

IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) Virtual Meeting VII 13 June 2018

Summary Report

1. The seventh Virtual MAG Meeting of the 2018 IGF preparatory cycle took place on 13 June. Ms. Lynn St. Amour moderated the meeting as Chair of the MAG and Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat. The agenda (**ANNEX I**) focused on the workshops evaluation phase, including statistics to support the evaluation and the grading platform, as well as on main or thematic sessions for the programme. Developments on the IGF 2018 venue were also covered.
2. The meeting began with an update from the Secretariat on the IGF 2018 venue. It was confirmed that the meeting would be held in Paris, France and would take place over three days, rather than the usual four, during the week of 11 November. It was said that the French Government was in the process of helping to find the right arrangements and timing for a possible high level roundtable and setting for Day 0 pre-events. The Secretariat also confirmed it would undertake a pro-forma assessment mission in order to inspect the venue on 15 June, together with UNDESA and technical colleagues. A press release or other announcement to publicly inform of the venue and dates will go out soon, once the assessment mission is complete.
3. The Secretariat then gave an overview of the [statistical document](#) it had prepared on the workshop proposals. It noted a marked increase of the number of proposals from the [previous year](#), from 268 to 348 currently, following its screening. It was explained that the screening had only eliminated proposals that were duplicates or voluntarily withdrawn by the proposers; other minimum criteria, such as the requirement to have at least three speakers listed, were mandatory in the e-form, so proposers would have been prompted to complete the information before submitting. The statistics on the eight possible major themes showed that Cybersecurity, Trust and Privacy topped the list, followed by Human Rights, Gender & Youth; Development, Innovation & Economic Issues; Digital Inclusion & Accessibility; Emerging Technologies; Evolution of Internet Governance; Media & Content; and Technical & Operational Topics. The latter four categories had comparatively fewer workshops proposed.

It was noted that although Cybersecurity had been the most popular theme, 'Internet for Development & SDGs' was in fact the most popular subtheme, closely followed by 'Data Privacy'; 'Access & Connectivity'; 'Cybersecurity Best Practices'; and 'Artificial Intelligence' as the top five.

A number of other subthemes had been suggested by the proposers, among which 'Child Online Protection', 'Law Enforcement Access to Online Data', 'Rural Areas and Remote Territories' and 'Emerging Legal Trends'.

In keeping with previous years, the majority of proposers had opted for workshops in panel or roundtable formats.

The statistics further showed a near-perfect even split among men and women co-organizers, with 1% of organizers identifying as 'Other'.

As in 2017, the majority of co-organizers identified as civil society and almost half were from the Western European and Others (WEOG) regional group. The regional and stakeholder breakdowns on speakers very closely mirrored those of co-organizers.

A discussion followed on how best to understand the diversity within the proposals as some felt that focusing on co-organizers was not necessarily reflective of the diversity (stakeholder, region, gender) within the workshops, nor could one directly correlate topics of interest to regions/stakeholders based on the metric of co-organizers. Some MAG members volunteered to review this and provide additional information/recommendations to the MAG.

4. A second demonstration of the workshop evaluation system was given to MAG members, now containing the proposals by theme that each have been assigned. The demonstration clarified the numerical grading system and criteria against which members would be evaluating, as well as the use of separate internal and external text boxes for notes. The former was added by the Secretariat at the MAG's request so that any useful notes during evaluation could be made; the external one is for feedback to the proposers, which they will automatically receive when the results of the selection process are communicated. After some discussion regarding the likelihood of suggested mergers, it was agreed that a third text box, specifically for indicating that a proposal should be merged with another or other proposal(s), and identifying said proposals, would be added.

5. The MAG discussed in general terms the number of proposals that might be accepted, given two key factors: the MAG's direction in the first face-to-face meeting to reduce the number of parallel tracks and keep the programme as cohesive, focused and non-duplicative as possible; and the reduction by one day of the meeting schedule this year. Given the MAG's direction above, at least 25% fewer workshops would have to be admitted, translating roughly to room for approximately 60 proposals. This would be reviewed once the number of other sessions (Open Forums, community intersessional events - DCs, BPFs, CENB, etc. were known). Also, more mergers could be applied, and as was suggested, proposers could also be approached and asked to reduce the durations of their sessions (from 90 to 60 minutes, for instance).

It was further noted, based on the breakdown of themes shown in the [proposal statistics](#), that a couple of themes had received far fewer proposals than others, and it should not be taken as a given that the programme will feature eight thematic tracks.

