Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Virtual Meeting VIII

Summary Report

16 June 2016

1. The eighth virtual meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) was held on 16 June 2016. The meeting was facilitated by Markus Kummer and Avri Doria, with Eleonora Mazzucchi representing the IGF Secretariat. The Webex recording of the meeting can be accessed here: https://intgovforum.webex.com/intgovforum/ldr.php?RCID=c5d0b455d6014a623c448f1782fc000b

2. The Secretariat gave a final presentation on the DCCG ToR, which was open for comments to all DCs until 10 June. Some changes which were incorporated into the final version were highlighted – namely that the membership of the DCCG was made more specific so as to read that “one or two” representatives of each DC were encouraged to join; and that developing a strategy for outreach to policymakers was added as an activity for the Group.

3. There were no outstanding comments on the widely agreed-upon document, which the Secretariat has proceeded to publish on the DCs homepage. It was noted during the meeting that even though the ToR is now public, it is by no means “closed” forever and future important changes can and should be made.

4. It was reiterated that each DC should produce a substantive paper as an input/background document for the main session. This should form the basis for a DC’s brief individual presentation in the main session, present what the DC thinks is important about its issue or work, and provide a clear contrast or update from last year’s main session output document. It was agreed the format of this paper would be flexible but should it exceed 5 pages, a 1-page executive summary would be preferred. All papers would be expected to be final approximately four weeks before the IGF meeting.

5. The format options for the main session were surveyed, with a clear preference expressed for “option C”, a hybrid session featuring both mini-presentations by each DC and discussion on cross-cutting issues common to all DCs. The structure would be as follows: intro on DCs, what they are and how they operate; the “vertical” segment with time devoted to each DC’s substantive theme; the “horizontal” segment on common DC issues.

6. Jeremy Malcolm suggested using DCs’ shared exhibition booth as an opportunity to promote and distribute Idea Rating Sheets (IRS) on DC outputs, as opposed to having them in the main session room as was the case last year. This would entail active outreach ahead of the annual meeting to ensure IGF participants are aware of the DCs’ outputs and are encouraged to provide feedback on them through the IRS, both online before, and at the booth during, the IGF.
7. Approaches for the vertical segment of the main session were reviewed, and both summarizing DC problem statements into tweets and using an “agent provocateur” received strong support. It was not decided whether there would be one agent provocateur per DC or one for all DCs, but it was agreed that being as specific as possible on this strategy would strengthen the main session proposal to be drafted and brought to the MAG. DCs were also encouraged to start thinking of individuals who might be good in the agent provocateur role.

8. The use of Twitter walls was also discussed and received support. There was mention that if agreed upon by the MAG and approved by the UN Secretariat, Twitter walls might be used in all main sessions at the IGF.

9. It was emphasized that as many volunteers as possible would be needed to "man" the shared DC exhibition booth. As the schedule for the IGF meeting is not yet known, for the time being volunteers should sign up and will be assigned specific time slots at the booth closer to the meeting and based on their availability. The sign-up sheet is available within the main session draft document.

10. There was an enquiry from one DC as to whether their webpage could be hosted on the IGF’s website. This was welcomed as a positive step that perhaps more DCs could take, based on the feasibility of hosting. The Secretariat looked into this possibility and can preliminarily state that this would be possible for any and all DCs in a new iteration of the IGF website to be launched in the near future.