

**Virtual Multistakeholder Advisory Group Meeting IX
13 May 2015**

Summary report

1. The ninth virtual meeting of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) in the IGF 2015 preparatory process took place on 13 May 2015. Ambassador Jānis Kārklīņš from Latvia moderated the meeting as Chair of the MAG and Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat. The meeting was focused on briefing the MAG on preparations for the annual meeting, the results of the workshop evaluations, the overall meeting structure, the agenda for the upcoming Open Consultations and MAG meeting (20-22 May) and the feasibility and possible location of a 3rd MAG meeting and or a working session for inter-sessional activities.

Update on preparations

2. The Secretariat provided a brief update on general preparations for the annual meeting. It was reported that in general preparations are going very well and there are no major roadblocks impeding progress. In addition to the workshop proposals the requests for open forums have also been submitted and assigned by the Secretariat. Requests for meeting space on Day 0 are in the process of being submitted, reviewed and assigned. The host country agreement is being discussed by the respective legal teams from the Government of Brazil and the United Nations and the agreement is nearly finalized.

3. A representative from Brazil reported that the host country website was nearly complete and this site will be presented during the open consultations on 20 May in Geneva. Its expected that the site will go live for the public shortly thereafter. It was also reported that information on how to apply for and receive complimentary visas for entry into Brazil for the IGF will be made available on the website.

Results of proposal evaluation

4. The Secretariat reported that 31 MAG members evaluated proposals and that the Secretariat had run preliminary statistics and the results which were then circulated to the MAG mailing list. In addition to the workshops it was reported that 17 open forums have been accepted and will be given a slot and that there are 8 open forum requests that need to reviewed further. The dynamic coalition's will also be given space during the annual meeting upon request.

5. In regards to the workshop grading, it was reported that 4.56 (out of 5) was the highest overall grade received by any of the workshop proposals and that in general there was a positive correlation between the highest graded workshops and the standard variation(s) of the MAG scoring, this is a good indicator that MAG members generally agreed upon which proposals were good and which were not.

6. A primary issue that needs to be discussed is what the cut-off point should be in regards to the total number of workshops, at the moment there are approximately 91 slots for workshops based on each workshop being 90 minutes and taking into account space necessary for the other events. Other notable preliminary statistics reported that 22 of the top 60 highest graded proposals were from developing countries and that 38% of the top 60 were submitted by first-time proposers. Civil Society was the stakeholder group that had submitted the most proposals. The Secretariat will present a comparison to the statistics from 2014 to give an historic analysis to show progress made in applying the workshop evaluation criteria established by the MAG in the past year.
7. There was a good discussion about whether or not the initial workshop grading would be made public or not. It was noted that the grading was anonymous in that MAG member names and scores were not published but rather only the raw scores and statistics based on these scores. There was agreement that the MAG should be as transparent as possible in regards to its evaluation and selection method and that the file that contained the initial scoring had already been posted to the MAG mailing list and thus was already in the public domain.
8. There was then a vibrant exchange about the principles and criteria the MAG would apply in further evaluating the workshops now that the initial MAG individual evaluation and scoring had been done, based upon the agreed upon guidelines and criteria set for initial scoring. Some believed that further criteria and principles should be agreed upon in order to achieve better thematic balance and inclusion of certain types of workshops with the aim to build the best complete and inclusive IGF programme for all stakeholders. Others believed that the initial scoring should be more closely followed in regards to the final selection of workshops based upon the fact that the MAG had agreed upon scoring criteria prior to evaluating. The possibility of merging workshops was also discussed and some MAG members felt that merging would be necessary while others cautioned against it.
9. The Chair and Secretariat reminded the MAG that these questions and issues would be the primary focus of the upcoming 2 day MAG meeting and that all decisions on programming the annual meeting would be made by the MAG as a group, taking into account all opinions and viewpoints. The lengths of the sessions could also be altered if the MAG believes that shortening some sessions to allow more slots for other workshops would improve the overall programme.
10. The MAG was also reminded that workshop proposers were told at the outset that there was a possibility that they could be asked to merge with another proposer. The Chair will circulate, prior to the open consultations and MAG meeting, some draft principles and criteria, based upon past experience and inputs received from MAG members thus far in the preparatory process, for the consideration of the MAG that could be followed during the final workshop evaluation and selection at the face to face meeting.

IGF meeting structure

11. The Secretariat presented a draft skeleton structure for the annual meeting based upon the 2014 schedule for review and consideration of the MAG. Based upon the assumption that each workshop will be given 90 minutes and also based upon the allotted open forums and slots for dynamic coalitions and other meetings it was estimated that there were 91 workshop slots. This number could be increased depending on if there were less or shorter main sessions or if some of the workshops were reduced to 60 or 30 minutes, etc.

12. One major question for the face-to-face meeting from 21-22 May will be the number of, length and content of the main/focus sessions that will be held in the plenary halls with UN interpreters. There was an initial suggestion to perhaps shorten or combine the open microphone session and traditional closing ceremony to allow for more space for workshops. The main sessions will be discussed at length and decided upon at the face-to-face MAG meeting in Geneva.

13. There was a request which received wide support to reserve some space during a main/focus session(s) to allow for dynamic coalitions, best practice forums, and the inter-sessional work of 'Connecting the Next Billion' to present their work and receive feedback and approval/buy-in from the broader IGF community. There was also strong support to allow for National and Regional IGF initiatives to feed into the annual meeting in a way that was deemed appropriate by the MAG and broader community as well.

