poisant in constant communications with the ITU furthering the possibility of signing a formal agreement. More will be known in March of 2017.

Event website is here: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Capacity-Building/Pages/CBS-2016.aspx

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The World Health Organization is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system

- August 3, 2015-call took place between SG Poisant and Dr. Joan Dzenowagis, eHealth Unit, World Health Organization. It was agreed that Dr. Dzenowagis would moderate the health care session at WCIT 2016.
- SG Poisant sent to Dr. Dzenowagis the MOU with UNCTAD, as she expressed a desire to enter into an agreement with WITSA. SG Poisant to reconnect to review status of MOU.
- SG Poisant is having difficulty connecting with Dr. Dzenowagis to secure speakers for the WCIT 2016 program.
- SG Poisant connected and back on track. Dr. William Magee, the founder and CEO of Operation Smile has been assigned to Dr. D's panel in Brasil.
- No change in April.
- In May and June, a change of WCIT 2016 Health Care moderators was announced by Dr. Dzenowagis. The new person is Dr. Misha Kay from the WHO. SG Poisant and Dr. Kay have been in contact several times as they work on filling the session in Brasilia.
- July-Dr. Kay's session at the WCIT 2016 still needs one additional member to close the session.
- Session for WCIT 2016 set in August.
- September- SG Poisant has established close coordination with Dr. Kay.

- October-Dr. kay informed SG Poisant that he will be retiring in June 2017 and cannot participate in the future for the WHO. SG Poisant will go back to Dr. Dr. Dzenowagis to engage another representative.
- No change in November. It does not appear that health will be topic at the WCIT 2017.
- December 2016-February 2017-The topic of Health Care has been added to the WCIT 2017 program.

World Summit Youth Awards- (WSA) is the global follow-up initiative of the United Nations World Summit on Information Society (WSIS). More than 160 countries are actively involved.

- SG Poisant has participated as a speaker and award granter in Dubai, Montreal, and Austria. This organization offers WITSA a firsthand opportunity to involve the world's youth within WITSA's agenda.
- On May 24 and May 25th - World Summit Youth Awards meetings with SG Poisant took place in Geneva to discuss youth inclusion in WITSA, WCIT events.
- In September, during a visit to Brasilia, SG Poisant met with Ms. Flavia Malkine to discuss working with the Youth Awards during the WCIT 2016 Congress
- November - It is anticipated that an agreement will be signed between the WCIT 2016 project office and the Youth Awards regarding WCIT 2016 participation.
- December - It appears that a miscommunication problem has arisen between WCIT 2016 and the WSA. This could result in a NO GO for the RELATIONSHIP UNLESS RESOVLED.
- SG Poisant acknowledged that the organization was not going to participate in Brasil; however, he asked that they prepare a standard offering for all future WCIT's which they agreed to do.
- In June, Peter Brock is under consideration to sit on WITSA ICT Excellence Awards Selection Committee. He will be notified in July 2016.
- No change in August-September.
- October, SG Poisant will speak to WCIT 2017 to see if we can reengage the Youth Award program.
- No change November-February 2017.

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The NetMundial Initiative-first proposed at the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance (GMMFIG) conference (23–24 April 2014)[1][2][3] and later developed into the NetMundial Initiative by ICANN CEO, Fadi Chehade, along with representatives of the World Economic Forum (WEF)[4] and the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee.

- Initial NETMundial Mtg-San Paulo, Brasil April 23-24, 2014 (WITSA Members attended).

- WITSA paper was submitted and accepted.

- NMI Council resulted from San Paulo meeting-WITSA's SG Poisant was appointed to Council (1 of 5 from Private Sector globally).

- SG Poisant attended the Inaugural meeting scheduled in San Paul, Brasil June 30th.

- Secretary General met privately with:
  -The Secretary/Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Brasil
  -The President & CEO of ICANN, *Fadi Chehadé*
  -The Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Lawrence Strickling, US Department of Commerce.

