



IFIP TC6 Special Meeting on Developing Countries Problems

August 25, 2006

Santiago de Chile

- **Working Group 6.9: Communication Systems for Developing Countries**

- Chair person: Ana Pont Sanjuán

- Members:

Tulin Atmaca	Benjamín Barán
Raouf Boutaba	Ana Cavalli
Mieso Denko	Villy B. Iversen
Farouk Kamoun	Dipak Khaphar
Koos Koen	Jose Neuman de Souza
Miquel Nicolau	Ahmed Serhrouchni
Tomeu Serra	Samir Tohme
Roland Traunmüller	S V Raghavan
Ramon Puigjaner	



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- **WG 6.9 aims:**

- To identify and study technical problems related to the access or application of network and telecommunications technology in developing countries or regions.
- To encourage cross-fertilisation of concepts and techniques among developing countries, and between developing countries and developed countries.
- To promote activities oriented to the diffusion of the methods and techniques for accessing computer networks in developing countries or regions.



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- **Current Activities:**

- Regular Conferences / Workshops
 - LANC: *Latin American Networking Conference*
 - WCIT: *Wireless Communications and Information Technology in Developing Countries*
- Special / Thematic workshops or events:
 - Women and IT
- Teaching activities / Tutorials in Developing countries
- Other conferences co-sponsored with other WG's



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- **LANC: Latin American Networking Conference**

- Sponsored by IFIP TC6/WG6.9, ACM and CLEI
- Biannual
- Held in conjunction with CLEI
- Last edition Cali, Colombia, October 2005.
- Detailed information in WG 6.9 report 2, 2005 [WG6-9_report_2_2005.pdf](#)
- Next conference in Costa Rica, August 2007
- General Chair: Ernst Leiss (U. of Houston)
- Program Committee co-chairs: Héctor Cancela and Ana Pont



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- **WCIT: Int. Workshop on Wireless Communications and I. T. in D.C.**

- First edition in WCC 2006 in conjunction with 8th IFIP/IEEE International Conference on Mobile and Wireless Communications Networks, MWCN'2006
- Organizers: M. Denko (U. Guelph) and A. Pont
- Number of submitted papers: 20 / Accepted: 10
- Only 8 paid the registration fee (presented and included in the proceedings)
- Publication of proceedings in a CD with own ISBN.
- Number of reviewers for each paper 3
- Registration fee: 300 US\$



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- **WCIT Future**

- Many lessons learned
- We plan to continue the workshop
- Questions to be answer by TC6:
 - Frequency? Annual/Biannual?
 - Held in conjunction with...? International Conference on Mobile and Wireless Communications Networks, ...?
 - Next edition in South Africa 2007?



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- **W&IT:** “Women in the Information Society: Ensuring their Full Participation in Latin America” (“Las Mujeres en la Sociedad de la Información: Avanzando hacia su plena participación en América Latina”):
 - Organized by IFIP TC6 (WG 6.9), Hewlett-Packard, Centro de Modelamiento Matemático U. Chile
 - IFIP TC6 contribution 3500 €
 - HP contribution 5000 \$
 - U. Chile...



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- **W&IT**
 - Full program [WomenandIT-full-updated.pdf](#)
 - Participants



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- Tutorials:
 - Tutorials organized jointly with LANC
 - Organizing tutorials in Instituto Superior de Transportes e Comunicações (ISUTC)/, in Maputo (Mozambique) in collaboration with United Nations University (UNU)
 - Looking for new opportunities



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- Main problems of the WG 6.9 (I)
 - A different concept of WG in comparison of the rest WG´s:
 - The level and quality of conferences are quite limited
 - Low possibilities to generate incomes and be self-sufficient
 - Need to receive economical support for its activities.



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- Main problems of the WG (II)
 - **When organizing conferences/workshops:**
 - The lack of a strong scientific community in DC
 - Low number of papers submitted and low quality
 - Low economical resources
 - Inexpensive registration fee → low budget
 - Difficulties to attend and travel
 - Low interest for participants from developed countries
 - Difficulties to find an efficient local organizing team



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- Main problems of the WG (III)
 - **When organizing tutorials:**
 - To find the appropriate formula to organize a profitable event:
 - Jointly a conference
 - Taking part of postgraduate/training courses
 - Financial problems: who can pay that?
 - Difficulties to find an efficient local contact and support
 - Local infrastructure
 - Language



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- Main problems of the WG (IV)
 - Others:
 - Lack of interest and few contribution from many WG members:
 - Low scientific profit for CV
 - Voluntary job
 - Activities difficult to plan within a long/medium period
 - Looking for the chance



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Despite all of these problems or **BECAUSE** all these problems WG 6.9 must continue with its activities and increase them.

For this purpose the support and help of the entire TC6 is very necessary



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- Perspectives
 - To maintain and increase the participation of LANC and WCIT
 - To define and perform an interesting offer of tutorials for Mozambique in 2007
 - To reinforce relationships with UNU
 - Participating in a next event in South Africa 2007
 - Organizing together courses and tutorials
 - To promote and organize thematic workshops when possible



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- **Possibilities and ideas to be discussed:**
 - TC6 can act as a advisor and quality guarantee of:
 - Research Projects in developing countries
 - Teaching programsTo do this a news web page can be open and the members of the working group can act as advisors and referees.
 - We also can organize the transference of technologic material (computers, communication devices, etc.) from the Universities related with TC6 to Universities of developing countries.