



Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Virtual Meeting XXV

Summary Report

9 March 2018

1. The twenty-fifth virtual meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) took place on 9 March 2018. The meeting was facilitated by Markus Kummer and Israel Rosas, with Eleonora Mazzucchi representing the IGF Secretariat. The agenda of the DCCG meeting (**ANNEX I**) focused on reviewing relevant parts of the IGF's traditional 'stocktaking' synthesis, taking forward discussions on a possible common theme or project for DCs in 2018, and DCs' input to the upcoming MAG meeting. The Webex recording of the meeting can be accessed here:
<https://intgovforum.webex.com/intgovforum/lsr.php?RCID=424ee2e5b3586911d8cb94d926790abf>
2. The meeting began with a short update from Lynn St. Amour, the Chair of the MAG, on the appointment of new members for 2018. It was reported that the new membership, which rotates annually and is by decision of the UN Secretary-General, could be announced that same day or shortly in the coming days. She noted that despite the many efforts made to improve the timing of the MAG announcement, it was coming considerably later than expected and that a firm objective for 2018 would be to ensure the next MAG is appointed before the end of the year. She touched on the issue of future IGF host countries, informing DCs that there were strong candidates for this year and that Germany was the confirmed host for 2019. A brief overview was also given of the agenda for the MAG's first face-to-face meeting, set to take place on 20-22 March.
3. The major points from DCs' last coordination meeting on 5 February were briefly reviewed, so as to help all participants understand the state of discussions. Two specific issues from that last call had been widely agreed on for further discussion and action over the coming months – namely that DCs should proactively tighten their requirements for holding a session at the IGF and seek to make them more procedurally similar to those used for workshops; and that they should take the opportunity to participate in the activities of other IGF groups, particularly MAG working groups, where there would be several topics of interest to coalitions. It was mentioned that although DCs had overwhelmingly agreed on a tightening of standards for their sessions, not all aspects would have to be identical to the workshops process. While standards for having a diverse and multistakeholder mix of speakers should be high, deadlines, for instance, need not be the same and should take into consideration the time needed to confirm speakers in a session.
4. The references made to DCs in the Secretariat's recently released stocktaking synthesis paper were also discussed. It was said that DCs' work was generally praised and coalitions

were seen as valuable members of the IGF community. Contributors had underscored their desire to have DCs made more visible in the annual programme and intersessionally, as well as more information made available on their work and how to join their activities. The synthesis further noted that there could be more cross-fertilization across DCs and other groups, in particular with similarly themed BPFs, and that this could be facilitated with more synchronicity of intersessional processes and deadlines.

5. A briefing on the overall synthesis by the Secretariat highlighted a few important, general takeaways. It was said that, first and foremost, what was evident across stocktaking inputs was that the community felt the IGF had proven its relevance with the 2017 annual meeting. Contributors were pleased that the IGF was responding to the new and emerging issues 'of the day', with discussions on topics such as Artificial Intelligence, blockchain technologies and 'fakenews'. Thanks to the meeting being held in Geneva, more Governments and intergovernmental organizations were present, and this closer contact with policymakers was also appreciated by participants. Another general trend was that inputs expressed that the content of the programme was of very high quality, with a lot of richness and variety, but that perhaps the programme had expanded too much; to this point, some had recommended cutting the number of workshops altogether. Finally, several inputs had emphasized the need for more 'outcome-orientation' at the IGF and as a way forward, suggested building on the 'Geneva Messages', which had provided useful same-time syntheses of the IGF's main sessions.
6. Regarding the notion of collaboration or cross-fertilization across intersessional groups – as highlighted by both DCs themselves and in the stocktaking inputs – a discussion took place on how to action this. As a small practical measure, the Secretariat informed that an early version of a 'common IGF calendar' was being launched. The intention of this calendar was to be a 'one-stop shop' for all IGF community meetings – including those hosted by the Secretariat, intersessional groups, and NRIs – whether they are virtual or face-to-face. In line with the general principles of openness expressed in DCs' terms of reference, announcing their individual meetings through this calendar would give anyone in the IGF community the opportunity to join, and inversely DCs could participate in meetings held by other coalitions, intersessional groups or NRIs. Each meeting announcement will provide details on how to participate, and if a virtual meeting, an online access point. Lynn also mentioned that this year the MAG would seek greater alignment between main session topics and the issues DCs work on, and that it was hoped DCs would make substantive recommendations to the MAG's upcoming discussion of possible IGF themes for 2018.
7. In closing the meeting, Markus said he would report to the MAG a number of DC perspectives and updates as they had been introduced on this call. Among these, were that DCs would actively raise their own standards for holding sessions in the IGF; that they would look to contribute to the work of other groups (e.g. BPFs and MAG working groups) and to helping determine the substantive direction of the IGF this year; and that they would consider working on a common main session theme or project, partly dependent on what the overarching theme of the 2018 might be.
8. It was agreed a next DC coordination call should take place in approximately one month, in early April, with discussions continuing on the DCs mailing list as needed.

ANNEX I

DC Coordination Meeting XXV – 9 March 2018

Agenda

- I. DCs & IGF Stocktaking Synthesis**
- II. Advancing Common Themes/Projects in 2018?**
- III. Reporting into Upcoming MAG Meeting**
- IV. AOB**

ANNEX II

Participants List

Markus Kummer (Co-Facilitator)

Israel Rosas (Co-Facilitator)

Lynn St. Amour (MAG Chair)

Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)

Luis Bobo Garcia (IGF Secretariat)

Luca Belli (DC3, DCNN, DCPR)

Olivier Crépin Leblond (DC-CIV)

Jutta Croll (DC-COS)

Marie-Laure Lemineur (DC-COS)

Jeremy Malcolm (DC-Trade)

Sivasubramanian Muthusamy (DC-CIV)

Smita Vanniyar (DC-Gender)