- SG Poisant attended the Inaugural NetMundial from June 29-30th in San Paulo.

- SG Poisant agreed to work on a subcommittee on the Council.

- November-SG Poisant announced the availability of the NMI portal.

- December-SG Poisant confirmed his participation in the Madrid, Spain council meeting on Feb 26th.

- SG Poisant participated in the NetMundial meeting in Madrid. The meeting resulted in a change of structure and mission of the organization. More information forthcoming as to the future of the initiative and WITSA's involvement.

- The "jury" is still out from WITSA's perspective regarding the mission and value of this organization. An organization called CGI from Brasil has offered to house the administrative function of the initiative.

- A meeting was called for June 8th in Brussels. SG has a scheduled conflict and cannot attend.

- For all intent and purposes, the Net Mundial initiative/Council as originally conceived no longer exists. The result of the councils' work has been absorbed by CGI Brasil.
- July-October- No change (note-Once we enter the New Year of 2017 this subject will be dropped).
- This project and organization is defunct.

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World Economic Forum (WEF) Geneva

- March 26, 2015 WITSA's Secretary General met at WEF Headquarters to discuss future relationship with ICT staff.
- On May 27th, SG Poisant met at WEF's headquarters in Geneva with Bruce Weinelt. Bruce leads up WEF's work on Digital Transformation of Industries. Essentially looking at industry by industry the direction digitisation is taking or in other words, the IT'isation of each industry.
- On May 28, 2015 (Geneva), SG Poisant met Alex Wong, Senior Director, Head, Center for Global Industries (Geneva) Head Basic & Infrastructure Industries.
- WITSA SG Poisant met Virat Bhatia, President AT&T, South Asia (May 28, 2015) Geneva. Very familiar with NASSCOM and Chandrasekhar.
- June 10-SG Poisant met with Alan Marcus in Northern Virginia. Mr. Marcus discussed potential relationship arrangement with SG Poisant. One would be paid membership in the WEF, the other being invited to attend particular meetings as guest experts. The paid membership (60K per year + 29K to attend the annual Davis conference) was discussed but not considered by SG Poisant at this time. The alternative expert relationship appeared to be the best option at this time. Mr. Marcus is to get back to SG Poisant with additional information regarding the expert category of WEF involvement.
- On September 22nd, SG Poisant spoke to Alan Marcus about WITSA's potential relationship with WEF. Mr. Marcus said that WITSA was under consideration as a potential member of WEF's 2016 *Global Agenda Council*. The WEF will select new members of the council in the spring of 2016. If WITSA is selected, WITSA will be invited to participate in major WEF meetings. These meetings may include DAVOS, Switzerland.

- October 2015-SG Poisant attended a private dinner hosted by the WEF in Budapest, Hungary. He was able to forge new contacts, not only at the WEF, but other international organizations to include the governments and UNESCO.

- November 2015-SG Poisant requested that Chairman Gutierrez attend the Davos meeting in Switzerland in 2016. Request pending.

- December-SG once again requested that Chairman Gutierrez be invited to Davos.

- Alan Marcus participated in WITSA's Advisory Council call on January 27th.

- Alan Marcus is the Moderator of a major session at the WCIT 2016-CIO Perspectives. The session is nearly full needing only one more CIO.

- No change in April/May and June.

- July-The moderator for the Brasil congress need to be changed. Confirmation pending.

- August new Moderator assigned from WEF for WCIT 2016.

- October 2017-Danil Mr. Danil Kerimi, Head of IT and Electronics Industries, World Economic Forum moderated the CIO Perspectives Panel-Outstanding job!

- SG Poisant contacted Alan Marcus to see if he could participate in Taipei WCIT 2017.

- November-Alan Marcus expressed an interest in Taiwan.

- December-February 2017 Alan Marcus is confirmed on the WCIT 2017 program as the opening speaker: *Setting the Globlal Stage*.

OECD - The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

- WITSA's Secretary General has had a long relationship with Dr. Andrew Wyckoff, Director of the OECD's Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation.

