Last week the Executive Committee convened by teleconference to discuss progress on arrangements of the 38th Conference to be held in Morocco later this year.

A key task was the selection of a theme or topics for the Closed Session. Conscious of the need to ensure our Conference will be relevant and useful for the widest number of participants, this year we consulted widely with the conference community before meeting to discuss proposals.

When we canvassed the membership late last year, you gave us a number of suggestions. Member of the Committee also committed considerable effort and resource to proposals for us to consider. The Secretariat distributed all of these options to the Committee and asked members to rank their preferences.

A strong consensus emerged around new technologies, including robotics, artificial intelligence and nanotechnology. A sub-committee has convened to identify more specific topics, and speakers, so if you know of any world class speakers capable of provoking an interesting discussion on these topics at the Closed Session, please let the Secretariat know.

Also of interest was the Committee’s decision to endorse a proposal from Hong Kong Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data to host the 39th Conference. Once again the Committee was in the fortunate, but difficult position of having to select one candidate from high quality proposals. Subject to confirmation, we are pleased that the Conference will return to Asia for the first time since 1999.

The Secretariat has been busy since last we were in touch. We have made provision for online applications for accreditation to the Conference to be made via the idppc.org website, and have established a twitter account at @ICDPPCExCo, as a further channel for disseminating information about our activities.

This week many of our colleagues have convened in Manchester to keep up the momentum on the International Enforcement Cooperation Agreement. We look forward to providing updates on that progress.

Finally we are pleased to observe that Elizabeth Denham is demonstrating her commitment to international privacy enforcement cooperation by moving from her role as Information and Privacy Commissioner in British Columbia, Canada, to take up the position of Information Commissioner of the United Kingdom, and offer her our best wishes and congratulations.

John Edwards—New Zealand Privacy Commissioner and Chair of the ICDPPC Executive Committee
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: HIGHLIGHTS OF MARCH MEETING

The Executive Committee met on 14/15 March 2016 via teleconference. Highlights included:

- The Committee continued planning for the closed session at October’s conference and settled on a high-level theme for in-depth discussion at the 38th Conference closed session, with further development work on the topic delegated to a sub-committee.
- A sub-committee proposal that Hong Kong be recommended to the membership as host of the 39th Conference in 2017 was endorsed by the Committee.
- The Secretariat updated the Committee on communications initiatives, in particular the new twitter account and annual survey of members.
- Completion of implementation of an online application process for accreditation was reported to the Committee by the Secretariat.

CONFERENCE ACCREDITATION APPLICATION FORMS NOW ALL ONLINE

The Secretariat has completed a process to update the accreditation application forms to reflect updates to the Conferences rules and procedures adopted in October 2015. The opportunity was taken to move entirely to an online process building upon earlier experience of implementing online forms for the Conference’s enforcement arrangement.

The process is now simplified for authorities wishing to apply to become members of the Conference and organisations and entities that wish to become accredited observers. The online forms are all accompanied by explanations and FAQs.

For more information visit the Become a member and Become an observer pages of the website.

CONFERENCE WEBSITE UPDATES

The Secretariat regularly updates the website. A few noteworthy changes include:

- **Events calendar**: Numerous events now listed. The calendar is continuously updated and will be a key resource for DPAs and others scheduling international meetings.
- **38th Conference updates**: Keep an eye out for updates.
- **Presentations on behalf of ExCo at International events**: Presentations to events in Macau, Ghana, and Peru, have been uploaded.
- **Current working groups**: A page for updates on the activities and contacts of current working groups is under construction.
- **Twitter widget**: A twitter widget will enable visitors easily to choose to follow our Twitter account.
- **Presentations to 37th Conference closed session**: All available presentations by closed session speakers have now been uploaded.
- **News releases**: The Chair issued a news release to mark Data Protection Day.
- **Annual reports**: ExCo annual reports 2011–2015 are now all uploaded.
The countdown has begun. Only seven months before Marrakesh becomes, during the third week of October, the gathering place for the international privacy community.

Many milestones are now taking shape. Indeed, the venue that will host the closed and open sessions has been chosen and booked. Its location, its Moroccan architecture, its facilities and the professionalism of its staff will definitely contribute to the smooth running of sessions and to the welfare of participants. Both are key factors to the success of the conference.

The Moroccan DPA (CNDP) has chosen an open door as the logo of the 38th International Conference. This symbol, that is part of the Moroccan’s architectural heritage, represents perfectly how the CNDP aims to position our next meeting: the point of entry of the culture of privacy and personal data protection to new countries, especially in the Arab, Muslim and African regions.

In its 2016 Budget, the CNDP has secured the major part the conference’s estimated budget, a prerequisite to initiate many actions. Such as the development of the website which is on the right track, thanks to the efforts of the IT company recruited by the CNDP for this purpose.

