

BBG recommends,
Tor directors - *

From: [Ken Berman](#)
To: [Roger Dingledine](#)
Cc: [Kelly DeYoe](#)
Subject: Re: (FWD) Re: Meeting notes, Jan 11 2008
Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2008 8:07:05 AM

The main Persian blogger Hoder? Kelly, what do you think?
Yes, try for a piece of the DoS \$15M! Good luck, but don't hold your breath.....

Roger Dingledine wrote:

Hi folks,

Two questions for tomorrow's talk:

a) We added Isaac Mao, a well-known blogger from China, as one of the Tor directors for the next three years. This is part of a push to internationalize the board. We have a good fellow from Germany in mind. We'd like to add somebody from the Middle East, but we don't have very many great candidates in mind. Do you know some who would be great?

b) See Isaac's mail below. Is this something we should try to get in on?
Do you know any of the right people behind the scenes?

(You can also read our Tor annual meeting minutes, quoted below, if you like. :)

Thanks!
--Roger

----- Forwarded message from Isaac Mao <(b) (6)> -----

From: (b) (6)
To: (b) (6)
Subject: 11 2008
Delivery-Date: Sat, 12 Jan 2008 03:54:10 -0500

fyi. maybe you have seen this news too

<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?F=3286113&C=asiapac>

* U.S. Launches Inter
By WILLIAM MATTHEWS <(b) (6)>
[subject=Question%20fr...der>](#)

Posted 01/07/08 14:51

The U.S. Congress is funding a modest assault on the great firewall of China.

The newly approved budget for the U.S. State Department includes \$15 million for developing "anti-censorship tools and services" which could help Internet users breach electronic firewalls set up by China, Iran and other

"closed societies."

The money is part of the 2008 budget for the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. It is to be awarded competitively to software developers to produce "internet technology programs and protocols" that enable "widespread and secure internet use" in countries where the

Internet is now heavily censored. The funding bill says the anti-censorship effort is intended "for

the advancement of information freedom in closed societies, including the Middle East and Asia." In a report that accompanies the bill, the House Appropriations Committee singles out China as a particular target. It cites recent efforts by Chinese President Hu Jintao "to 'purify' the Internet via further monitoring and censorship," and through punishing Internet users who engage in uncensored communications. The report also decries recent Internet crackdowns by the Cuban and Russian governments. The \$15 million for anti-censorship technology is a small part of a \$164 million "Democracy Fund" that the State Department receives to promote democracy around the globe, but is a 30-fold increase over the half-million dollars provided for that purpose in 2007. A spokeswoman said the State Department "is engaged globally promoting freedom of expression and the free flow of information on the Internet." Lawmakers said programs they are funding "should be able to support large numbers of users simultaneously in a hostile Internet environment." The Internet in China fits the "hostile" description. The free-press organization Reporters Without Borders labels China "the world's most advanced country in Internet filtering." Chinese authorities monitor Web sites, chat forums, blogs and video exchange sites, and have imprisoned more than 50 Internet users for postings deemed to be anti-government, subversive and otherwise objectionable, Reporters Without Borders reports. The Chinese government has required companies like Google, Yahoo! and Microsoft to censor their search engines as a condition for operating in China. As a result, Internet searches for terms such as "human rights" and "Taiwan independence" have been blocked. According to some reports, a Chinese Internet search on Google for "Tiananmen Square" produces images of buildings and smiling tourists, while the same search in the United States generates pictures of the Chinese tanks used to crush pro-democracy protestors in 1989. Internet censorship in North Korea is worse. Government control makes North Korea "the world's worst Internet black hole," Reporters Without Borders says. "Only a few officials are able to access the Web, using connections rented from China." Cuba is repressive as well. Virtually all Internet connections are government-controlled, and "you can get five years just for connecting to the Internet illegally," the organization says. The Iranian government boasts that it blocks access to 10 million "immoral" Web sites, including political and religious sites. Saudi Arabia, Syria and Egypt also make the Reporters Without Borders list of "Internet enemies." The new funding for State Department efforts to defeat Internet censorship "is a welcome arrow" in a modest arsenal of weapons for defending

Internet freedom, said Leslie Harris, president of the Center for Democracy and Technology. Protecting the Internet from abusive governments is important to supporting democracy, she said. But accomplishing that "will require the free world to take much harder positions" against abuses such as censorship. Ultimately, the odds may favor technology. "No matter how many restrictions are written in China, the Internet is a very hard technology to control," Harris said. "The number of users is growing exponentially ? blogs, e-mail accounts, the magnitude is extraordinary. At the end of the day, governments trying to control the Internet
Internet
E-mail: (b) (6) (b) (6)
subject=

On Jan 12, 2008 3:30 AM, Roger Dingledine <(b) (6)> wrote:

Meeting minutes: Tor annual meeting, Jan 11, 2008.

Ian calls meeting to order, 11:13am EST.
Roger, Andrew, Fred, Ian, Nick, Wendy, Rebecca present.
Frank Rieger also here as an invited observer, with John Gilmore and Isaac Mao joining later as invited observers.

Item 0: approve last meeting's minutes.
No objections to approving last meeting's minutes.
Approved.

a) Treasurer's report (Andrew).