- Secretary General is presently in discussions with the OECD to work with the *OECD or BIAC*-BIAC- is the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the OECD.

- Dr. Andrew Wyckoff is a confirmed WCIT 2016 speaker.

- October-SG Poisant had a call with BIAC to find out that WITSA as an organization is not eligible to join the BIAC organization; however, WITSA members are eligible. More follow ups necessary with BIAC to have *WITSA members invited to BIAC events*.

- SG Poisant needs to follow up with BIAC.

- June 21-23, 2016 Meeting of the Committee on Digital Economy Policy (CDEP) at Ministerial Level (Cancun, Mexico). December - SG Poisant added contacting BIAC to see how WITSA members can be invited to attend this and other meetings.

- SG Poisant has had several email exchanges with Dr. Wyckoff regarding the session he is moderating at the WCIT in Brasil.

- Dr. Wyckoff 's WCIT 2016 session needs one additional panel member to be completed.

- No change in April/May.

- As of mid-June Dr. Wyckoff's session at the WCIT 2016 is full.

- July- September- No change

- October 2017- Wyckoff moderated the *Digital Agenda* session at the WCIT 2017-As usual great job!

- November 2016-February 2017 Dr. Wycoff said he could not particapte in WCIT 2017 as Taiwan was not an OECD member.

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International Council for IT in Government Administration (ICA) Dropped See December 2015 Report

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CIO Executive Council

- The CEC was launched in 2004 by *CIO* magazine. Current membership includes hundreds of the world's top CIOs from organizations of every size and industry. Nowhere in the world will you find a more concentrated or experienced group of IT leaders than within the CEC. The CEC was launched in 2004 by *CIO* magazine. Current membership includes hundreds of the world's top CIOs from organizations of every size and industry.

- SG Poisant developed a working relationship with the CEC leading up to the WCIT 2014 wherein the council recruited CIO's to take part in the congress – CIO Perspectives Session.

- On July 23, 2015, an agreement was finalized between the Council and WITSA to continue working together to supply CIO's to the WCIT's.

- On July 29, the agreement was sent to the WCIT project heads in Brasil. The essence of the agreement is the CIO Executive Council will recruit CIO's for the WCIT's CIO Perspectives Panel and WCIT 2016 will pay them $1,000.00 per placement. WCIT 2016 approved the agreement.

- November 3, 2015-SG Poisant contacted Brendan McGowan, IDG/CIO Executive Council to discuss initiating the process to recruit new CIO participants for the WCIT 2016.

- December-SG Poisant was contacted by Brendan McGowan with the first list of potential CIO's. SG Poisant selected the top four (4).   Brendan McGowan contacted each-responses pending.

- In January 2016, the CTO of Harley-Davidson Co and the CIO of Johnson & Johnson were confirmed on the WCIT 2016 program.

- No Change in February other than more CIO's are being asked to participate.

- Working with the CIO council has resulted in the CIO/CTO's of Johnson & Johnson, Estee Lauder and Harley-Davidson participating in the CIO Perspectives panel at the WCIT 2016.

- The Bank of Brasil CIO is pending in order to complete the WCIT 2016 CIO session.

- June-Bank of Brasil is confirmed. The CIO Session is completed.

- July-two of the 4 confirmed panel members has expressed concerns over conflict of schedules and airfare cost. J&J and Este Lauder.

- July –Dr. Poisant is working on having the CIO of the White House replace J&J.

- August- the CIO of the White House Tony Scott is confirmed for Brasil.

- October- The CIO of the White House Tony Scott declined Brasil due to White House meeting. However, the CIO session was very successful with Harley-Davidson, Johnson and Johnson and the WEF. Harley-Davidson expressed an interest in participating in Taipei.

- November-SG Poisant confirmed Sean Mc Cormick (Harley Davidson) for Tawain WCIT 2017.

