

COMMUNICATION POLICY RESEARCH (SOUTH) CHARTER

CLAUSE I: NAME

1. The name of the entity shall be the Communication Policy Research south (*CPRsouth*).

CLAUSE II: OBJECTIVES

1. To develop capacity, stimulate interest, and promote research and systematic study in information and communication technology (ICT) policy and regulatory issues in the South, broadly constituted to include the Asia-Pacific (AP), Africa (AF), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Central Asian regions (CIS).
2. To facilitate the creation, sustenance and continuous advancement of policy intellectuals capable of informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulation processes in specific country and regional contexts in the south.

CLAUSE III: FUNCTIONS

CPRsouth shall:

1. Encourage and promote high scholarly standards in research on ICT policy and regulation in the South.
2. Undertake field-building activities in the areas of ICT policy and regulation research in the South, centred on periodic research conferences and the website, to identify and provide a focus for intra-South and inter-regional linkages among current and potential ICT policy and regulation researchers in universities, research organisations and elsewhere.
3. Facilitate systematic interaction between academics, researchers, national policy makers, industry representatives and civil-society representatives.
4. Encourage well grounded theoretical and empirical research relevant to current policy issues.
5. Facilitate mentoring relationships for young researchers and partnerships among universities and research organisations in the South, and among *CPRsouth* AP, AF and LAC Chapters and the broader global research network.
6. Disseminate research with emphasis on influencing the policy and regulatory processes.

Encourage the use of ICTs for greater collaboration and mutual support among ICT policy and regulation researchers in the South.

CLAUSE IV: PUBLICATIONS

1. Exchange of information among CPR*south* researchers shall be encouraged.
2. A dedicated website for self-archiving publications and conference papers and other related activities shall be maintained.

CLAUSE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The business of CPR*south* shall be managed by the Board of Directors in cooperation with an administrative partner appointed by the Board.
2. The Board of Directors shall consist of 9 members, each with a term of four years. The founding directors shall be appointed in groups of three, totalling nine, for terms of two, four and six years, with effect from January 2007. The determination of the terms of the founding directors shall be made by lot at the first meeting. In the event the conference takes place within six months of the end of a term of a director, the term shall be deemed to continue until the said conference is held.
3. The Board of Directors shall be individuals well regarded in the ICT policy and regulation space and reflect geographical and gender balance. While the founding members are predominantly senior scholars, the Board may, in the future, decide to broaden its membership to include consumers and funders of ICT policy and regulation research.
4. The Board shall be appointed from nominations compiled by the administrative partner according to a procedure approved by the Board and selected by a majority vote of the Board. Each selection shall be supported by a written justification that shall subsequently be posted on the CPR*south* website.
5. Two unexcused consecutive absences from Board meetings by a director shall result in vacation of his/her position. Upon the resignation or vacation of a director position, the Board may choose to appoint a successor for the remainder of the term.
6. The Chair and Alternate Chair of the founding Board shall be appointed by majority vote for a period of two years. In the event the conference takes place within six months of the end of a term of the Chair or alternate chair the term shall be deemed to continue until the said conference is held.
7. Following the expiry of the terms of the founding Chair and Alternative Chair, the Board shall elect from among its number a Chair and Alternative Chair for two-year terms, with no limitation on successive terms. Upon expiry of the term or vacation of the position, the Board shall fill the vacancies from among directors with two years left in their term.
8. The Board of Directors shall meet face-to-face or virtually at least once a year and as often as required. A duly constituted meeting requires one month's prior notice, except in the case of a meeting convened to amend the Charter, which shall satisfy the requirements set out in Clause X. A meeting may be convened by the Chair or by any four Directors acting together.
9. Meetings need not necessarily be face to face. Alternative processes such as conference calls and decisions by circulation may be used.

10. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board shall be five directors.
11. The Board may invite observers to Board meetings. It is expected that representatives of the Administrative Partner may attend meetings as observers.
12. Report of the Board meeting shall be posted on the website no later than two months from the termination of the meeting.

CLAUSE VI: GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

1. In the first instance, *CPRsouth* shall have the region usually described as the Asia Pacific as its domain.
2. Taking into consideration the motivation and enthusiasm of relevant organizations from those regions in the South to participate in the activities of *CPRsouth*, the Board may act to transform *CPRsouth* into a decentralized Chapter-based organization.
3. In the event the board decides on the above action, the relevant new Chapter (Chapters) shall commence its (their) operations under this Charter and/or may amend them as required under procedures specified under Clause X.
4. At the moment of creating the first such chapter, the *CPRsouth* Board shall automatically transform itself into the Board of *CPRsouth AP*, specifically concerning itself with the management of the Asia Pacific Chapter and shall no longer be described as the *CPRsouth* Board.
5. The overall coordination of *CPRsouth* shall be conducted by a committee constituted by the Chairs and Alternate Chairs of each of the existing Chapters. Its functions include the power to authorize the creation of subsequent new Chapter(s), and those functions specifically provided for by individual Chapter Charters and considered necessary to be dealt with at the higher level by a majority of the members of the coordinating committee. All related administrative tasks will be carried out by the administrative partner of one of the Chapters to be determined by mutual agreement. All formal functions associated with the management and administration of individual Chapters shall be decentralized to the respective Chapters.
6. The business of each individual Chapter shall be managed by a nine-member Board as described in Clause V in cooperation with an Administrative partner appointed by the respective Board as described in Clause VII.
7. The functioning and dissolution of the individual Chapters shall be decided upon by the respective Boards.

CLAUSE VII: ADMINISTRATIVE PARTNER

1. The Administrative Partner of each Chapter shall be selected by the respective *CPRsouth* Chapter Board of Directors based on procedures that it may devise from time to time.
2. The Administrative partner shall be responsible for the organisation, administration and implementation of all activities related to the respective *CPRsouth* Chapter activities, , subject to the direction of the respective *CPRsouth* Chapter Board of Directors. These include secretariat functions, fundraising and financial management, organizing and

promoting seminars, workshops, conferences and other associated tasks required to progress the objectives of CPR*south*.

3. The founding Board shall appoint an entity to serve as the administrative partner of CPR*south* or the AP Chapter as applicable for an initial period of three years.

CLAUSE VIII: FINANCES/ACCOUNTS

1. The Board shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept in respect of:
 - a. all sums of money received and expended by CPR*south* or the Chapter, as applicable, and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure take place;
 - b. all sales and purchases of goods, and
 - c. any assets and liabilities.
2. The Board shall appoint auditors for a period of its choice. The Administrative partner shall present audited accounts to the Board at its annual meeting.
3. Prior to formal incorporation, the responsibilities of Clause VIII shall be discharged by inspection and approval of the accounts presented by the Administrative Partner. Following incorporation, the provisions of the relevant statute and the incorporation documents shall govern the discharge of Clause VIII responsibilities.

CLAUSE IX: DISSOLUTION

1. The Board may dissolve the operation of CPR*south* when it considers it appropriate in an orderly manner, disposing of its assets according to the relevant legal provisions, if legally incorporated, or in a manner determined by the Board otherwise.
2. If the Board is unable to perform the functions set out in this document for a period of 24 months for whatever reason, CPR*south* or the Chapter, as applicable, shall be considered dissolved.

CLAUSE X: AMENDMENTS

1. The Board may amend this Charter with a two-thirds majority at a meeting which has been convened with two months notice, including prior notification of the specific amendatory proposals.