COUNCIL

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REVISION OF THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE (ICCP)

(Note by the Secretary General)
1. The mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP Committee) expires on 31 December 2008.

2. The ICCP Committee has long provided expertise as a forum for policy discussions related to the Internet and information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the areas of communications, information economy and digital content, information security and privacy protection. Over the last decade, ICCP work has provided a sound basis for the development of policies and practices to foster growth of, and build trust in, the digital economy. In 2005, in the light of the rapid technological developments and changes in the economy and society, such as social networks, sensors, mobile access or fibre optics, the Committee proposed to the Council the organisation of a Ministerial meeting, to be held in Seoul, to analyse broad trends and policies that will shape the future of the Internet economy, a concept inclusive of the full range of economic, social and cultural activities supported by the Internet and related information and communication technologies.

3. The main outcome of the June 2008 Ministerial meeting was the adoption of the Seoul Declaration on the Future of the Internet Economy by the 30 OECD Member countries as well as 9 non-members and the European Community. The Declaration which outlines core values and basic principles to guide further development of the Internet Economy was supported by the ICCP committee report Shaping Policies for the Future of the Internet Economy. The report set the policy context based on contributions from five OECD Committees, including consumer policy, education, public governance, health and development, and covered many different issue areas aimed at facilitating convergence, stimulating creativity, strengthening confidence, and expanding the opportunities for global economic, social and cultural development. Specific guidance was also developed for the meeting in eight areas, including two new Council Recommendations.

4. In the coming years, through its programme of work, the ICCP Committee will continue to contribute its expertise, especially in areas with economic and social dimensions, and increase the coordination of its activities with Non-Members, other international organisations and entities to achieve the objectives articulated by Ministers in the Seoul Declaration.

5. In the light of the above, the ICCP revised its mandate at its meeting on 11-12 December 2008. The revision, set out in the draft Resolution in Annex I hereto, aims at furthering the Seoul Ministerial objectives through the Committee’s next Programmes of Work, and to review progress made at national and international levels. It is proposed, in accordance with the established practice that this mandate remain in force for a period of five years, until 31 December 2013.

6. At the same meeting, the ICCP also undertook, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure, an evaluation of the continuing relevance of its subsidiary bodies, considered and agreed that all four working parties supported the achievement of the Committee’s objectives as defined in its Programme of Work and Budget and should be maintained (see Annex II hereto), with revised mandates.

7. The ICCP revised mandate would supersede all previous provisions concerning the mandate of the Committee. An In-depth Evaluation of the Committee will take place in 2009. The ICCP will return to the Council to propose a revision of its mandate should the recommendations of the In-depth evaluation or other major developments warrant such a change.

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1 Chile, Egypt, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Latvia, Senegal and Slovenia.
Proposed Action

8. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

a) noted document C(2008)209;

b) adopted the draft Resolution concerning the mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy as set out in the Annex I to document C(2008)209, which shall enter into force from 1 January 2009.
ANNEX I

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL
REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council of 10 March 2005 concerning the Terms of Reference of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy [C(2005)26; C/M(2005)6];

Having regard to the proposed revision of the mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy [C(2008)209];

Having regard to the role of the Internet Economy in stimulating global sustainable economic growth and prosperity and to the ever increasing need for a consultative mechanism within the OECD whereby information, computer and communications policy problems of a national and international nature can be examined by Member countries, in co-operation with non Members, international organisations and non-governmental stakeholders, as appropriate, and reported to the Council;

Having regard to the 2008 Seoul Ministerial Declaration for the Future of the Internet Economy [SG(2008)99/FINAL] and to the OECD Report on Shaping Policies for the Future of the Internet Economy which was welcomed by Ministers, and to the leading role to be played by the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy in the follow-up to the Seoul Ministerial meeting;

DECIDES:

The Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy has the following mandate:

1. The Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy shall be responsible for promoting the policy and regulatory environments needed for the expansion of the Internet and information and communications technologies (ICTs) as a driver of innovation, productivity, growth, sustainable development, and social well-being. It will also be responsible for strengthening co-operation in this field between the Member countries and, as appropriate, between Member countries and non-Members.