- December 2016-February 2017 no change

<u>The Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization</u>

- On July 21, 2015, SG Poisant received an Invitation to the Annual Forum of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization as a program participant (14th to 16th September 2015) in Nairobi, Kenya. As SG Poisant is scheduled to return to Brasil in support of the WCIR 2016 during this period, he invited Waudo Siganga to take his place on July 21, 2015. Waudo accepted the invitation and is coordinating with the CTO.
- On August 28th, Dr. Siganga received an invitation to participate in the program. He accepted the offer. He reported that the meeting was a success and he enjoyed participating.
- September-Dr. Siganga participated in the CTO Program in Nairobi.
- December-the CTO contact SG Poisant inviting his to attend a meeting in London, England in January 2016- SG Poisant declined, but suggested Julian David attend instead. It was agreed that Mr. David be invited.
- No change in April 2016-February 2017.

<u>Financial Institutions</u>

The Inter-American Development Bank- The IADB works to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education, and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today the IADB the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. The IADB provides loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. The IADB maintains a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of increased integrity, transparency, and accountability.

- WITSA's Secretary General Negotiations underway for WITSA relationship (MOU) with the IADB office of Partnerships. Three meetings between the IADB and SG Poisant have taken place in Washington DC.

- A meeting has been set up between SG Poisant and the IADB Partnership office for September 3, 2015. Meeting has been delayed.

- November 9th, SG Poisant contacted the IADB to reschedule the Partnership meeting.

- December no change.

- January-The IADB pending final approval, agreed to participate in the WCIT 2016 program.

- June-The IADB is confirmed on the WCIT 2016 program. SG Poisant will meet in Brasil to see if an MOU is still possible.

- July/September no change

- October- a meeting between SG Poisant and the IADB in December 2016 to discuss formal partnership.

- November- a meeting in January 2017 has be set up by the bank (Partnership Office) and SG Poisant.

- Janaury meeting took place in Washington DC with Partnership office (results pending)

- February-No change

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The World Bank
- Negotiations underway for WITSA to become a facilitator of funding. The bank will provide to ICT projects.

- October-Luis Stein met with the bank in DC - "Dear Jim, It was really good. I'm waiting for a meeting with the economy undersecretary to try to get this moving. They all know it is a WITSA initiative. Luis".

- December- no change.

- January-Luis Stein is no longer representing Chile within WITSA so it will be difficult track results.

- SG Poisant will work with the bank on filling the WCIT 2016 session.

- The main contact SG Poisant had been working with at the bank was transferred to Singapore. Thanks to Som Mittal former WITSA BOD member, WITSA has a better contact with Naomi Halewood. She will moderate the Public Private plenary session at

the WCIT 2016 and is setting up a meeting wither her director at the bank in DC at the end of May to hopefully begin the process of signing an agreement with the bank.

- No change in April/May.
- June - a new person was confirmed to moderate the PPP session in Brasil. Ms. Samia Melhem, will take the place of Ms. Halewood. She will also participate in the Open data session on October 5th.
- July/September- No change
- October-SG Poisant attending a partnership meeting in Washington DC on October 8th, with the World Bank. Further meetings need to take place.
- November-WB agreed to particate in WCIT 2017.
- December 2016-February 2017- Meeetings took palce in December 2016 and January 2017 in Washington DC. The result was an invitation letter to the banks's president to participate in Taiwan as well as a draft MOU for consideration was sent to the bank.

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WITSA Activities

WITSA's World Congress on IT- Overview

- On September 28, 2014 the WITSA Board of Directors voted to award the WCIT on an annual basis. Four (4) awards were granted as follows:

  2017-Taiwan/2018-India/2019-Armenia/2020-Malaysia

  Status on WCIT license payments:

  WCIT 2016-Paid in full

  WCIT 2017-Paid in full (December 2015)

  WCIT 2018-Paid 1st of 3 payment of \$250K in November 2016.