6. Members discussed preliminarily the process for identifying main or thematic sessions this year. It was felt that the practice of submitting proposals for main sessions, as was done in the past, should be discontinued in favour of a deliberative, consensus-based, topic-focused approach. It was also suggested that main sessions themselves should be re-conceptualized, as their

distinctiveness is tied to the availability of interpretation and larger room size. Extending those features to other sessions could be taken under consideration, and at the same time, there was support for moving away from the standard three-hour time block for traditional main sessions. It had been noted on several occasions in the past that three hours was too long for a session. There was also much support for integrating intersessional work into the main sessions where intersections exist. Overall, it was agreed that the main or thematic sessions programme should further be determined on the basis of the workshop evaluation results, which will be done by theme, as well as the results of the original Call for Issues.

7. A couple of questions were briefly raised as to what could be foreseen for the format of a high-level opening session. Although decisions by the French Government, which would be responsible for such a session, cannot be pre-empted it was said that there was perhaps an early idea to build on the innovation of the Swiss Government's [high-level opening session last year](#). It was also mentioned that the French Government would be looking at ways to synergize the IGF with the parallel Paris Peace Forum.

8. Per the [calendar](#), the MAG's next virtual meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 27 June, 13.00 UTC**.

Annex I

MAG Virtual Meeting VII

13 June 2018, 20.00 UTC

Draft Agenda

- 1 – Adoption of Agenda (3 min)**
- 2 – Misc Updates by the Secretariat (20 min)**
 - IGF 2018 venue
 - Workshop evaluation update
- 3 – MAG Workshop Evaluation System (20 min)**
- 4 – Main/Thematic/Intersessional Session Discussion (40 minutes)**
- 5 – AOB (20 min)**

List of Participants

MAG Chair			
Ms.	St. Amour	Lynn	Internet Matters
MAG Members			
Ms.	Abdulla	Rasha	The American University in Cairo
Ms.	Aquino Ribeiro	Renata	E. I. Consulting
Mr.	Casasbuenas	Julián	Colnodo/APC
Ms.	Cassa	Concettina	Agency for Digital Italy
Ms.	Chung	Jennifer	Dot Asia
Ms.	Croll	Jutta	Digital Opportunities Foundation / Stiftung Digitale Chancen
Ms.	Dahmani	Wafa	unisian Internet Agency ATI
Mr.	Donkor	Wisdom	Ghana Open Data Initiative, National Information Technology Agency
Ms.	Erramuspe	Alejandra	Agencia de Gobierno Electrónico y Sociedad de la Información y el Conocimiento, Uruguay
Mr.	Estrada	Miguel Ignacio	LACTLD
Ms.	Galstyan	Lianna	ISOC Armenia
Ms.	Gatto	Raquel	ISOC
Ms.	Glavor	Nataša	Data Analyst, CARNet
Mr.	Gridl	Rudolf	Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
Mr.	Ilishebo	Michael	Zambia Police Service
Mr.	Jevtovic	Danko	Jugodata
Mr.	Ji	Haojun	Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Mr.	Lo	Mamadou	Credit Agricole Bank, Senegal
Mr.	Markovski	Veni	ICANN
Ms.	Parris	June	Halaqah Media
Mr.	Regoje	Nebojsa	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr.	Rhijn van	Arnold	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy
Mr.	Rowney	Paul	AfICTA
Mr.	Sabir	Sumon Ahmed	Fiber@Home Limited
Mr.	Sibul	Heiki	Estonia Internet Foundation
Ms.	Suto	Timea	ICC BASIS
Ms.	Tamanikaiwaimaro	Salanieta	South Pacific Computer Society
Mr.	Tao	Xiaofeng	Member of the Consultative Committee on ICT for United Nations, China Association for Science and Technology; Professor, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications
Ms.	Teleanu	Sorina	DiploFoundation
Ms.	Uduma	Mary	Nigeria Internet Governance Forum

Mr.	Wallis	Ben	Microsoft
Former IGF Host Country Representatives			
Mr.	Rosas	Israel	Coordination of the National Digital Strategy, Mexico
Ms.	Walpen	Livia	Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), Switzerland
Other Participants			
Ms.	Cade	Marilyn	ICT Strategies - mCADE llc
Mr.	Kummer	Markus	IGFSA
Mr.	Mazzone	Giacomo	European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
Mr.	Prendergast	Jim	Galway Strategy Group
IGF Secretariat			
Mr.	Masango	Chengetai	Programme and Technology Manager
Mr.	Garcia Bobo	Luis	Associate Information Systems Officer
Ms.	Mazzucchi	Eleonora	Programme Management Assistant
Ms.	Gengo	Anja	Focal Point for the National and Regional IGFs