



International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

Report by the Chair of the 5th Executive Committee to the closed session of 38th Conference Marrakesh, October 2016

Selected highlights

- ❖ Organised closed session with themes: Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and Encryption
- ❖ Active communications through website, newsletters and social media
- ❖ Selection of future Conference hosts well in advance
- ❖ Accreditation application processes now online

Web: ICDPPC.org

 [@ICDPPCEXCo](https://twitter.com/ICDPPCEXCo)

Prepared: 3 October 2016

Report on behalf of ICDPPC 5th Executive Committee: 2015/16

This annual report is the 5th issued for the Executive Committee and the second under the Chairmanship of John Edwards, New Zealand Privacy Commissioner.

Executive Committee

The five-member Executive Committee established at the 37th Conference is as follows:



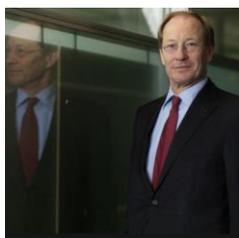
John Edwards
Elected member and Committee Chair
New Zealand Privacy Commissioner
NZ elected at 35th Conference, to step down at 39th Conference



Daniel Therrien
Elected member of Committee
Privacy Commissioner of Canada
Canada elected at 38th Conference



Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin
Elected member of Committee
President, CNIL, France
France elected at 36th Conference



Wilbert Tomesen
Immediate past host member of Committee
Vice Chair, Dutch Data Protection Authority



Said Ikhrai
Next host member of Committee
Chairman, Moroccan Data Protection Authority

The Committee met approximately every two months in person or by teleconference. By the time it completes its term, the Committee will have met 7 times: 3 times in person (in Amsterdam, Singapore and Marrakesh) and 4 times by teleconference.

The Conference rules provide for two year terms for elected Committee members. Members may be re-elected for no more than two consecutive 2-year terms. France will complete its first 2 year term this year and will offer itself for re-election for a final 2-year term. Other elected members are mid-way through their first or second 2 year terms and accordingly do not face election this year.

Committee members actively involve members of their staff in the work. The contributions of the following staff is acknowledged: Lahoussine Aniss, Miguel Bernal-Castillero, Nicholas de Bouville, Barbara Bucknell, Daniele Chatelois, Brent Homan, Udo Oelen, Florence Raynal, Blair Stewart, Linda Williams and Vanya Vida.

The Committee derives its mandate principally from the Conference [rules and procedures](#). It also receives mandates from Conference [resolutions](#) and the [strategic plan](#). The Committee has roles both of a governance and operational nature.

The governance roles are exercised with, and subject to, the closed session while the operational roles are performed principally by the Secretariat. Some tasks delegated to particular Committee members.

Secretariat

Under the conference rules the Chair provides the Secretariat. Accordingly, for the second year, the New Zealand Privacy Commissioner has provided the Executive Committee Secretariat under the responsibility of Assistant Commissioner Blair Stewart.

The rules confer responsibility upon the Secretariat for “the management and preservation of the documents and files of the Conference”. The Secretariat built and launched a permanent Conference website in April 2015 and has continued to add to it ever since. The website has provided a sound platform on which to base record-keeping practices that ensure that documents are retained and are accessible for the benefit of future Secretariats, Committees and the membership at large. One major achievement was the uploading and maintenance of a database of [Committee documents](#) (replicated in the annex to this report). Committee agendas, minutes and meeting papers are now available in a convenient table.

The rules provide that accreditation applications must be made on forms provided by the Secretariat. Again the permanent website provides the platform for substantial improvement over former administrative practice. This year the Secretariat has created [online application forms](#) to simplify the process both for applicants and the Committee. The forms will be available all year round and not only when a Conference host launches an event website. A proposed rule amendment to allow observer applications to be approved out of session will further enhance the simplicity and convenience of the process.

Communications

The Chair places a special emphasis on transparency as a means to meet the needs of the wider Conference community and promote accountability and responsiveness from the Committee back to the members. Three communications initiatives begun with the previous Committee were the establishment of a regular newsletter, the construction of the long awaited permanent Conference website and the establishment of an alumni network of retired commissioners. All three initiatives have been continued.

The newsletter has continued to be a useful communications channel. By the time of the 38th Conference it is expected that 7 issues of the newsletter will have been issued, including special issues to report on the 37th Conference and to preview the closed session of the 38th Conference.

This year the Conference communications have been supplemented by a new social media presence. The ICDPPC [Twitter account](#) was launched by the Secretariat on 28 January 2016 (Data Protection Day) and had more than 630 followers 8 months later.

The Twitter account is able to draw attention to material in the newsletter or on the website. In addition to its primary role of disseminating Committee or Conference news, the Secretariat uses the account to retweet items from Conference members and observers and other material of interest. Particular emphasis has been put on retweeting items of relevance to working groups (such as refugees), strategic priorities (such as strengthening links to other networks) and on topics selected for discussion in the closed session (such as robotics). The Secretariat has published a [Twitter policy](#).

Strengthening connections between other networks

The [strategic plan](#) emphasises the desirability of strengthening connections with other networks: both those involved in privacy enforcement cooperation and those operating at regional level.