  WCIT 2019-Paid 100K (December 2015)

  WCIT 2020-Not paid (Contract signed March 2017))

  WCIT 2021-Paid 50K, Contract signed March 2017))
- Secretary General provided all hosts, WITSA's Operations Manual (on WITSA's Site) Manual contains comprehensive planning chart.
- All hosts with tailored Host Agreements. Taiwan and Armenia are signed.
- SG Poisant traveled to Taiwan, Armenia, India and Brasil (Several cities)

- Chairman Gutierrez traveled to Taipei, Taiwan during the week of October 18th for the official WCIT 2017 contract signing.

- Secretary General recruited and confirmed 22 key speakers for program.

- January-WITSA promoted Anders Halvorsen to Vice President Global Public Policy and hired, Ms. Cathryn Rainey (new hire), as Director Administration. In accordance with WITSA approved budget and Business plan for 2016.

- Secretary General recruited and confirmed over key speakers for program (Feb).

- SG Poisant is scheduled to visit Taipei in mid-March 2016. (Completed)

- WCIT 2018 Contract under WITSA's legal review-should be signed by the end of March. If signed, India is committed to pay $250K per year starting in 2016.

- SG Poisant was notified that the 150K payment from Armenia is in process for WCIT 2019.

- WITSA received the Armenian payment. (Paid in Full)

- WITSA conducted the spring BOD meeting in Canberra, Australia-very successful meeting. WITSA awarded its highest honor the Eminent Person's Award to the co-father of Wi-Fi (both Australians).

- The WCIT 2018 agreement remains unsigned at the end of March. India (NASSCOM) has a number of changes that have yet to be resolved.

- SG Poisant is hopeful that the hosting agreement will be signed by the end of this month (April) (Agreement signed).

- WITSA Secretariat announced the nomination process for the 2016-2018 BOD.

- WITSA launched the 2016 WCIT Marketing Campaign on April 27th.

- WCIT 2018 was signed.

- Weekly marketing (email and Social Media messages) are being sent to WITSA, as well as Brazil's extended market.

- Over 90% of all speakers on the WCIT 2016 program were confirmed in June 2016.

- July 31-August 5th Dr. Poisant traveled to Delhi and Hyderabad, India. Along with Chandrasekhar and Shivendra Singh met with the Federal ICT Minister in Delhi and the ICT Minister in Hyderabad. Dr. Poisant also visited the NASSCOM office in Hyderabad and Delhi as well as visited the proposed WCIT 2018 Conference Center in Hyderabad.

- October-all paperwork has been submitted to NASSCOM, India for 1st payment of $250K for WCIT 2018.

- WCIT 2016 **WCIT 2016 Statistics**

   Attendance:

- 2,017 registered delegates
- 50 countries represented, with almost 400 people from outside Brazil,

   Media
- Almost 28,000 participated through WCIT 2016 Facebook page
- Over 80 international and domestic media outlets
- Top Twitter trending topic on Tuesday, October 4, 2016

B2B
- 500 business meetings between 150 companies

Impact
- 28 hours of debate and 63 speakers at the event
- Generated 700 jobs

"We wish to reiterate the gratitude and admiration of all of us, in Assespro,

of the outstanding support and work we are getting from you and your team."

Raul Colcher, WITSA Director/ASSESPRO

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WCIT Host Meetings (Conference Calls)

SG Poisant scheduled period meetings with all WCIT host in 2016

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WITSA's Global Policy Action Committee (GPAC)

- Policy Issues vetting process was competed and five (5) 2015 Policy priorities Identified: 1) Women in IT, 2) Cyber Security, 3) Internet Governance, 4) International Trade, 5) Cross Border Information

- Status on each paper will be provided during the BOD meeting.

- Status on all five papers was presented to the BOD in December 2015 in Delhi, India.

- Status was also presented to WITSA Advisory Council on January 27th during call. Four of the papers should be released for final review NLT Feb 15, 2016.

- Deadline was missed for paper approval and distribution.

