

	<p>For each paper you wish to comment on (Please repeat as many times as required) Name of the paper:</p> <p><b>Australian Comments on the Draft WGIG Issues Paper on Spam</b></p>
	<p>Has the issue as it applies to the question of Internet Governance been adequately identified?</p>
	<p>Comments:</p> <p><b>Spam is a problem requiring a global response.</b></p> <p><b>This paper clearly identifies the problem and stakeholders and explains the challenges in developing policy solutions for the problem of spam. National solutions are an integral part of the global solution and Australia has taken an aggressive role in minimizing the effects of spam on its infrastructure, economy and citizens.</b></p>
	<p>Does the paper cover the topic with sufficient depth and accuracy?</p>
	<p>Comments:</p> <p><b>The paper sensibly avoids the problem of selecting a particular definition for “spam” and appropriately concentrates the focus of discussion on the characteristics of the problem and its varying effects on the broad range of governance and behavioural issues. The threats and adverse effects, nuisance, consumer protection and criminal activity are adequately explained, as is the necessity for a coordinated range of global and national responses.</b></p>
	<p>Does the paper achieve a reasonable balance in weighing relevant matters?</p>
	<p>Comments</p> <p><b>The paper identifies the major issues on the topic in the context of the stakeholders and their respective individual, business and regulatory interests. It is comprehensive in its recognition of the challenges confronting stakeholders in their quest to introduce governance mechanisms without adversely affecting the economic potential of the Internet globally, national economies and citizens.</b></p> <p><b>The paper contains welcome endorsement of multi-stakeholder and multi-lateral solutions and most importantly acknowledges the significant bodies of work already being undertaken to achieve harmonisation and governance on this issue in a wide variety of inter-governmental and business forums. Collaboration is important and in this respect it may be beneficial to strengthen this area of the paper through an acknowledgement of the efforts of regional partnerships such as APEC in achieving these goals and the importance of this work in reducing the potential for ‘spam havens’.</b></p> <p><b>The paper is well balanced and provides significant guidance on the factors affecting global, regional and national responses to the key governance issues by stakeholders at every level.</b></p>

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