Finally, as the conference seeks the dissemination of knowledge among its members, the executive committee has identified four topics that are at the same time useful to DPAs’s daily work and instructive to participants: they are at the cutting edge of technology. Two of them will be discussed during the conference’s closed session.

Lahoussine Aniss, CNDP Morocco

**COMMISSIONER PROFILE ALBANIA: BESNIK DERVISHI**

Besnik Dervishi, Commissioner, Information and Data Protection Commissioner, Albania.

Where did you grow up?
Tirana, Albania.

When did you first become involved in data protection or privacy?
In 2008, during the discussion and approval of the Data Protection Law in the quality of member of the Law Committee in the Albanian Assembly.

What was the first International Conference that you attended? (City and if you can remember it, the year)?
Mauritius 2014.

What did you do before you became a Commissioner?
I have been a lawyer, judge, member of council of ministers, member of parliament.

What was the funniest thing that you saw, or happened to you, at an International Conference?
Tasting after-lunch snickers chocolate bar during the afternoon sessions at the Amsterdam Conference was priceless.

What is the best thing about participating in the International Conference?
Being always involved in interesting conversations and exchanges with ever fascinating people.

What is your favourite privacy quotation?
Selective, to be effective – quote echoed during 27th edition of Case Handling Workshop in Tirana on September 2015.

In the last 12 months, what has been the greatest achievement of your office?
Strengthening the institutional role of my Office in Albania through acquisition of competences relating supervision of enforcement of the right to information and in addition certain competences with regard to the Law “On notification and Public Consultation”.

“Strengthening the institutional role of my Office has been the greatest achievement in the past 12 months”
The 2015-2016 common action plan program of the Digital Education Working Group (DEWG), was presented and endorsed at the closed session of the 2015 Conference. This furthers the implementation of the “Resolution on Digital Education for All” (2013).

Action 1: The CIRCABC web platform sharing content and teaching material in field of Digital education

Launched in June 2015, the CIRCABC platform dedicated to all DPAs in Digital education accounted, as of February 2016, for some 172 varied teaching resources and educational working documents in data protection and privacy (e.g. videos, comics, cartoons, posters, online games, mixed ready-to-use kits for teachers & students, manuals, methodological guidelines, reports & studies) uploaded in several languages: 37% available in English, 35% in French, 28% in other languages. A short questionnaire survey is currently being conducted to get feedback regarding the current and future functioning of the CIRCABC platform. The online library would open additional space for new resources designed to DPO beneficiaries, and/ or some sectorial private actors in 2016. The platform would also facilitate implementing other useful functions such an agenda of main events and a Discussion Forum on digital education.

Action 2: A tutorial pack aimed at “Training of Trainers” on data protection and privacy

A progress report was released in September 2015 presenting the principal findings of a worldwide survey on “The Training of Trainers Data protection and Privacy”. Generally speaking, it resulted from the wide range of existing teaching materials and practices that there was no uniform model for a kit to train trainers. In fact, kits vary depending on the subjects covered and the intended target audience. In addition, key themes of study were consensually designated in this survey by teachers and ministries to be part of a tutorial kit, namely, issues related to DP and privacy legislation including rights and duties, social networks and digital identity, IP rights, cyberbullying/ digital violence, and new digital uses.

As next step, feedback on practical tools and methodologies from the European ARCADES Consortium, the Catalonian and other national DPA presenters in the field of training activities will be presented at the Barcelona joint event on 4 March 2016. Discussion on the efficiency of some teaching contents and pedagogical methods, tutorial package, best lessons’ scenario in privacy matters aimed at 6- 18 year olds will be reviewed with the objective to build on a “competence framework” in data protection and privacy for teachers. [Secretariat note: This report was written before the Barcelona event. More information about ARCADEs is available online.]

Action 3: Publication of a User Guide for competitions aimed at DPAs

As preliminary step, a survey was conducted among the 11 DPAs (Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Poland and Spain) who had developed privacy competitions towards young people, so as to better understand the objectives, targets, process, costs and also benefits of these competitions. It was interesting to note that 41 competitions have been launched by DPAs and that the use of competitions is obviously a popular means to raise youth awareness about data protection and responsible use of the Internet. There was no unique model but most fell into 4 competition types. The characteristics of the 4 categories is provided in the study report.

Based on the results of the study report, it appeared that it might be difficult to have a common kit which could be convenient for all types of competitions and the best option was to propose a User Guide to explain and help DPAs how to organize a competition towards young people. It will be composed of two parts: first, a concise check list of useful tasks to be undertaken and performed before, during and after launching a competition, and second, a detailed table explaining each point addressed in the check list, such
as jury, communication strategy, and assessing cost/effectiveness with relevant indicators.

This Guide is currently in the process of being reviewed by the CNIL with the cooperation of some DPAs for sake of clarity, exhaustiveness, and providing relevant illustrations or recommendations wherever necessary before its next publication.