- In March, three major papers were released on: 1) Women in IT 2) Internet Governance 3) Global Trade
- One papers remain in the works from 2015: Cyber security
- As a result of the BOD meeting in Canberra and the 2015 survey a group of new papers topics have been agreed upon and will be worked on in 2016.
- July-September-Papers still in progress.
- October-Skills Gap and Cyber Security papers are in draft.
- November: Final draft Skills paper circulated for comment. Digital transformation paper being drafted.
- December: Skills paper finalized
- January-February: No change

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Membership Survey

- More members responded than ever before.
- 2014 Member Survey Completed-Results presented to BOD on May 22, 2015.
- Results of survey were used in the 2016 Business Plan.
- December-preparations are underway to send the 2015 Member Survey out.
- Survey was sent January 2016.
- Survey completed on time.
- Results to be report the Board of Directors in Canberra, Australia on March 10th.
- Results were presented to the WITSA BOD on March 9th and 10th.
- No Changes in July
- September/November-2017 Survey in draft-to be released in December 2016.
- December: Survey circulated to members
- February 2017: Survey closed, results published in preparation of March BOD meeting

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WITSA's Global Advisory Council

- April 23 2015-Conducted 1st Quarter meeting (Conference call).

- Next meeting scheduled for January 2016.

- Several council meetings are involved in WITSA's WCIT programs.

- Call took place on January 27, 2016-well attended by council and WITSA members. Minutes will be posted on WITSA's site.

- Minutes were posted from January meeting.

- Google paid for 2016 membership. Softchoice payment pending in September.

- November-February 2017 no change.

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WITSA's Global Partner Program

- Gary Gong, Vice President, III Taiwan and SG Poisant signed renewal agreement. This renewal is the second with III.

- Mexico IT renewed its program membership for 2015 (4th year)

- No new members.

- July- ITRI is the Taiwan Member-Payment pending for 2016

- No change in September/October.

- SG Poisant is scheduled for a week-long visit to Taipei from December 3rd-9th.

- SG Poisant visit to Taipei from December 3rd-9^{th (took place)}

- November-Janaury No change.

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WITSA Meetings:

- February 12-14, 2015: Deputy Chairman Roger Lachman/Secretary General/ and Brasil WCIT 2016 delegation in Attendance (NASSCOM Leadership Forum/India.

- Secretary General met several times with the Brazilian Delegation to review outstanding aspects of the NASSCOM Leadership Forum.

- Secretary General met with R. Chandrasekhar and Shivendra Singh to discuss Chandrasekhar's role representing WITSA at OECD in Paris in March 2015.

- February 24, 2015 WITSA BOD Meeting.

- March 26, 2015, WITSA's Vice President of Administration hosted a Viet Nam delegation (WITSA Member VINASA) in Northern Virginia at the Northern Virginia Technology Council and the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

- April 3, 2015 Secretary General, VP Administration met the ITI's new VP International Relations (Washington DC) to brief him on WITSA and ITI's future involvement.

- Secretary General met with both the IADB and World Bank during the 1st qtr of 2015.

- November 17, 2014 Secretary General met with Vint Cerf to award him WITSA's Eminent Person's Award.

- May 14, 2015-Secretary General and VP Administration visited and reviewed venue and hotel sites for WITSA's May 20-22, 2015 BOD Meeting.

- Discuss potential of partnering with the ICT World Congress in Latin America in coordination with Luis Stein (agreement not reached).

- On May 26, 2015 SG Poisant met Ms Loide Lungamenti, Chief Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, UN Division for Treaty Affairs loide.lungamenti@unodc.org VIENNA, Austria. Ms Lungamenti expressed an interest in being associated with WITSA. SG Poisant sent UNCTAD/WITSA MOU to her on June 2, 2015 to continue the dialogue between organizations.

- On May 27, 2015 SG Poisant meet with David Gross (Former UN Ambassador to the UN) Prior to joining Wiley Rein (law firm), Gross served as the U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs from 2001 to 2009.

- SG Poisant arranged a meeting between CISA, Taiwan and Mr. Matthias Ifesieh of ITAN Nigeria in Taipei, Taiwan on June 3rd 2015.

