

**NATIONAL, (SUB)REGIONAL AND YOUTH IGF INITIATIVES
- Virtual Meeting VI | 25 August 2020 | 15:00 p.m. UTC -**

SUMMARY REPORT

Action Points:

For the NRIs coordinators:

- *By 15 September to communicate:*
 - 1) *names of their delegated representatives as speakers for the NRIs main session;*
 - 2) *short written outlines of their position for the NRIs main session.*
- *Share ideas for the main session's format and suggest co-moderators.*

For the NRIs Focal Point:

- *Continuously update the list of received inputs and confirmed speakers at the IGF website.*
- *Draft an outline on the concept of NRIs Remote Hubs for IGF 2020.*
- *Call for volunteers for the NRIs main session rapporteurs, multilingual chat support focal points.*
- *Approach NRIs to nominate possible co-moderators and continue sharing inputs for the main session's format.*
- *Call NRIs to advise if the NRIs coordination session should be hosted and if so, when and how.*
- *Communicate ideas for the networking/social activities and IGF Village to the Secretariat's management.*

Summary of key points

1. The 6th virtual meeting of the National, Sub-regional, Regional and Youth IGF Initiatives (NRIs) of the IGF 2020 preparatory cycle, took place on 25 August 2020 at 15:00 p.m. UTC. The meeting was hosted by the IGF Secretariat's NRIs Focal Point. The adopted version of the agenda is attached to this document as Annex A1 and a list of meeting participants as Annex A2. The list of shared documents is attached to this report as Annex A3.
2. The meeting focused on a range of updates regarding the IGF 2020 annual meeting, ways of inclusion of the NRIs respective communities in the IGF 2020, as well as continuation of planning of the NRIs main session focused on the *role of the Internet in emergency situations*.

Updates from IGF Secretariat and NRIs

3. In order to save time, the Secretariat has communicated the following updates beforehand and opened the floor for possible clarification:
 - *IGF 2020 dates and schedule finalized and published at the IGF website. The MAG Chair also wrote a blog on this.*

- *(draft) IGF 2020 High-Level Leaders Track concept published*
- *IGF 2021 MAG Renewal closes on 25 August*
- *Open surveys: BPF Gender and BPF Local Content (6 September)*
- *Call for IGF 2020 remote hubs open*
- *NRIs soon to be recognized: Madagascar IGF*
- *NRIs Focal Point attended preparatory call of the in-formation sub-regional IGF Indian Ocean IGF and spoke at Youth Ghana IGF*
- *Strategy on IGF 2020 youth engagement to be announced during the week*
- *Formed private mailing lists with open archives for: (1) NRIs coordinators and (2) Youth IGF coordinators*

4. On behalf of the NRIs, the following updates were shared during the meeting:

NRI	Shared update
Nigeria IGF	The planning for the online Nigeria IGF 2020 is underway. The meeting should happen on 23-24 September under the main theme: achieving inclusive digital economic development in the post-COVID-19 era.
Finland IGF	The organising committee will meet in September to decided if the annual meeting will take place in 2020, given the ongoing pandemic.
Brazil IGF	<p>Brazilian IGF has also been converted to an online event, so as to cope with all the difficulties posed by the current context and following the experience of several other initiatives. The event will be held remotely from 21 to 25 September. The program was designed to have 27 workshops (submitted and organized by the community), besides opening, closing and 3 main sessions.</p> <p>Brazilian IGF will rely on an online platform managed by the National Education and Research Network (RNP), an organization that supports all academic networks in Brazil. In terms of adapting the agenda to the online format, we chose to hold afternoon and evening sessions only. It will be 5 consecutive days, with 3h30 to 5h30 duration daily.</p> <p>27 workshops are selected, out of 74 total submissions by the community. Diverse themes are represented in the programme, including: infrastructure and connectivity, diversity, education, privacy and data protection, algorithms and artificial intelligence, regulation, disinformation, and the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
UK-IGF	The Committee is preparing a virtual UK-IGF 2020 meeting that will take place on 15-17 September.
West African IGF	The output communique of the recently hosted virtual West African IGF is published.
African IGF	The Committee is deciding if the meeting should take place as virtual or in-person event later in this year.
Italy IGF	The Italian IGF 2020 will be hosted online from 7-9 October with elements of in-person meeting through focal points and speakers stationed in several cities across the country.