Further information about the progress and results of the DEWG will be presented at the 38th Conference in Morocco.

Pascale RAULIN-SERRIER, Digital Education, CNIL

MAJOR NATURAL DISASTERS: AN ONGOING CHALLENGE FOR DATA PROTECTION

Continuing our series on Conference resolutions

The UN tells us that for each of the last 7 years there were on average 26,000,000 newly displaced persons as a result of natural disasters. The OECD reports that economic costs from major disasters doubled over past 10 years - and are set to rise. WHO advises that rapid data sharing is critical during an unfolding health emergency.

As well as being an issue for humanity and the economy, major natural disasters are an important issue for data protection at national and international level.

In 2011 the 33rd Conference in Mexico City adopted the Resolution on Data Protection and Major Natural Disasters.

The Secretariat recently was privileged to be asked to speak about the resolution at a session on “Privacy, information flows and emergency preparedness” at the APEC ECSG Data Privacy Subgroup meeting in Lima, Peru. The Asia Pacific is especially vulnerable as the region comprises 52 percent of the earth’s surface area and 40 percent of the world’s population, and experiences over 70 percent of the world’s natural disasters. (Another useful presentation at the session featured “Pandemic and Data: Future Preparedness”)

The Conference resolution 4 reasons why major natural disasters are an issue for data protection and privacy laws:

* The effects of disasters: High impact on people; destroy ICT infrastructure; disrupt usual order; anxiety over missing people
* The types of public responses needed: Extraordinary action to protect vital interests; compensate for loss of documentation and disrupted access to ICT; use personal information for non-business purposes
  * The nature of privacy laws: Limits permissible uses of personal information; narrow exceptions
  * The interconnection of the modern economy: Implications beyond an economy’s borders; locals and visitors in disaster zone; personal information from beyond disaster zone needed in emergency response

The resolution recommended action by key stakeholders:

• Data protection authorities – review laws, education before disaster strikes
• Governments – include data issues in disaster preparedness
• International organisations - cross border norms
• Businesses – to plan for community needs as well as business continuity

DPAs should pay attention to the issues before disaster strikes. Preparation is key.

Blair Stewart, ICDPPC Secretariat
CALL FOR ESSAYS BY THE CANADIAN OFFICE OF THE PRIVACY COMMISSIONER

The Office of the privacy Commissioner of Canada is calling for essays on Online Reputation by 28 April 2016. The OPCC in January 2016 released a discussion paper setting out the privacy issues related to online reputation and are now inviting essays in response to the questions posed in the paper.

The purpose of asking for essays is to assemble a collection of new and innovative ways to protect reputational privacy. More information on the procedure and criteria visit the OPCC’s website.

SECRETARIAT NOW TWEETS: FOLLOW US AT @ICDPPCEXCO

The Secretariat has opened a Twitter account to provide a supplementary communications channel to increase use of the permanent Conference website and complement the bi-monthly newsletter. Twitter will be used to disseminate website updates and to increase awareness of aspects of the Conference, such as its membership, resolutions and achievements. The account will also be used to highlight and reinforce messages related to the Conference’s strategic plan and current and recent areas of activity for the Conference.

In addition the Secretariat re-tweets postings from members and observers and others which may be of interest to the Conference community.

In the two months since the account was activated for Data Protection Day on 28 January 2016 the account has gained 117 followers and we have found that a small but growing number of visitors are arriving at ICDPPC.org via twitter.

A widget has been added to the website to make it easy for users who are browsing the site also to check out the Conference twitter page.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

- Philip Green was appointed Privacy Commissioner for the Queensland Office of the Information Commissioner in December 2015
- Paul Vane was appointed vice-Data Protection Commissioner for the Jersey Office of the Data Protection Commissioner in December 2015
- It was announced in March 2016 that Elizabeth Denham has been confirmed as the UK Government’s preferred candidate to be the UK’s next Information Commissioner. Elizabeth is currently Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia, Canada.
- Adrian Lobsiger was approved in March to be new Swiss federal data protection commissioner to succeed Hanspeter Thür. Jean-Philippe Walter is currently acting commissioner.
- Julie Brill, who has served as a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission since April 2010, will resign her position at the end of March.
In January the Secretariat contacted all members to update the ICDPPC database. The database is the principal means for the Secretariat to communicate with members. Our use policy is available online.

The Secretariat seeks to have three contact email addresses:
- The Commissioner
- (or Executive Director, President, etc.)
- At least one general contact point that will always remain constant despite any personnel changes
- A communications person responsible to disseminate information

The Secretariat received a 66% response rate from members. If you have not yet responded please email ICDPPCExCo@privacy.org.nz.

The Conference website features an Events Calendar of privacy and data protection events. If you’re planning an international privacy event check the events calendar to have an idea about what else is going on. Please notify the Secretariat to list your event or if you know of other unlisted events.

FACTOID: CONFERENCE WEBSITE

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