Our Work With Regulators

Paul Rendek
Head of External Relations
RIPE NCC
The Early Years of the Internet

- Emerged from universities
- Regulation at the time focused on traditional telecommunications
- Self-regulation appeared to meet the needs of users and the Internet industry
- The public sector was involved, but mostly content with the status quo
Emerging Challenges
Landscape is Changing Dramatically

- Rapid growth in Internet users - five billion online by 2020
- Development of Smart Cities
- Internet of Things (IoT) predicted to reach 20 billion devices globally by 2020
- IPv6 deployment reaching significant levels - partly driven by IPv4 run-out
The Stakes are Higher Today

- The Internet is critical infrastructure
- Concerns over:
  - Privacy
  - Security
  - Resilience of critical infrastructure
  - Smart cities and IoT security
- Regulation appears unavoidable
Regulation is the Domain of Governments

• How can we ensure that regulation is:
  - Lightweight and agile
  - Fit for purpose
  - Quick to adapt to technological changes and market dynamics
  - Coordinated and harmonised with global standards and practices
  - Conducive to innovation and industry growth
Greater Public-Private Coordination

• Dialogue between stakeholders more crucial than ever
  - Each actor has its own role and area of responsibility
  - Need to understand various goals and objectives

• Government can create an enabling environment
  - Encouraging Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and peering
  - Supporting IPv6 deployment
  - Sharing its concerns and opinions in technical community discussions
RIPE NCC and Regulation
Aligning Governments and Industry

- Existing Internet governance model has delivered
- Governments need up-to-date knowledge
- Regulation should ensure that it matches current needs
- Global compatibility and interoperability need to be maintained
- Global public-private dialogue is required
RIPE NCC’s Role

- Facilitate sharing of knowledge and best practices
- Provide expertise to encourage ‘smart’ regulation
- Relay concerns in both directions
- Encourage dialogue between regulatory bodies and the industry
- Create public awareness about these issues
Questions

rendek@ripe.net