Exclusive panel on Identity Management, Privacy and Security Achieves Success at the World Economic Forum Meeting in Davos 2014

Geneva 28th January, 2014 – At the roundtable on Addressing Identity of People and Things, Privacy, Security and Trust on the Cloud, a distinguished panel composed of Neelie Kroes, European Commissioner; Humberto Ribeiro, SCS - Ministry of Development, Brazil; Prof Thomas Andersson, IKED; Prof. Alex “Sandy” Pentland, MIT and Marina Grigorian, Fraunhofer “FOKUS”, discussed the future of identity management and data governance under the moderation of Carlos Moreira.

The main sponsor of the event was WISEKey, a Global Growth Company Partner of the World Economic Forum:

Co-sponsors were the International Secure Electronic Transactions Organization (OISTE) of Switzerland and also members of the GINI consortium, notably the International Organisation for Knowledge Economy and Enterprise Development of Sweden, and Fraunhofer “FOKUS” of Germany.

Trust and security matter, concluded the panel. The fundamental right to privacy is now at stake. The entire development of digital communication is affected because people won't use what they can't trust. That applies to basically all kinds of applications, from people considering whether to join social networks or businesses or governments to rely on cloud computing.

The panel weighted the challenges of scaling up user-centric solutions, finding enough venture capital and sufficient support from professional business services against the
enormous expansion of mobile telephony and the shaping of a multi-polar world with new underwater cable connections, where emerging players like Brazil are engaged.

“I want to see European companies taking advantage of the renewed interest in providing services with better privacy protection and security”, said Commissioner Kroes. The participants called for collaboration around faster-moving experimental projects in which the new demands of users help feeding processes of entrepreneurial innovation in digital identity and personal data management.

Building on the results of the GINI project, the International Organisation for Knowledge Economy and Enterprise Development (IKED) of Sweden, Fraunhofer “FOKUS” of Germany, and the International Secure Electronic Transactions Organization (OISTE) of Switzerland, proposed to launch an effort engaging high-tech companies, a range of service providers and civil society in the generation of user-centric solutions applicable to health, education and business creation catering for the imminent arrival of 5 new billion Internet users. A new generation of operator functions - acting within the framework of a multi-corner model - would set out to enable users, relying parties, and data bases to interoperate while ensuring users have control over their identities and personal information.