

## **IGF 2016 MAIN SESSION PROPOSAL**

### **Dynamic Coalitions Main Session**

**Co-Facilitators: Avri Doria, Markus Kummer**

IGF Dynamic Coalitions held a main session for the first time in Brazil last year. The session was considered highly productive and provided an opportunity for issue-specific DCs to introduce themselves to annual meeting participants and demonstrate the value of their work.

Through collaborative meetings of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) held regularly since the last IGF, DCs have come together to strongly support and plan for another main session this year. The community of DCs is growing (totaling 16) and in all they cover a wide gamut of Internet Governance themes: Accessibility and Disability; Accountability; Blockchain Technologies; Child Online Safety; Community Connectivity; Core Internet Values; Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media; Gender and Internet Governance; Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected; Internet and Climate Change; Internet Rights and Principles; Network Neutrality; Platform Responsibility; Public Access in Libraries; Internet of Things and Youth. A main session from DCs would offer a varied, topical programme from persons with expertise in their respective IG fields.

The DCCG have proposed a horizontal/vertical format for their session, or “hybrid session”, divided into two equal parts as follows:

#### **Part 1 (assumes 90 minutes)**

The first part will be devoted to mini presentations by each of the DCs, who will engage with participants throughout. The ‘presentation’ will be a DC’s problem statement/issue/thesis summarized into a tweet, which would also be projected into the room. Standing in for a traditional moderator, a so-called ‘**agent provocateur**’ would ask one or two questions to challenge the DC presenter and stimulate a defense or explanation of the issue. Further questions will also be taken from the floor and from remote participants, with the interaction moderated by the same agent provocateur. Live online feedback, from those in the room and not, will also be strongly encouraged with the use of a **Twitter wall** and **DC-specific hashtags**.

A single agent provocateur may be used, or one per DC with each DC choosing its own. The person in this role will also be responsible for ensuring the presentation/interaction does not exceed the time limit of approximately 5 minutes per DC.

This first part assumes a few **key preparatory steps be taken**: presenting DCs must have a substantive paper to back up their short presentations and to provide for perusal/reading ahead of the session (at least six weeks); these must be made public on the IGF website as background papers within a minimum time before the IGF meeting; hashtags specific to each DC must be identified and promoted in the weeks ahead of the session.

#### **Part 2 (assumes 90 minutes)**

The second part will be a ‘horizontal’ segment dedicated to topics of common interest/of relevance to all DCs and on which DCs will engage with one another. This can take several forms:

**-one or more major substantive issues** on which all DCs have input or experience in can be tackled, e.g. Connectivity, IG for Sustainable Development, a Free and Open Internet for Development, Perspectives on Fragmentation, etc.

-DCs engage in a **'knowledge exchange'**, putting, in particular, more experienced DCs in conversation with newer ones

**-a common presentation** is given on the added value of DCs to the IGF, or on an overarching DC charter/statement of purpose co-drafted by DCs.

Any of the above would be followed by comments and questions from the floor and remote participants, as well as from a live Twitter wall. The moderator in this part may be different from the one in Part 1.

### **Tentative Roles in Main Session**

'Agent Provocateur'/Moderator in Part 1: Tatiana Tropina  
Moderator in Part 2: Virginia Paque (*suggested by DC member*)  
Remote Moderator: Deirdre Williams (*suggested by DC member*)  
Rapporteur(s):

### **DC Booth in relation to Main Session**

In addition to their main session, DCs have agreed to request a **shared IGF Village booth**. The booth may be used to 'feed into' the main session by providing copies of the background papers by each DC. IGF participants would have the chance to provide feedback on those papers by filling out hard-copy Idea Rating Sheets – a form of survey – available at the booth and also available online in the weeks before the meeting. These could also act as input to the main session.

### **Planning Ahead**

DCs are already holding joint, regular meetings through the DCCG one month or 3 weeks apart. The virtual meetings are moderated by Avri Doria and Markus Kummer, with technical hosting from the IGF Secretariat. They will continue to be used to plan for the main session and may be more frequent as the annual meeting approaches.