

During the 33rd International Conference, held in 2011 in Mexico City, it was decided to install an Executive Committee. According to the Rules of Procedure, the International Conference consists of the Closed Session, the Executive Committee and the Working Groups. The Hosting Authority is free to organize in addition to the Closed Session an open meeting as well. Such an open meeting is however not a formal part of the International Conference.

It is the task of the Executive Committee to manage and represent the International Conference. Therefore the Committee shall ensure that the decisions taken and that resolutions adopted during the Closed Session are implemented. Furthermore, the Committee shall assist the Hosting Authority in organising the Annual Meeting (i.e. the Closed Session).

The report in front of you contains the results of the third year's work of the Executive Committee. Seven meetings have been held: three face-to-face (in Warsaw, Manchester and Balaclava, Mauritius) and four telephone conferences. During these meetings, the Committee primarily discussed the preparations for the 2014 Closed Session, including the identification of a suitable topic to be discussed and relevant speakers. Furthermore, attention was paid to the accreditation of new members, the representation of the Conference to international organisations and other fora as well as to possible changes to the working methods of the Conference to make our work more effective and efficient.

Membership & Division of tasks

The Executive Committee comprises five members, as required by the Rules of Procedure. The membership is as follows:

Elected Members

Dutch Data Protection Authority (NL)

Federal Trade Commission (USA)

Office of the Privacy Commissioner (NZ)

Chair

Rotating Members

Inspector General for the Protection of Personal Data (PL)

Data Protection Office (MU)

Host 2013

Host 2014

The Rules of Procedure provide for 2-year terms for the permanent members. The current members have all been elected during the 2013 Closed Session. However, in order to implement the envisaged offsetting terms, the Dutch Data Protection Authority will step down as elected member at the end of the 36th International Conference. Elections for a new member and Chair will be held in Mauritius.

Preparations of the Closed Session

At the 33rd International Conference's Closed Session, it was decided that the Closed Session should be the heart of the International Conference again, in order to allow more thorough discussions on topics that all data protection authorities will have to deal with in the (near) future. The Executive Committee therefore decided to extend the Closed Session to one day and a half, reserving one full day for discussions on a chosen topic and another half day on the internal issues.

An evaluation carried out after the 35th Conference in Warsaw showed that a large majority of the members of the Conference appreciate the new format and would like to continue our discussion on topics that are both relevant for the public and the private sector.

Selection of this year's topic: "The Internet of Things"

The topic that has been selected for the 2014 Closed Session is "The Internet of Things". The "Internet of Things" means the development of a global infrastructure in which objects (devices) can be linked to other objects or people to exchange (personal) information. Continuous improvements to devices, making them smart in the sense that they are portable and increasingly able to interact with the offline world, has greatly enhanced the development of an "Internet of Things". Where devices themselves have mastered the art of communication, how should privacy and data protection commissioners ensure that personal data and privacy are respected?

Several questions may be raised during the Closed Session to get a better picture of what exactly the "Internet of Things" is and also what is still in store for us. The development of ubiquitous computing, as the "Internet of Things" is also sometimes named, is not limited to just one sector or one part of the world. It involves many different areas of our lives, from transportation to healthcare and from retail to home services and is something that is present, or will be present in the (near) future on all continents.

Considering that the "Internet of Things" covers potentially all aspects of our daily lives, the Executive Committee has suggested to the speakers to narrow down the discussions during the closed session, focussing on a limited number of aspects of the "Internet of Things".

- "Internet of things"; devices we own

The role of our phones, computers/laptops, tablets, smart meters and wearable devices, such as Google glass or computerized watches in the world of an "Internet of Things". One of the most important privacy and data protection concerns, but not the only one, is how to ensure the user stays in control of its own personal data.

- "Internet of things"; being traced by others

The tracking of people with the help of sensors, when they are moving (walking, cycling, driving and using public transportation) or inside, when they are for example working, eating, sleeping, watching tv or interacting with smart devices. One of the most

important privacy and data protection concerns, but not the only one, is how to ensure transparency to individuals.

Accreditation

Within the Executive Committee, the Federal Trade Commission has taken the lead in the accreditation process of new members and observers. In the course of the year four applications for membership and/or observer status were received from authorities from around the world. Upon review of the applications received and consideration of the legislative instruments and other documents provided as background information, the Executive Committee agreed to recommend that *Die Landesbeauftragte für Datenschutz und Informationsfreiheit Bremen* (The Bremen State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information, LDI) and the Senegalese *Commission de Protection de Données Personnelles* (Commission of Personal Data Protection, CDP) be granted Member status to the Conference. The Executive Committee is satisfied that each of these authorities meets the requisite conditions for accreditation; notably that they:

- are public entities, created by an appropriate legal instrument based upon legal traditions of the country or international organization which they belong to;
- have the supervision of the implementation of the legislation on the protection of personal data or privacy as one of their principal regulatory mandates;
- operate under a legislation that is compatible with the principal international instruments dealing with data protection or privacy;
- have an appropriate range of legal powers to perform their functions; and
- have appropriate autonomy and independence.

The Executive Committee furthermore agreed to recommend that the Ghanaian Data Protection Commission (GDPC), the Japanese Specific Personal Information Protection Commission (SPIPC) and the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) be granted Observer status to the conference, insofar as they are public entities involved in dealing with the protection of personal data.

Detailed information on this year's applicants for membership and observer status is available in the Accreditation Resolution.

Representation to International Organisations

The Executive Committee is also responsible for the coordination of the representation of the International Conference to several international organisations

During the reporting period (October 2012 to September 2013), the Executive Committee maintained the former Steering Group's focus upon four principal international organisations:

- APEC —the Conference has guest status in APEC Electronic Commerce Steering Group (APEC ECSG) until 31 December 2014.
- Council of Europe — the Conference has observer status before the Consultative Committee on Convention No. 108 (T-PD)

- International Organisation for Standardisation — there has been an exchange of liaison officers between ISO and the Conference. Please note that the ISO Technical Management Board decided to disband the Privacy Steering Committee in February 2012. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) has been advised that some of the recommendations made by the Privacy Steering Committee have been transferred to ISO Working Group 5 for consideration or have become numbered projects.
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development – the Conference has observer status before the Working Group on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP).

Until the 2013 Conference, the responsibility for the coordination of the representation of the International Conference was held by the Australian Information Commissioner. In the past year, the full Executive Committee has taken over this task. However, the contacts with the various colleagues attending the various meetings of other organisations has been less intensive. In any case, the following meetings have been attended:

- OECD WPISP meeting in Paris, 11 December 2013
- Council of Europe T-PD meeting in Strasbourg, 18-20 December 2013
- APPA Forum in Seoul, 17–18 June 2014
- OECD SPED meeting in Paris, 18 June 2014

The Executive Committee acknowledges the valuable work that was undertaken by Laurent Lim, (Commission nationale de l'informatique et des libertés (CNIL)), delegate to T-PD and WPISP.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,
Jacob Kohnstamm
Chairman

The Hague, The Netherlands – September 2014