2. The Committee shall, in particular, examine policy issues arising from the development and increasing use of the Internet and ICTs, and develop policies to:

   a) Support innovation, investment, and competition in ICTs and related areas across the economy and society, and encourage creativity in the development and use of the Internet and ICT goods and services as a leading area of innovation;
b) Facilitate convergence of digital networks, devices, applications and services, and promote ubiquitous access to ICT networks and services calling the attention of Member governments to the major implications of such developments.

c) Contribute to strengthening the resilience and security of information systems and networks as well as the protection of privacy to enhance trust in the use of Internet and ICT goods and services.

d) Foster co-operation among Member countries and facilitate the development, and, as appropriate, the co-ordination of their policies at the national and international levels.

e) Promote exchange of experience among Member countries in the information, computer and communication policy areas, including the development of indicators to measure the information society.

3. The Committee shall determine the strategic orientations of its subsidiary bodies, and receive regular reports from them to ensure the co-ordination of their activities in furthering these orientations.

4. The Committee shall maintain close working relationships with other relevant bodies within the OECD to ensure complementarity of efforts and effective use of resources. In the conduct of its work, the Committee will also, as appropriate, draw on the views and expertise of non-Members, international organisations and non-governmental stakeholders, and work with business, trade-unions, civil society, and the Internet technical community within a framework of co-operation that promotes mutual understanding and participation.

5. The mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy shall remain in force until 31 December 2013.
ANNEX II

EVALUATION OF THE ICCP COMMITTEE’S SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. In accordance with article 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure of the OECD, prior to proposing the renewal of its own mandate, the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP Committee) has undertaken an evaluation of the continuing relevance of its sub-structure the results of which are summarised in this annex for submission to the Council together with the proposed renewal of the Committee’s mandate.


3. Based on information submitted by the working parties in support of their evaluation, the ICCP Committee has examined the continuing relevance of its subsidiary bodies based on the following criteria:

- Have the working parties performed appropriately in the past?
- Is there still a rationale for the working parties’ continued existence as a means for fulfilling the Committee’s mandate?

4. Commonly accepted evaluation criteria (i.e. relevance, efficiency and effectiveness - including impact of the work on non-members/Enhanced Engagement countries), the results of the most recent PIR and the MTO exercises, and the outcomes of the Seoul Ministerial and the proposed ICCP PWB for 2009-2010 helped guide and inform the Committee discussion.

5. In light of its discussion on the need and appropriateness of the continued existence of its working parties and on the proposed revisions to their mandates, the Committee agreed that all four working parties supported the achievement of the Committee’s objectives as defined in its Programme of Work and Budget and should be maintained for an additional five-year period. The rationale that led the Committee to reach this conclusion is summarised below.

Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy (WPCISP)

6. The Working Party on Communication Infrastructures and Services Policy analyses developments in communications markets and services and their policy implications. In this context the work has focused on three key themes: i) develop and collect comparable telecommunication performance data and indicators; ii) analyse the impact of new technologies and services and their implications for

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3 The working parties provided information on major recent outputs they wanted to highlight; brief outlines of their planned main contributions to the ICCP PWB for 2009-2010 and the overall goals of the Seoul Ministerial; and proposed revisions to the mandates.
4 Cf. analysis of the 2005-06 PIR results [DSTI/ICCP(2007)26]
competition and policy in communication markets; iii) examine issues specific to the development, deployment and efficient functioning of the Internet. It is under the auspices of this group that the *Communications Outlook* is produced: a biennial publication presenting the most recent comparable data on the communication sector performance and provides information on policy frameworks in OECD countries. The publication is linked to the Telecommunication Database which provides time series of telecommunication indicators, such as network dimension, revenues and investment, from 1980 to 2007 and is used extensively across the OECD by regulators, government departments, industry and academia.