Andrew gives budget overview. 2007 was a great year for us.

Ian reminds us the details of the MITACS arrangement.
First research project is Ian's grad student who wants to work on DTLS / UDP transport.
Conclusion: we'll wait until Ian learns more; he expects to learn more in February, and we can decide how much money to put in then.

Andrew: the final question is whether we'll get an audit. Still up in the air. Most likely the IRS letter will arrive in March. Andrew will continue to look for good auditing firms in anticipation that such a letter will arrive.

b) The year in review, and funding prospects (Roger).

2007 public-facing features:
- great progress on supporting apps like vidalia and torbutton
- we made it much easier for clients to be relays
- we launched the blocking-resistance work

Wendy asks if we should be doing press releases about our progress; this causes Roger to add a new agenda item (g) for that question.

Roger's intended 2008 focus:

- Make it even easier for clients to be relays
- Tolerate network scaling (see first section of roadmap-future.pdf)
- Alternate packaging: USB images, VM-based images, LiveCD images, ...
- More organizational depth: an exec dir, fundraising, handling press.

(Isaac Mao arrives: 11:34)

2008 prospective funders:

IBB and France continue as our main prospects.
We submitted a proposal to Google.
Roger is working on a funder that could fund us via ARL (the same funding avenue as our SRI contract).

c) Broad goals over the next several years.

Roger enumerates some 3-year goals:

- 10000 servers.
- Make it easy (back end and interface) to run an exit relay
- More consistent funding (30-50% of our yearly funding stable)
- Understand anonymity enough to discard our when-Tor-starts warning.
- Outreach and education
 - With law enforcement
 - With media

Nick wants us to win the "global privacy war" (a la global crypto war).

Public opinion. Public awareness of the value of anonymity. Getting an exec dir who understands this will help a lot.

Fred points out that we've got a good opportunity here for this war, because right now nobody is taking up our side in the media. So if we have the right person, we'll be the group that the media always calls.

Frank points out that the war on crypto was won by putting ssl into the browser. Not just by politics and talking. Fred agrees but says we need both.

d) Trademark update (Andrew and Wendy).

Andrew and Wendy talked to our mofo lawyers. We're working towards a licensing document so we can license people who are using our brand.

Ian wants to make sure that the people who get it licensed will put a little note saying 'Tor and the onion logo are trademarks of...'

Roger agrees, and wants to make a list of the approved projects on the Tor trademark page, so everybody can know.

Fred says that the Torriffy trademark app has now been abandoned. That's good news.

Andrew says that our trademark is still on track. Now that the two competing trademarks are withdrawn/abandoned, that goes in our favor.

Roger asks if we should pick up our European trademark filing discussion, or just leave it alone? Andrew reminds us that the Madrid filing was potentially very expensive.

Frank explains that there's a prohibition against registering every-day terms in Europe, and speculates that Tor counts.

Roger asks Frank to look into doing it in Germany. Frank needs an example application. Andrew has one of those, and will send it to Frank.

e) New directors.

Frank wants to see more focus on long-term: developing the parts of Tor that are not dependent on exit nodes: hidden services, making exit nodes more dynamic so they can survive better.

John wants to see bylaws and other docs. What form of protections do we have for directors? Andrew is still looking into this -- board insurance is tricky because we're in a category that most insurance companies don't have a category for.

Isaac is excited to spread the word about Tor in many different countries. He's quite familiar with Web 2.0 approaches and getting word out that way. Along with tutorial / outreach program, we should try to simplify the user interface (installation, configuration) as well. Viral marketing plan. Isaac is ready to start right away.

We delay actual elections until the end of the agenda, so Ian and Isaac can stay on the call.

f) The exec dir hunt.

Ian had a good set of questions about an exec dir. Fred had some good answers. Ian and Fred will assemble answers and send them back.

Fred graciously relents to be the executive director search committee chair.

Ian moves that Fred will be chair of above.
Roger seconds.
Further discussion? "Thanks Fred!"
No objections. Passed.

John asks if we've considered a search firm. Fred and John will talk about that more offline.

Fred will write a few wish-list bullet points and Roger will make a web page out of it, so people know we're looking.

g) Should we be doing press releases?

Roger thinks this should be a major bullet point on the exec dir "desired skills" list.

Rebecca says press releases are nice and all, but what we really need is to develop relationships with journalists. "Cultivating the media."

Roger suggests that that's a great thing to do once we have the bandwidth for it. Let's keep this in mind, and also put it on our "3-year vision" list.

e) Director elections

(Ian, Frank, John, and Isaac hang up.)

Andrew moves to reelect Ian to his director position. Wendy seconds. Nobody opposed. Motion Passes. Ian is a director for three more years.

Roger moves to elect Isaac Mao to the director position that is currently Rebecca's. Fred seconds. Nobody opposed. Motion passes. Isaac is now a director for three years.

Wendy moves to thank Rebecca for her fine work as a director. Roger seconds. General agreement. Motion passes.

Rebecca is excited to stay as an active contributor, particularly with respect to educating journalists and users in Asia.

Any final topics?
No final topics.

Andrew moves to adjourn.
Adjourned at 12:38.

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