- May 20-22- WITSA BOD meeting in Northern Virginia, USA. In addition to the BOD meeting Chairman Gutierrez conducted a Strategic Planning meeting and workshop.

- May 27, 2015 SG Poisant met with Lynn St Amour, the President/CEO of Internet Matters. She was the former President of the Internet Society (ISOC). The meeting centered on her thoughts regarding the NetMundial Initiative/Council.

- May 28, SG Poisant met Tarek Kamel, Senior Advisor to the President of ICANN. Mr. Kamel was the former IT Minster for Egypt. SG Poisant has known him in that capacity

since 2010. Minister Kamel has agreed to participate in WITSA's Advisory Council as well as WCIT 2016.

- June 10, 2015 SG Poisant to meet in Washington DC with Alan Marcus, Senior Director, Head of Information Technology and Telecommunications Industries, World Economic Forum USA to discuss WITSA/WEF relationship.

- July 2, 2015, SG Poisant introduced the CEO of WCIT 2016 to Luis Stein as she was traveling to Chile.

- SG Poisant confirmed the State Department on the WCIT 2016 program.

- On August 19, SG Poisant received a letter from US Treasury Department regarding WITSA request to allow the Iranian Guild (ICT Association) join WITSA

- August 4, 2015 NASSCOM confirmed the dates of December 4 & 5th for the Fall BOD meeting in Delhi.

- September 4-11 Taipei, Taiwan SG Poisant met with core WCIT 2017 team and government officials.

- September 12-18, Brasilia, Brasil, SG Poisant met with core WCIT 2016 team, government officials and potential sponsors.

- October 12-16, SG Poisant participated in the ITU World conference in Budapest, Hungary

- October 19-23, Chairman Santiago Gutierrez traveled to Taipei, Taiwan for the official signing the WCIT 2017 contract as well as to meet with senior government officials included the Vice President of Taiwan.

- November 11-12. Chairman Gutierrez traveled to Northern Virginia to meet with Anders Halvorsen and Jim Poisant to prepare for the December 2015 BOD meeting in Delhi, India. Business plan and budget for 2016 were reviewed and revised.

- December 3-5 WITSA held its fall BOD meeting in Delhi, India. The meeting resulted in a number of important decisions to include the approval of the 2016 Business Plan and Budget. As a direct result of the meeting there was a requirement to add a number of new tasks and functions. These will be added to future the Status reports in the form of a Milestone/Strategic Planning chart.

- Committee and BOD meetings are scheduled dot take place in Canberra, Australia on March 9-10th. Meetings took place.

- Chairman Santiago Gutierrez and SG Poisant have a scheduled visit to Brasilia from April 10-15th to conduct a major review of the WCIT 2016 project.
- Chairman Santiago Gutierrez and SG Poisant traveled to Brasilia and San Paulo in June attending several meetings to include meeting the new President of Brasil.
- A special report on the trip was published in July.
- July-Special WCIT 2016 & WCIT 2017 Special Report produced. Very good feedback.
- October-WCIT 2916 took place in Brailia, Brasil.
- November-February 2017: no changes

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"The Nominating Committee convened via conference call on August 16, 2016 in order to discuss and approve a slate of Director and Chairperson nominees, as required by the Bylaws. The meeting was Chaired by Dr. Jim Poisant and was attended by committee members Carlos Funes Garay, Tim Conway and Sabur Khan as well as WITSA staff Anders Halvorsen and Cathryn Rainey. Mr. Gilberto Romero Ríos of Softeck also was on the call. The Committee approved a slate of 25 Director nominees and 2 Chairperson nominees, which was announced to the membership on August 16th."

- September-Preparations are underway for General Assembly and WITSA Board of Directors meeting in October.
- October 1 & 2, 2016, WITSA held its General Assembly and BOD meetings in Brasilia, Brazil. Please see minutes of meeting posted on WITSA's site.
- November-2017 Budget, Busainess Plan and US Association member application in process for BOD's approval.
- December-February 2017 no change

End of Report