7. In the context of the Seoul Ministerial the working party provided background documents and Policy Guidance on Next Generation Networks, and Empowering and Protecting Consumers in Communication Services.

8. In meeting the strategic objectives of the ICCP Committee the CISP Working Party will, in its work programme for 2009-10 concentrate in three keys areas: i) Communication markets. Policy and regulation; ii) Network developments in support of innovation and user needs; iii) Performance indicators (including the Communications Outlook). A number of analytical reports have been proposed for these areas including an examination of the development and delivery of broadband services, the geographic development of network competition, and an examination of how competition can promote access and innovation in support of the global Internet economy. In undertaking its work over the next five years the Working Party will also work towards fulfilling the goals set by the Seoul Ministerial on *The Future of the Internet Economy*. This will include work to explore the prospects for a Council Recommendation on empowering consumers in communication services. In addition, the Working Party will examine policy options to ensure a level playing field for competition, analyse how to stimulate investment and competition in the development of high capacity infrastructures and policies to ensure that broadband networks and services are developed to attain the greatest practical national coverage and use.

**Working Party on the Information Economy (WPIE)**

9. The Working Party on the Information Economy analyses development of the information technology sector, the economic and social implications of development, application and use of ICTs across the economy and society, and draws out policy implications and undertakes national policy reviews as appropriate. In this context, the work has focused on three key themes: i) analysing the impact of new technologies, the Internet and their applications in areas including digital content, employment and offshoring, social use of ICTs and associated policy implications; ii) examining issues related to creativity, innovation, development and use of specific new technologies, in areas including RFID, public sector information and high speed broadband and their policy implications; and iii) developing indicators in new and emerging areas to underpin analysis. It is under the auspices of this group that the biennial publication of the *Information Technology Outlook* is produced. Presenting the most recent comparable data on the IT sector and ICT applications and use across the economy and society, this publication provides a comparative overview of policy developments and new policy priorities in OECD countries. It is linked to and provides original inputs into the Key ICT Indicators series and as well as providing inputs into the Broadband Portal. The data and analysis published in the *Information Technology Outlook* are used extensively across the OECD by government departments, industry and experts.

10. In the context of the Seoul Ministerial the Working Party initiated new work on ICTs and the environment covering both the impacts of the ICT industry on the environment and the potential of ICTs to be innovatively used to improve environmental performance, and this is seen to be of major importance by Member countries, as witnessed in the interventions on this subject at the Seoul Ministerial. The working party also provided a series of background documents, Policy Guidance and a Council Recommendation on PSI as well as contributing (with the WPCISP) to monitoring the OECD Council Recommendation on Broadband Development.
11. In meeting the strategic objectives of the ICCP Committee the Working Party will, in its work programme for 2009-10 concentrate on four key areas: i) Networked ICTs and their impacts on the Economy and Society, including ICTs and the environment, new growth sectors, and impacts on growth and employment; ii) ICT enabled innovation, including creativity, research, innovation and networked collaboration, and sensor-based environments; iii) Benchmarking ICT, particularly the Information Technology Outlook; iv) Country analysis and reviews (on a voluntary basis).

12. In undertaking its work over the next five years the Working Party will work towards fulfilling the goals set by the Seoul Ministerial on The Future of the Internet Economy, particularly in working towards Realising the Future of the Internet Economy. This will include synthesis of the work on networked ICTs and their impacts on the Economy and Society, in particular working towards achieving sustainable economic growth and employment, identifying the role of ICTs in improving environmental performance and working towards a Council Recommendation on ICTs and the environment.

