

G8 Compliance Report
Okinawa 2000
Dot Force

Commitment

Para. 12: “We will set up a Digital Opportunities Task Force (dot force), which will be asked to report to our next meeting its findings and recommendations on global action to bridge the international information and knowledge divide.”

This commitment focus specifically on the following aspects:

1. Fostering policy, regulatory and network readiness;
2. Improving connectivity, increasing access, and lowering cost;
3. Building human capacity by focusing on education and lifelong learning with emphasis on IT skills;
4. Encouraging participation in global e-commerce networks.

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Britain			+1
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Russia			+1
United States			+1
Overall			+1

Collective Country Initiatives

1. Plenary Meetings

DOT Force meetings are attended by a government official and private sector representative from each G8 country, one official from the European Commission, and representatives from developing countries.

- a) First Meeting of the DOT Force
November 27–28, 2001, Tokyo, Japan
Discussions centred on the stocktaking of the current situation of the international digital divide and the future work schedule of the DOT Force.
- b) Second Meeting of the DOT Force
March 1–2, 2001, Cape Town, South Africa
Draft report of the DOT Force released over the Internet
Key recommendations included:
 - Create an international policy coordination institute;
 - Widely provide public access points;
 - Establish an information and communication technology foundation;
 - Establish a virtual policy centre, a seed fund for entrepreneurs, and a government/private sector joint education program.
- c) Third DOT Force Meeting
April 23–24, 2001, Sienna, Italy
Members scheduled to adopt final DOT Force report.

2. Informal Meetings

- a) DOT Force Consultation Meeting
January 18, 2001, Dubai
- b) DOT Force Consultation Meeting
January 23–24, 2001, Berlin, Germany
- c) DOT Force Consultation Meeting
January 29, 2001, Davos, Switzerland
- d) DOT Force Consultation Meeting
February 12–15, 2001, Cairo, Egypt

- e) DOT Force Consultation Meeting
March 14–17, 2001, Naples, Italy

Specific Countries' Initiatives

Canada

- IDRC, Industry Canada, and Bellnet are organizing an online consultation network for civil society.

European Commission

- Representative attended DOT-Force meetings.

France

- VECAM is organizing consultations with French civil society organizations.

Germany

- The Centre for Development Research at Bonn University organized a consultative workshop for non-governmental organizations and think tanks in Bonn on February 20, 2001.

Italy

- Italian authorities are in the process of organizing a broad process of national consultations.

Japan

- The Centre for Global Communications is organizing consultations with Japanese civil society.

Russia

- Russia established a DOT Force website that highlights information about DOT Force activities in Russia.

United Kingdom

- The United Kingdom established a DOT Force website that highlights information about DOT Force activities in the U.K.
- UK DOT Force hosted a meeting on February 22, 2001, with private sector companies to discuss the DOT Force and the digital divide.

United States

- The Markle Foundation is hosting an online consultation for civil society.

Compiled by Jason Wong