

Note to ICDPPC Executive Committee from Blair Stewart, New Zealand, 5 July 2016

Report on OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Digital Economy: Innovation, Growth and Social Prosperity

The New Zealand Privacy Commissioner and I participated in the OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Digital Economy in Cancun, Mexico, on 21-23 June 2016.

We were able to highlight several relevant ICDPPC resolutions in his presentations to both a BIAC Stakeholders Forum as well as a [panel presentation](#) in the Ministerial itself.

Personally I was impressed by the way the OECD does not limit its deliberations to public officials but formally brings together four groups of stakeholders to contribute to the policy debate: business, trade unions, civil society and the technical community (BIAC, TUAC, CSISAC and ITAC). This certainly enriched the deliberations.

The outcome from the Ministerial was the [Cancun Declaration](#). The 41 signatory countries vowed to:

- increase access to broadband Internet and services to bridge digital divides.
- reduce barriers to investment in and adoption of digital technology in all sectors.
- work to develop global technical standards that enable interoperability and a secure, stable, open and accessible Internet.
- develop privacy and data protection strategies at the highest level of government, while also encouraging the availability and use of data, including public sector data.
- adopt technologically neutral frameworks that promote competition.
- use open, transparent and inclusive processes to shape global Internet governance.
- reduce impediments to e-commerce within and across borders with policies that strengthen consumer trust and product safety.
- improve education and lifelong training to respond to the demand for general and specialist digital skills.

I have written two blog posts on the event:

- [Joined-up international privacy problem solving](#);
- [OECD declaration on the digital economy](#).

I also attended the CDEP meeting on the day following the Ministerial. Highlights of that meeting involved:

- Debrief on the Ministerial.
- Discussion of the proposed OECD Recommendation on health Data Governance.
- OECD horizontal work on digitisation.

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