Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Virtual Meeting VII

Summary Report

24 May 2016

1. The seventh virtual meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) was held on 24 May 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=730ea05df51552e4f4f60f047a2e2a03

Update on MAG Discussions, Newly-Adopted Draft Resolution of the CSTD

2. The group was told that during the last virtual MAG meeting the question came up whether the DC main session needed the full 3 hour slot of a main session or whether it could not be reduced to 2 hours or 90 minutes. The facilitators stressed that DCs would require the full length of a main session in order to do justice to the number of coalitions and the breadth of their work. It was noted, however, that many determinations regarding main sessions – including duration, structure, and number of sessions – have not yet been made by the MAG and that the planning of these is still in its very early stages.

3. The group was also briefed on the annual meeting of the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) that took place in Geneva earlier this month. For the first time the CSTD draft resolution on WSIS Follow-up includes specific language on the contribution of DCs and other intersessional groups in the IGF’s work. The resolution will be passed on to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for consideration and adoption.

Brainstorming for Next DC Main Session

4. It was noted that this year’s main session will have to overcome the challenge of including many coalitions (a maximum of 15) and that therefore there was a need for innovative thinking in order to allow for an interactive session. There was a general agreement that the session should not consist of a series of statements by the individual DCs, but have a stronger focus on engagement with participants and emphasize dialogue and debate elements. Several ideas emerged in this regard, including: projecting excerpts from the Twitter discussion happening in real time; ramping up remote participation; using a “provocateur” who would present a question or problem to stimulate discussion; and launching an exchange that would assist newer DCs in helping to resolve challenges encountered.

5. Several participants suggested taking a collaborative approach and focusing on a cross-cutting theme that would be of interest to all DCs, such as highlighting DC inputs to IGF processes; elaborating a common framework/ statement of purpose/mandate for all DCs that could be contributed to during the main session or the added value of DCs to the IGF. There would also be merit in reaching out to National and Regional IGF Initiatives for a thematic collaboration.

6. Three broad format options could be proposed based on the various ideas: a session divided into small slots for presentation by each DC; a session entirely devoted to issues of common interest to DCs; or a two-part hybrid session, with one part on common issues and the other with segments for each DC.

7. It was also suggested that DCs have a shared booth in the IGF Village this year. The Secretariat agreed to produce a “main session working document” detailing the session ideas and options, and including the idea for a booth, for further discussion.
Publishing DC Coordination ToR – Pending Issues

8. There was agreement to change “best practices” to “good and best practices” in the ToR, and to allow DCs two more weeks to revise the document before final clearance and publication.

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9. The question was raised in what format DC outputs should be published. While it was recognized that while standardization in presentation of the outputs is desirable, particular standards and formats will require more time for all DCs to agree upon. Meanwhile, the outputs from 2015 will be taken off the IGF review platform and re-published in a static document format, taking into account each DC’s preferences.

10. It was suggested DCs have their face-to-face coordination meeting on Day 0 at IGF2016.