



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

15 May 2014


Excellency,

It is my pleasure to designate you as the Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) until its mandate expires on 31 December 2015.

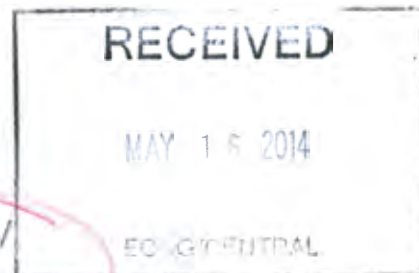
As 2014-2015 will be an important period for the evolution of internet governance, this appointment will give the Advisory Group and the wider IGF community stronger representation in the various related fora.

I am confident that the MAG members and all IGF stakeholders will offer you full cooperation and support. I wish you success in leading the Advisory Group.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency  
Mr. Jānis Kārkliņš  
Interim Chair  
Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group  
Geneva



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**Draft Press Release**

**New York, (xx) May 2014 - Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on the appointment of Ambassador Jānis Kārkliņš as Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)**

The Secretary-General appointed Ambassador Jānis Kārkliņš of Latvia to be the Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of the Internet Governance Forum. The MAG advises the Secretary-General on the programme and schedule of the Internet Governance Forum meetings and is comprised of 56 members drawn from governments, the private sector and civil society, including representatives from the academic and technical communities.

The Secretary-General is confident that MAG members and all IGF stakeholders will offer Ambassador Kārkliņš **their** full cooperation and support in this role. Ambassador Kārkliņš is currently Ambassador-at-Large for the Government of Latvia. He recently served as the Assistant Director-General of Communication and Information of UNESCO. Prior to that appointment, he served as the Latvian Ambassador to France, Andorra, Monaco and UNESCO. Ambassador Kārkliņš has been participating actively in the implementation of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) since 2002.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

*(To be posted on IGF website)*

(post date)

Dear Members of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group and Stakeholders of the Internet Governance Forum,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon of the United Nations. It is my pleasure to announce that the Secretary-General has designated the current Interim Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), Ambassador Jānis Kārkliņš of Latvia, to be the Chair of the MAG.

As 2014-2015 will be an important period for the evolution of Internet governance, this appointment will give MAG and the wider Internet Governance Forum (IGF) community stronger representation in the various fora on Internet governance.

The Secretary-General is confident that the MAG members and all IGF stakeholders will offer Ambassador Kārkliņš full cooperation and support in his new role.

The Secretary-General and I look forward to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual IGF meeting in Istanbul, Turkey from 2 to 5 September 2014.

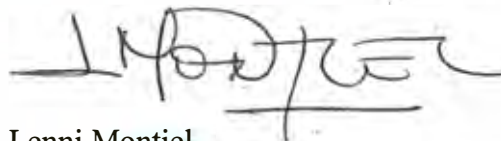
Yours sincerely,

Mr. WU Hongbo  
USG DESA

**Note to the Chef de Cabinet  
(through the Deputy Secretary-General)**

Interim Chair of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of the  
Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

1. Further to the Note from Mr. Wu Hongbo (DESA), please find attached for your consideration and approval, two letters from the Secretary-General: (a) designating Ambassador Janis Karklins of Latvia, Interim Chair of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), to be Chair of the MAG, and (b) a letter of appointment to be posted on IGF website.
2. Additionally, please find attached for your consideration, a draft press release statement on this designation.
3. The texts of the enclosed drafts have been consulted with Senior Appointments.



Lenni Montiel  
13 May 2014

cc: Senior Appointments

**Received in ODSG**

13 May 2014

**Seen by:**

TR ?/✓

Rec'd in ODC on 15 May '14.

CORRECTED VERSION

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Note to the Chef de Cabinet

EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Interim Chair of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)  
of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

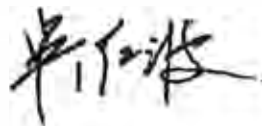
2014-15 is a critical period for Internet governance, given the recent announcement by the US Government about its intent to transition key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community. During this period, a number of important Internet governance related meetings will take place. They include the NETmundial Global Meeting this month in Brazil, the WSIS+10 reviews in June, IGF annual meeting in September and the ITU Plenipotentiary in October, among others. IGF's current mandate will also be reviewed at the end 2014.

In a recent virtual meeting, the IGF MAG suggested that Ambassador Janis Karklins of Latvia could be elevated to the "Chair" rather than his current title of "Interim Chair" of the MAG, to give him larger stature at the upcoming events.

Given the constraints of appointing Ambassador Karklins as the Special Advisor on Internet Governance, I am in favor of this appointment. When we consulted him, Ambassador Karklins was also agreeable to the possibility of this change.

In the absence of a Special Advisor, I propose that a reference to this appointment be included in the Secretary-General's draft statement to the Netmundial Global Meeting. I also recommend that the Secretary-General invite Ambassador Karklins for an in-person briefing of the Netmundial Meeting, upon its conclusion. Such actions will demonstrate the Secretary-General's commitment to internet governance issues.

Should you agree, I attach a draft letter of appointment that can be sent to Ambassador Karklins and a draft press release for the Secretary-General's Spokesperson.



WU Hongbo  
14 April 2014

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