

Thematic Workshop



International Secure Electronic Transactions Organization,
(OISTE)

“Matching the speed of the running code: public awareness
and digital identity management”

Wednesday 16 May 2012

11:00 -13:00

Room VII

Debated Issues	<p><i>What do we understand by digital identity? Are the notions clear? Do we have semantic problems to undertake a constructive dialogue?</i></p> <p><i>We do not seem to have yet a sufficient understanding of the commercial incentives and the drivers for the use and the supply of digital identity and attributes.</i></p> <p><i>We are confronted with several paradoxes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• the issue will not disappear by just saying that providing a digital identity is first of all a government obligation or prerogative...</i><i>• it will not be completely solved either by letting private initiative take care of it</i><i>• ... collaboration is not only needed, it is unavoidable.</i><i>• Solutions that are proposed on a top-down direction, coming either from governments or from industry or even from an alliance of government and businesses will not work if users refuse to incorporate them...</i><i>• But the users do not understand all the issues that lie behind the creation of a digital identity or the control of the information that they generate... that is why educating users becomes a priority under the present circumstances.</i>
Quotes	<p>Christine Runnegar, Internet Society: <i>“Is the identity ecosystem a series of islands, developing standards in isolation...? Is this a land grab, a race for market dominance...? Where is the monetary value concentrated in the identity ecosystem? Who is getting the largest share?”</i></p> <p>Thomas Andersson, IKED: <i>“We move into a paradox here: there is no way of having a top-down ideal solution... neither governments nor businesses working together will come with a solution... but bottom-up does not work either... the</i></p>

	<p><i>individuals out there... they are not aware of how their information is being used... They swim in information but they do not see behind the scene... Are they interested? Do they care?"</i></p> <p>Juan Avellán, WISeKey: <i>"In the next 10 years, digital identity will have a critical importance... There are many reasons... one of them is the exponential growth of data. In 5 to 7 years, data will be duplicating every 15 or 30 seconds... Doing a search the way we do it now, will not be possible any more... instead of you finding the data, the data will need to find you... and in order to find you it needs to identify you, somehow".</i></p> <p>Kick WILLEMSE, OpenId: <i>"We need a central body that overlooks this dialogue. It is difficult to pinpoint all the different initiatives. We need an international organization that is dealing with the identity ecosystem and the search for standards... Who brings things together and give the trust to all the people involved that that is the direction to go".</i></p> <p>Carlos Moreira, WISeKey: <i>"Maybe we are overwhelming consumers by trying to create such a perfect and neutral and trustworthy and interoperable identity that nobody is actually using it... perhaps a more grass-root approach is to educate the end users about the subject of digital Ids... OpenId has done an amazing job in managing that aspect, because the question we are confronted with all the time is... why do I need to move from a password to a digital Id? If you provide a convincing answer to that question, then you have 95 % of the market talking the same language".</i></p> <p>Bruno Schröder, Microsoft: <i>"We are now in a phase when digital sociology is building up. We must understand it. It is changing almost every day. The behaviour of the individual in the digital environment is something that we cannot predict. It is happening at the moment within much wider communities to what we are used to. Think about the billion people in social networks and the possibilities that this opens up. A new type of social mechanism will appear. It will set its own rules. We need to understand this digital sociology for formulating identity solutions..."</i></p> <p>Abbie Barbir, ITU Study Group 17: <i>"User-centricity is ok, but It has to be taken into context of what it means. A user can specify in some cases whether he prefers an Id provider or an attributes provider... but at the end of the day, for any ecosystem to work, is the relying party, the one that is really providing the service and taking the risk that counts".</i></p>
<p>Main Outcomes of the Session</p>	<p><i>There are many transactions in Internet where digital identification is not necessary... There are also many occasions when the end user may have respectable reasons to desire to remain anonym or to use a fake identity...Anonymity or pseudo anonymity may even have a positive value in allowing users belonging to disadvantaged minorities to interact with other end users without the barriers of prejudice...However, everybody agreed on the importance of making progress in finding digital identity solutions that are easy to use, secure, inter-operable and adaptable to the different and always changing needs of the end user. The complexity of the issue is such that no magic-bullet will respond to all the requirements... what seems more likely is that a system of systems will slowly emerge.</i></p>

The Emerging Trends relevant to the Action Line in the context of the WSIS +10 process

- *Educating Internet users about digital identity... Explaining what digital Id is about, when is it that you create a digital Id, how and where and learning to reflect about security and the respect of privacy... those are the issues we should be dealing with...*
- *Teaching users about the various implications of their choices about privacy in the Internet...*
- *Digital Identity Management and the protection of privacy. Work on an international binding legal framework;*
- *Digital Identity Management and legal liability;*
- *Low assurance vs. high assurance Id solutions: how to educate the users where and when to choose one or the other?*
- *Using the potential of generation Y (today's children and adolescents) in designing digital identity solutions that are at the same time protective and empowering in cyber space.*
- *How to provide the right stimulus to the market to be creative of those digital identity solutions that are required in a more binding Internet?*
- *Work towards the creation of a central body that promotes and overlooks the dialogue between all stakeholders on digital identity and digital identity management.*