

MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy

Online Meeting 74 18 April 2024 at 5:00 UTC

Summary Report

The 74th virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 28 March 2024 at 13:00 UTC. The meeting was moderated by Chris Buckridge and a recording of the meeting is available upon request.

The co-chair opened the meeting by introducing the agenda:

Agenda

1. GDC
2. Update from the IGF Secretariat
3. IGF strategic vision
4. CSTD meeting, WSIS +20 review
5. Netmundial +10
6. AoB

Discussion Points

1. GDC

Anriette and Jorge shared some information on the ongoing CSTD conference in relation to the GDC and the discussion related to the activation of new structures, saying that from several parts there was a request to leverage on existing structures instead of creating new ones. Anriette cautioned for Technical Community and Civil Society can be complacent on their participation.

All WG members were asked to submit comments on the [input document](#)

Chris shared some thoughts for a MAG input to the stakeholder consultation on 24 April:

1. Highlight and reiterate the point made by many in the informal consultation about the need to leverage current structures and processes instead of creating new ones.
2. Reiterate need and ability to evolve IGF as a mechanism for follow up and review of the GDC.

3. Make clear the openness to working with WSIS partners to fill any gaps in follow-up and review.
4. Invite all (including Co-Facilitators) to take part in discussions at the WSIS Forum, particularly the IGF session on Tuesday, 28 May, where we plan to further consider the needs of follow-up and review and how they can be met.

Jordan questioned if we need to analyse the text and fix these problems / risks and if it can be done before 2-3 May or over a series of weeks.

Referring to the CSTD meeting Jorge updated on the presentation made by Carol's at the CSTD meeting where she emphasized the contribution of the IGF and its role. He added that the same tone should be used in NY to increase awareness of the IGF contribution. It could be very useful to share the results and sentiments represented by the Government officials and prime ministers during CSTD of a full support to the WSIS and IGF.

About the next WSIS Forum that involves a different audience and people more involved in the ICT for development, Anriette stressed on the need to reiterate the message of using the existing mechanisms and that the GDC can be leveraged to SDG process and on the work that has already been done. If this message would be reiterated there, that would be a success. Anriette pointed out that the support for WSIS has been a unifying factor for member states. She is concerned if the IGF is unable to rise to these opportunities.

Chris summarized, that based on inputs we will draft some text and take some inputs from the WG and see how the intervention will be made.

Mark Carvell shared that the EuroDIG Extra interactive webinar on the GDC zero draft will be held next Thursday 25 April at 14:00 – 15:30 CEST (12:00-13:30 UTC) Details and link to register at <https://www.eurodig.org/get-involved/eurodig-extra/#tab-eurodig-extra-vol-5> There is a list of guiding questions which is posted on the EuroDIG commenting platform: <https://comment.eurodig.org/eurodig-extra-on-global-digital-compact-zero-draft/>

2. IGF Secretariat Update

Celine shared that the secretariat will organize a session on workshop submission for the youth on 19 April. She shared the registration for the 2nd MAG meeting is now over.

Eleonora is leading the preparations to the IGF WSIS session and she is inviting inputs from the WG strategy and MAG members. The IGF session at the WSIS will be on 28th May. It was shared that IGF would have a booth at the venue.

Action Item: : An email to be sent to Eleonora suggesting WG would be interested to work on the content of the session, and informing about collective WG-Strategy input. Nigel also offered to possibly bring the UK Minister along.

Celine shared that Carol was part of the CSTD session and IGF Secretariat participated in the sessions taking notes and comments and interacting with attendees there.

Responding to whether LP would intervene in the GDC intervention session on 24 April. Celine shared that Vint will not have time to participate and that. Carol has asked if anyone from LP will make any intervention.

Celine further shared that Carol will be a panelist at the IWW session DRIF organized by Benga and another session organized by APC.

3. IGF Strategic Vision

Chris shared the document Titti had created (Link to [proposal](#)) and the need to work further on it.

Jordan questioned the objective of this exercise and what would be the best process for that. If there is a need for strategic thinking in person meeting is more effective. It could be in any of the upcoming in person meeting

Celine shared that a proposal could be created and shared with the MAG for deliberation. Such a session could be added later. Celine added that if the WG wants to discuss such a MAG session proposal at an upcoming MAG call, it can include this as an agenda item.

Celine shared while LP will not have an in person meeting, a meeting of MAG and LP can always be requested.

Bruna pointed out the need for us to convene an in person session about IGF Strategy, important to check in on the future of this model and so on. We can maybe take on the approach of doing a Main Session + in person working session

Jennifer commented that she wonders why the MAG doesn't have a working session at the IGF, it would make sense given the current junction.

4. CSTD and WSIS+20 Review

Nigel added that the UK Government added some text to the WSIS resolution on the support to the IGF and WSIS process in general.

Anriette anticipates less debate on discussion on IGF and more widespread support on IGF from developing countries.

Chris questioned the report to the WSIS from the IGF. Anja shared the link of the [Report on the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society \(WSIS\) 2023 Input from the Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\)](#) which was submitted in October 2023 To CSTD .The next report will be submitted in October 2024.

5. NetMundial+10

Bruna updated that the evaluation process is on. CGI.br staff is working on the draft. There would be two type of sessions: working sessions that would be working to reach consensus on the language and content for the outcome document and substantive sessions that will focus on global challenges for the governance of the digital world, exploring linkages with other Global discussions (<https://netmundial.br/program>). Speakers and facilitator for the sessions are now being contacted. She further shared that if anyone wants to participate online, they can send an SOI to the Secretariat.

Nigel questioned on the participation and Chris asked if the Saudi Arabian government will participate in NM+10

Jennifer asked about the next steps of the NM+10 document once agreed.

AOB

The next Call would be on 2 May 13 UTC

List of participants

1. Amrita Choudhury, Group's Co-Chair, CCAOI
2. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
3. Anriette Esterhuysen, former IGF MAG Chair
4. Bruna Santos, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
5. Celine Bal, IGF Secretariat
6. Chris Buckridge, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
7. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy
8. Jorge Cancio, Government of Switzerland
9. Mark Carvell, EuroDIG
10. Jennifer Chung, DOT Asia
11. Jordan Carter AuDA
12. Junko Kawauchi, IGF MAG Member
13. Kenneth Merrill, NTIA
14. Lito Ibarra, IGF MAG Member
15. Nigel Hickson, UK Government
16. Peter Koch
17. Tracy Hachkshaw, IGF independent expert
18. Valeria Betancourt, APC
19. XIAOBO ZHANG