

International Working Group  
on Data Protection  
in Telecommunications

United Nations  
Chairman of the Working Group  
on Internet Governance  
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Dr. Dix

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**Report of the Working Group on Internet Governance (June 2005)**

Dear Mr. Desai,

I am addressing you in my capacity as the new Chairman of the International Working on Data Protection in Telecommunications. My predecessor, Prof. Dr. Hansjürgen Garstka, in his letter of 12 April 2005, has described the role of this Group which consists of independent Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners and experts from around the world.

Having read the Report of the Working Group on Internet Governance of June 2005 and in particular paras. 25, 79 and 83 I would like to congratulate you and your colleagues on the results of your work and in particular the clear analysis and recommendations concerning privacy as an important public policy issue in the discussions on Internet governance (especially in the area of WHOIS databases). I fully support your recommendations and my colleagues in the International Working Group on Data Protection in Telecommunications will almost certainly join me when the Group meets early next month in Berlin.

With respect to the discussions which will take place prior to and at the Tunis Summit I want to stress that the recommendations which the WGIG has made on privacy protection should be integrated in any Final Document or Action Plan which may be adopted at the Tunis Summit. They should not be neglected or become part of a trade-off when the main political issues of Internet governance such as the future structure of ICANN are being discussed.

Data Protection and privacy are human rights in a global information society and should be taken into account in any new setup for Internet governance.

I would be grateful if you could take into account this letter when you are presenting the results of the WGIG in the preparatory meetings for the Tunis Summit and at the Summit itself.

Should the Working Group on Internet Governance continue its work in the future I can again offer you our cooperation and input.

Yours sincerely,

Alexander Dix  
(Chairman)

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The Working Group has been initiated  
by Data Protection Commissioners  
from different countries in order  
to improve privacy and data protection  
in telecommunications and media