Bolivia IGF	The Bolivian IGF 2020 will be hosted online on 24-26 September, with innovative approaches to session formats ('reversed panel' concept).
Caribbean IGF	The 16 th Caribbean IGF is hosted online on 26-28 August under the main theme: accelerating digital transformation: Internet governance matters! More information is available at: https://www.ctu.int/event/16th-caribbean-internet-governance-forum/
Colombia IGF	The 2020 Colombian IGF will be hosted online, most probably in October. The Committee is focused on long-term action planning for 2020 and 2021 and how to advance the inclusion of underrepresented stakeholders. The website is being redesigned to better visually capture the upcoming activities and overall have better experience with the meeting hosted online. Also, the administrative changes related to the Ministry of ICTs now hosting the .co domain have prompted the Colombian IGF to participate in this work domain upon being invited by the Ministry.
Mauritius IGF	The Mauritius IGF will be hosted as an in-person event at the end of October 2020. It will also include a regional inaugural component for preparing the sub-regional IGF of Indian Ocean States.
Barbados IGF	The Committee is exploring the ways of assigned a new Chair and ways to reactive the national IGF.
Madagascar IGF (to be recognised)	The first annual meeting is scheduled for 27-28 August.
St. Vincent and the Grenadines IGF	The 2020 annual meeting is planned to be hosted in late November, dates to be confirmed.

NRIs Remote Hubs at IGF 2020

6. The meeting continued with participants discussing the possibility of the NRIs hosting remote hubs during the IGF 2020 meeting. Along with reminding that the practice of hosting remote hubs exists for years with the IGF, some underlined that this year's hubs are particularly important as they could remedy the lack of face-to-face networking opportunities. Several NRIs reported to have extensive experience of successfully hosting remote hubs for the IGF annual meetings or the regional IGF meetings in past. They shared their optimism to host the hubs this year, while several said they will not be able to commit, despite being interested, given the worsening epidemiological situation in their countries.
5. Regarding the design and logistics of organising a remote hub, some shared their inputs on what are critical elements for a successful hub:
 - *Stable connection on a central, possible desktop computer device. Hubs coordinators are encouraged to ensure having backup connection, possibly through mobile data.*

- *Audio-video system installed in a room large enough to accommodate targeted number of people. The latter is of a particular importance this year as epidemiological measures have to be respected in light of still ongoing the COVID-19 pandemic. A central screen with camera will help to project video from the room directly to the meeting platform. Sound amplifier is recommended to have.*
 - *A few NRIs noted the importance of having a technical support in the room, as well as of allocating budget for meals and refreshment. Social media strategy should follow the hub's schedule.*
 - *One participant advised to organise remote hubs per time zone, given the three parallel tracks of sessions happening throughout of day in UTC time zone. Others followed up by noting the importance of remote hubs building their own schedule against the overall IGF 2020 schedule, to mark the sessions the community can attend, taking into account the hubs participant's overall thematic interest as well as the convenient work hours for the hub's location. Further, one participant suggested gatherings by common thematic interest with having a local expert explaining the background and providing a readout on what has been discussed. On the latter, the host confirmed that there are similar ideas for the concept of the networking breaks and that this particular idea will be forwarded to the MAG Chair for consideration.*
7. It was agreed that the NRIs that have more experience will support the IGF Secretariat's drafting an outline of the concept of remote hubs and essential equipment these need.
 8. The IGF Secretariat confirmed the possibility of supporting the implementation of the remote hubs in developing countries and maybe in transitional economies. This support could relate to supporting costs of essential equipment. Upon a specific question, it was said that this support is limited, depending on the number of the NRIs that would sign-up to organise the hubs and their capacity in terms of people that can attend as well as the hubs' active hours. However, there is no limitation on the number of remote hubs that can register with the Secretariat to organise it autonomously.