One major step taken by the Secretariat was to create an entirely new part of the ICDPPC website devoted to 'other networks'. This website now profiles all the principal networks known to the Secretariat with a special focus upon those providing [resources](#) that are useful for ICDPPC member authorities.

The Committee has implemented a [process](#) for recognising enforcement cooperation events in 2017 as 'ICDPPC-recognised' as a means to give effect to a [resolution](#) of the 36th Conference to create opportunities for authorities to meet and share enforcement cooperation experience. The process explicitly recognises that these events may be run by or in cooperation with other networks as a means of strengthening links.

A [resolution](#) adopted at the 36th Conference mandated the Committee to initiate discussions with GPEN with a view to exploring practical options and opportunities for better coordinating the Conference's and GPEN's efforts. In furtherance of this mandate the Chair reached out to GPEN to propose documenting practical areas for better coordinating efforts and cooperating. The Chair prepared a draft MOU and invited the GPEN Committee's comments with a view to possible adoption at the 38th Conference. The proposal for an MoU did not achieve consensus support from either the GPEN or Executive Committee, so alternative means of giving effect to the Mauritius mandate may be sought.

Advance selection of hosts

As part of a strategy to place the Conference on a firmer footing, the 36th Conference approved rule changes to empower the Committee to evaluate and recommend hosts out of session. The 4th Committee first operated the process which enabled selection of the host for the 28th Conference some 4 months earlier than would have been possible under the old process.

The process was run for a second time and the current Committee was able to select, and gain the Conference's endorsement, of Hong Kong as the host of the 39th Conference by April 2016. This was more than 7 months earlier than would have been the case under the old system. The Hong Kong Commissioner attended the Committee's July meeting as an observer and it was clear that the extra 7 months organisational time was being put to good use.

The Committee has initiated the process for selection of the host of the 40th Conference. It is anticipated that the 6th Committee should finalise appointment by December 2016 giving the host about 20 months preparation time, a substantial improvement upon the 12 months many earlier hosts had available to prepare for the event.

Discussion topics at closed session

The Committee arranged a programme of speakers to enable in-depth discussion of the cutting edge topic 'Robotics and Artificial Intelligence' which will delve into social robotics, unpredictability and discrimination. A shorter discussion was also planned in relation to encryption.

Closing comment

It has been my honour to serve the Conference as Executive Committee Chair this year and to have provided the hard working Secretariat. Next year is my last on the Committee and I look forward to working with a new Committee to build on the substantial progress made this year.

John Edwards

Chair, ICDPPC Executive Committee

Annex: Committee meeting documents for the 1st – 5th Executive Committees

Meeting	Date	Agenda	Minutes	Meeting Papers
1st Executive Committee, 2011 / 2012				
1st	3 November 2011		[EN] (pdf)	
2nd	18 January 2012	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
3rd	27 March 2012		[EN] (pdf)	
4th	15 May 2012		[EN] (pdf)	
5th	6 June 2012	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
6th	September 2012			
Executive Committee Annual Report – [EN] (pdf)				
2nd Executive Committee, 2012 / 2013				
7th	26 October 2012		[EN] (pdf)	
8th	6 February 2013	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
9th	6 March 2013	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
10th	29 May 2013	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
11th	September 2013			
Executive Committee Annual Report – [EN] (pdf)				
3rd Executive Committee, 2013 / 2014				
12th	26 September 2013			
13th	26 November 2013	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
14th	29 January 2014	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
15th	2 April 2014	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
16th	4 June 2014		[EN] (pdf)	
17th	28 August 2014	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
18th	12 October 2014			
Executive Committee Annual Report – [EN] (pdf)				

4th Executive Committee, 2014 / 2015

19th	16 October 2014	[EN] (pdf)		
20th	2 December 2014	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 2b(4) , Item 5a , Item 5b , Item 5c
21st	6 March 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3d , Item 4 , Item 6a , Item 9
22nd	13 May 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 6 , Item 9c
23rd	15 July 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3c , Item 3d.1 , Item 3d.2 , Item 4a , Item 4b , Item 6 , Item 7b , Item 8b , Item 9.1 , Item 9.2 , Item 10b
24th	22 September 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3a , Item 3c , Item 4c.1 , Item 4c.2 , Item 4c.3 , Item 8b , Item 10b
25th	25 October 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	

Executive Committee Annual Report – [\[EN\]](#) (pdf)

5th Executive Committee, 2015 / 2016

26th	29 October 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	
27th	9 December 2015	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3c , Item 4 , Item 8 , Item 10
28th	14 March 2016	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 8 , Item 8a , Item 8b&c , Item 9b
29th	4 May 2016	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3b , Item 6b , Item 7b , Item 8 , Item 8a , Item 8b&c , Item 9b
30th	20 July 2016	[EN] (pdf)	[EN] (pdf)	Item 3(c) , Item 4(a)(i) , Item 4(a)(ii) , Item 4(b) , Item 5(a)(i) , Item 5(a)(ii)(i) , Item 5(a)(ii)(i) , Item 5(a)(ii)(ii) , Item 5(a)(ii)(iii) , Item 5(a)(ii)(iii) , Item 5(b)(b) , Item 7(a) , Item 8(a)
31st	21 September 2016	[EN] (pdf)		
32nd	16 October 2016			