**Working Party on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP)**

13. With a focus on balancing the inter-related goals of information security and privacy (ISP), the WPISP contributes to building user trust in the Internet and information and communication technologies (ICT) and thus, to foster the development of government, business and individual online activities. In this context, the work has focused on: i) monitoring developments in ICT to analyse the economic and social implications of emerging technologies, applications and services for ISP policy development; ii) Fostering a common understanding of various approaches and developing policy recommendations to encourage coordination of national policies related to ISP and to facilitate cross-border co-operation in their implementation; iii) Assessing the implementation of OECD instruments related to ISP; and iv) Increasing collaboration with Non-Members and other international organisations and stakeholders in its areas of competence. It is under the auspices of this working party that several Council Recommendations, such as the Privacy and Security Guidelines, have been developed and are recognised as key reference frameworks by the broader international community.

14. Many of the recent and future WPISP outputs (e.g. analytical report on Malware, Policy Guidance on radio frequency identification (RFID), Council Recommendations on cross-border enforcement of privacy laws or protection of critical information infrastructures) are part of a continuing and collaborative effort which led to the Seoul Ministerial and will contribute to achieving the strategic policy goals set out by Ministers and by the ICCP work programme for 2009-2010. Over the next five years, the Working Party will in particular: i) examine the development of multi-stakeholder co-operative mechanisms to achieve policy goals associated with the Internet Economy; ii) expand the discussion on the interrelated issues of information security and privacy to all concerned stakeholders and other international organisations to assess the impacts of technology and globalisation developments on existing security and privacy policy frameworks (global privacy dialogue and partnerships to combat malware); iii) establish a framework for digital identity protection and management; iv) analyse the emerging RFID and sensor-based ICT environment to both explore implications on innovation and better understand how to realise the full benefits of these technologies; and v) develop indicators for the Internet Economy with a focus on security and trust.

15. As part of its contribution towards fulfilling the goals set by the Seoul Ministerial on The Future of the Internet Economy, the Working Party will focus part of its work on the protection of minors online.

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6 The rationale for the creation of the WPISP has been underpinning the Working Party’s activities since 1995: "balancing the often complementary and occasionally competing goals of security, privacy [and protection of intellectual property – suppressed in 1998] on the information highway (...) to maximise the economic benefits of the GI and to give full effect to desired social visions".
Finally, WPISP will continue to actively participate in the accession process and strengthen the engagement of Brazil and India, and of the other Enhanced Engagement countries, in its work.

**Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS)**

16. The Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society measures and analyzes the diffusion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and their impact on the economy and the society. In this context the work has focused on three key themes: i) develop international standards for the measurement of ICTs; ii) collect comparable data according to these standards and develop new indicators on ICTs; iii) analyse the impact of ICT on economic growth and productivity as well as on social behavior. It is under the auspices of this working party that the *The OECD Guide to Measuring the Information Society* is produced. This publication provides a single entry to all statistical standards developed by the WPIIS. These cover the definition of the "ICT sector" and the "Content and media sector"; classifications for ICT goods, ICT services and products of the Content and media sector; definitions of electronic commerce and Internet commerce transactions; and model questionnaires and methodologies for measuring ICT use and e-commerce by businesses, households and individuals. The Guide is updated every second year. It is worth noting that the collection of ICT data in the European Union largely relies on the OECD model questionnaires for households and business originally developed by the WPIIS. Further, changes in the statistical system to capture new development in the ICTs are closely co-ordinated between the OECD and EUROSTAT.

17. In the context of the Seoul Ministerial the Working Party developed a *Statistical Profile on “The Future of the Internet Economy”*. 

18. In undertaking its work over the next five years the Working Party will also work towards fulfilling the goals set by the Seoul Ministerial on “The Future of the Internet Economy”. In particular, its work programme for 2009-10 will concentrate in two keys areas:

- ICTs as an enabler of scientific research and innovation.
- The impact of ICTs on economic performance, notably on productivity and growth, and social well-being, particularly through improved access to education, health and government services in co-operation with other relevant OECD Working Parties (WPIE, WPIA and NESTI).