NRIs main session at IGF 2020

6. Participants have reviewed the assigned timeslot to the NRI main session in the IGF 2020 schedule, which is Friday, 13 November from 16:50-18:20 UTC. The host confirmed that the session will be transcribed, webcasted and interpreted to six UN languages.
7. It was agreed that the NRIs that wish to confirm their speakers for the session can do that until 15 September. Full name of a speaker with a short-written position of what the particular NRI will bring into the session, communicated until 15 September, is a condition for assigned speaking role at this session. Received inputs will be published on the IGF website/NRIs dedicated pages.
8. The discussion further developed on the logistics of the session's further planning process, as summarised below:

- a) The session should have more than one moderator, to ensure the discussion happening over Zoom platform including the chat function is captured. While some advised that one moderator is dedicated only to moderation of the discussion happening over chat, one participant cautioned against having two moderators with distinct roles of moderating dialogue and chat, and advised that the co-moderators complete each other and engage those participating in verbal discussion as well as via written chat messages in a way that would ensure a natural, uninterrupted flow of the overall discussion. It was also advised to considering adding a moderator for social media who would be tasked to gather key points of relevance from the social media channels to feed into the session. *To support the moderation of chat, Ms. Judith Hellerstein from the IGF-USA has volunteers.*
 - b) The session would benefit from a multilingual support of several focal points that collectively speak all six UN languages, that would help to translate the chat messages communicated in any of the six UN languages to the session co-moderators. The Host committed to communicate with the NRIs to engage five volunteers that would support the co-moderators with monitoring the chat and summarising relevant received inputs into English.
 - c) It was reiterated that the session's format needs to be interactive that could benefit from using polls as one of the Zoom's features. However, it was advised against using the Zoom's breakout rooms feature.
 - d) It was agreed that the NRIs Focal Point will call for NRIs communities to volunteer to support the session as rapporteurs. The aim is to engage at least two co-rapporteurs. *As one of the rapporteurs, Mr. Taiwo Peter Akinremi from the African IGF community has volunteered.*
 - e) On the questions of technical ways of hosting the session, the host confirmed that most probably the main sessions will be hosted as Zoom webinars and not as Zoom meetings. Participants shared some of their previous experience with Zoom webinars, agreeing that while the safety is a priority, having all participants names and videos visible, as well as visible-to-everyone enabled chat function is important for achieving an interactive and friendly dialogue. From the IGF-USA, it was said that some advice on this will be communicated in writing, based on their experience from the recently hosted virtual annual meeting also via Zoom.
9. Participants have tasked the NRIs Focal Point to again develop the script for the NRIs main session as last year. The following timeline for planning the session was endorsed:

NRIs Main Session Timeline	
Deadline	Action item
By 15 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit inputs and confirm speaker • Suggest rapporteur(s)
By 30 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm format and session proposal • Suggest moderators (main moderator(s) and chat moderator(s)) • Publish proposal and inputs on IGF website
By 10 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm: main moderator(s); rapporteur(s); chat moderator
20 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for session moderators and rapporteurs • Preparatory call for speakers

NRIs collaborative sessions and booth at IGF 2020 Village

10. The host has also shared the scheduled timeslots for the seven NRIs collaborative sessions and informed that the planning of these will continue over the next couple of weeks until the IGF 2020 will start.
11. The concept of the IGF 2020 Village was shared with the NRIs (Annex A3). It was agreed that over the mailing list the planning will continue on how to populate the NRIs e-booth space with relevant materials and host consultations with the NRIs upon request. Some participants share ideas for the IGF Village in a way to be structured as a virtual tour among all booths, while others advised that booths should host ‘flash sessions/talks’ over Zoom in scheduled hours. The host committed to bring these good ideas to the Secretariat’s management attention.