MAG May meeting agenda and timetable (20-22 May, Geneva, ILO HQ)

14. The Chair and Secretariat had circulated a draft agenda for the upcoming open consultations and MAG meeting in Geneva and the MAG was asked if they had any particular feedback on the proposal. The open consultations will focus on issues of interest to the broader community including briefings from other IGF fora and initiatives, inter-sessional work, and the overall programme and structure of the annual meeting. The MAG meeting would be primarily focused on the final selection of workshops and detailed scheduling and programming.

15. In general the proposed agenda received support. There was also agreement that the MAG would need and should spend a maximum amount of time on workshop evaluation and selection.

Possible September MAG and/or Inter-sessional working meeting

16. There was a proposal from the Chair to perhaps hold a working meeting for the various inter-sessional working tracks in September at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The IGF could ask UNESCO if this would be feasible as UNESCO has traditionally been such a strong partner of the IGF.

17. Some MAG members still believe that it would be a good idea, if feasible, to hold a meeting in New York as NY UNHQ is where the WSIS+10 review consultations will most likely take place and these consultations would be a good opportunity for the MAG and broader IGF community to engage with government decision makers during the review process leading up to the high-level WSIS review event in December. Some MAG members asked if a decision

could be delayed until the co-facilitators for the review were appointed. Some MAG members thought that there might be two separate processes to be further discussed, i.e. an inter-sessional working session and a MAG meeting or other opportunity for the IGF to engage in the WSIS+10 review in New York or elsewhere. There was agreement that this decision would be further discussed during the face-to-face meeting and will be subject to further review once the schedule for WSIS+10 consultations and general review was set by the UN.

18. Ambassador Fonseca invited MAG members to join the briefing being hosted by the Brazilian government on May 25th at the WSIS forum and also noted that online participation for this meeting would be made available. He noted that this would be a good initial opportunity to engage with governments at the WSIS forum and other stakeholders and to brief them on the various activities of the IGF.

Annex

List of participants

Chair	
Mr. Kārklīņš, Jānis	Ambassador at large of Latvia
Honorary Chair	
Fonseca, Benedicto	Ambassador, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, Brazil
Advisor to the Chair	
Mr. Kummer, Markus	Member, ICANN Board of Directors
MAG members	
Ms. Arida, Christine	Director of Telecom Services and Planning Division, National Telecom Regulatory Authority
Ms. Ali Husain Castilho, Angelic Caroline	Diplomat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname
Ms. Alexander, Fiona	Associate Administrator for International Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce
Mr. Amessinou, Kossi	Ingénieur Tic, Ministère du Développement, de l'Analyse Economique et de la Prospective
Ms. Bommelaer, Constance	Geneva, Switzerland- Senior Director of Global Policy Partnerships, Internet Society (ISOC)
Ms. Cade, Marilyn	CEO, Strategies mCADE llc
Ms. Chaturvedi, Subi	Adjunct Faculty/Hon. Managing Trustee, IIIT Delhi
Mr. Dengate Thrush, Peter	Counsel, Barrister
Ms. Doria, Avri	Independent Researcher, DBA Technicalities
Mr. Elgamal, Hossam	Board Member, AfICTA - Africa ICT Alliance
Mr. Fernández González, Juan Alfonso	Advisor, Ministry of Communications of the Republic of Cuba
Mr. Gjorgjinski, Ljupco Jivan	Assistant Director, Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia
Ms. Ho, Bianca	NetMission Ambassador,

	NetMission.Asia
Ms. Kaspar, Lea	Programme Lead, Global Partners Digital
Ms. Laksmi, Shita	Programme Manager, HIVOS Regional Office Southeast Asia
Ms. Lazanski, Dominique	Public Policy Director, GSM Association
Ms. Mahmutovic, Aida	Programme Manager, Oneworld - Platform for Southeast Europe (OWPSEE) Foundation
Mr. Mazzone, Giacomo	Head of Institutional Relations, European Broadcasting Union
Mr. Moisander, Juuso	Commercial Secretary, Information Society and ICT, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
Mr. Nelson, Michael	Information Technology Trends and Internet Policy Consultant
Ms. Neves, Ana	Director of the Department of Information Society, "Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P.", Ministry of Education and Science
Ms. Paque, Virginia	Director Internet Governance Programmes, Diplo Foundation
Mr. Percy Kenyanito, Ephraim	Policy Fellow, Access
Ms. St. Amour, Lynn	CEO, Internet Matters
Ms. Salakova, Marianne	Consultant on Internet related Policies, Legal Transformations Center
Ms. Soboutipour, Shahram	Senior Advisor on International Affairs, Tehran ICT Guide Organization (TIG)
Mr. Wagner, Flávio	Board Member, Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br)
IGF 2015 Host Country	
Mr. Ferreira dos Santos Jr. Jandyr	Counsellor, Head of the Information Society Division, Department of Scientific and Technological Themes, Ministry of External Relations
Other attendees	
Mr. Faye, Makane	
Mr. Gutterman, Brian	
Ms. Porciuncula, Lorryne	
Ms. Teleanu, Sorina	
Ms. Suto, Timea	
IGF Secretariat	

Mr. Masango, Chengetai	Programme and Technology Manager
Ms. Barnes, Ma. Victoria	Assistant
Mr. Fatani, Rafid	Consultant
Mr. Quesada Rodríguez, Adrián	Fellow
Ms. Van der Spuy, Anri	Fellow
Ms. Baclig Lara	Intern