NRIs coordination session

12. As the allocated time for this meeting was already exhausted, it was agreed that the discussion on hosting the traditional NRIs coordination session will be carried through the NRIs mailing list and at the next NRIs virtual meeting. The consultations should develop around the questions:
 1. *Should this session be organised during the IGF 2020?*
 2. *If yes, in which phase of the IGF 2020?*
 3. *Timeline to start building a bottom-up agenda and list of speakers.*
13. **Next meeting:** A doodle poll to plan the next meeting will be communicated in the next two weeks.
14. For any suggestions or questions regarding the report, kindly contact the IGF Secretariat, NRIs Focal Point at: anja.gengo@un.org.

ANNEX A1

AGENDA: Virtual Meeting V

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. IGF 2020: overall meeting's structure and logistics. NRIs support to IGF 2020.
3. NRIs Main Session: schedule position; received inputs from NRIs and finalisation of session proposal
4. NRIs booth and NRIs collaborative sessions: schedule position and logistics
5. NRIs coordination session: should there be one this year and when?
6. AoB

ANNEX A2

MEETING PARTICIPANTS *(in alphabetical order¹):*

1. Abdias Zambrano, Panama IGF
2. Alexei Marciuc, Moldova IGF
3. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
4. Caleb Ogundele, Nigeria IGF
5. Carlos Afonso, MAG member from Brazil / Brazil IGF
6. Concettina Cassa, Italian IGF
7. Cristina Morales, Youth Nicaragua IGF
8. Dusan Caf, Slovenia IGF
9. Dustin Loup, IGF-USA
10. Everton Rodrigues, Brazil IGF
11. Fanny Salyou, Cote d'Ivoire IGF
12. Ishaku Simon, Nigeria IGF
13. Jose Felix Hernandez-Gil, Spain IGF
14. Judith Hellerstein, IGF-USA
15. Julian Casasbuenas, Colombia IGF
16. June Parris, Barbados IGF
17. Khouzeifi Issakha, Youth Chad IGF
18. Lianna Galstyan, Armenia IGF, SEEDIG
19. Lucien Castex, France IGF
20. Mahendranath Busgopaul, Mauritius IGF
21. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, Madagascar IGF
22. Marta Dias (did not identify)
23. Mary Uduma, West African IGF
24. Mauricia Abdol, South Africa ISOC Chapter
25. Melinda Clem, IGF-USA
26. Nigel Cassimire, Caribbean IGF
27. Nnenna Nwakanma, Web Foundation

¹ Names indicates as participants have identified in the Zoom online participation tool.

28. Paul Rowney, Namibia IGF
29. Peter Koch, German IGF
30. Petri Kuurma, Finnish IGF
31. Pierre-Jean Darres, Quebec IGF
32. Rachad Sanoussi (did not identify)
33. Rakotondrainibe Harimino Lalatiana, Madagascar IGF
34. Raymond Mamattah, Ghana
35. Roberto Zambrana, Bolivia IGF
36. Rowena Schoo, UK IGF
37. Roxanne John, St. Vincent and the Grenadines IGF
38. Sorina Teleanu, SEEDIG
39. Taiwo Peter Akinremi, African Rapporteurs organisation
40. Timothy Audu, Nigeria IGF
41. Tracy F. Hackshaw, Trinidad and Tobago IGF
42. Vinicius W. O. Santos, Brazil IGF
43. Wisdom Donkor, Ghana IGF

ANNEX A3

LIST OF SHARED INPUTS

- *Agenda with meeting inputs:*
https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/7507/2238
- *Draft proposal for the NRIs main session:*
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fUdXTT6EIFfV7GqEKUrYw3GQVAzv0pVQinCEZ-l2mpo/edit?usp=sharing>
- *Looking at the best practices from the NRIs that will host their annual meetings online, inputs: here.* <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KH7fLfaWnV6MRQmwBPIMepQ00yTxd5f82A73CKsk5tE/edit?usp=sharing>