

IGF 2020 MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy

Online Meeting VII

24 september2020 at 14:00 p.m. UTC

Summary Report

The seventh online meeting of the IGF 2020 MAG's Working Group (WG) on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 24 September 2020 at 14:00 p.m. UTC. The meeting was hosted and moderated by the Group co-chair, Concettina Cassa. The meeting's agenda is annexed to this report, as well as the list of participants. The recording of the meeting is available only to the meeting participants upon request.

The co-chair opened the meeting by introducing the agenda and reminding the main points of discussions:

- A. Response document to the Options Paper
- B. Improvements to the IGF

A. Response document to the Options Paper

Output document: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bmfp_U-PnPnB8ZK6jNfhA8okvkR-s6Nd/edit

Summary of key points:

1. The co-chair explained that the document was supposed to be delivered to the co-champions of Recommendations 5/A/B of HLPDC report by **September 25**. Considering the comments raised during the last days the deadline could be postponed.
2. **Comments on the Response document to the Options Paper.**

Par. 3 STRENGTHENING COOPERATION AND COORDINATION.

- The main comments were related to the "Cooperation Accelerator" and "Policy incubator". It was observed that even if the main objective of the Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and of the Options Paper is to strengthen the link between DPs (Discussion platforms) and DMPs (Decisions Making Platforms) is still unclear how the whole organization will be implemented. It was remarked that Cooperation Accelerator functions should be distributed over different elements of IGF + (MHLB, MAG, BPFS and DCs) and used together with the liaisons officers to link the two platforms. Two different layers for the Cooperation Accelerator functions were envisaged:
- **Layer 1** will take care of strategic liaison to DMPs. This will be done by the MHLB in cooperation with the MAG. They would identify the decision making platforms, to communicate on the political level with the leadership of the decision making platforms

and to invite the decision making platform to nominate - on the working level - their "IGF liaison officers".

- **Layer 2** will take care of the day-to-day operation; it would be the BPF and DCs to communicate with the decision making platforms. They would nominate (confirmed by the MAG/MHLB) their "DMP liaison officers". Several doubts were shared on liaison officers and on their nomination process.
- A general concern was expressed on the need to make clear who will take decision on the proposed reform. If the UNSG, the Tech Envoy, or the IGF Secretariat.
- Jason Munyan from HLPDC Secretariat explained that the UNSG, UNDESA and the Executive Office of Secretary General will make recommendations on how to proceed on implementation and Tech Envoy will take care of implementation activities after his nomination

PAR. 8 - PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY AND GUIDANCE IN A COMPLEX SYSTEM

- Several comments were raised saying that it should be reinforced the need to have a better coordination between the new structure proposed in par. 83-84 of the Roadmap for digital cooperation, the IGF and the existing capacity-building initiatives working at national and regional.
 - a. It was observed that HLPDC Secretariat has proposed a number of other "new bodies": a multi-stakeholder **digital inclusion coalition**, an AI Advisory Body, a network for Capacity Building etc. and there is a need to make clear how IGF representatives can be included into these new bodies.
 - b. Jason Munyan from HLPDC Secretariat said that the mentioned initiatives are open and IGF involvement could be discussed.
 - c. Wolfgang explained his idea related to Option D to have a small group of people, MAG representatives, to deal with external affairs. This small group is additional to the MHLB and would allow the MAG to be more efficient.

It was decided to include few comments related to par.3 and 8 and to freeze the response document.

Next Steps: the WG group members will deliver the response document to the co-champions of Recommendation 5A/B of HLPDC report by **September 28**.

B. Improvements to the IGF

Output documents:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SL6p90qWtys9pwkg9rkgCowKD0YdFiBW/view?usp=sharing>

- **Summary of key points:** The facilitator, Flavio Wagner, explained the further selection on the IGF improvements proposals he shared with the mailing list. It was noted that this make easier the selection of priorities to focus on. It was suggested to give to the WG one more week to share further inputs. After this deadline (October 1), Flavio will share the final selection of the priorities.

C. It was suggested to discuss more on Par. 93c (high level governmental and parliamentary track). The item will be included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Next meeting is planned for October 15th at 14:00 UTC.

Annex 1:

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Response document to the Options Paper
- Improvements to the IGF
- AOB

Annex 2:

List of participants

1. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
2. Bill Drake, University of Zurich
3. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy
4. Flavio Wagner, CGI.br and University of Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil
5. Fiona Alexander, Independent expert
6. Jason Munyan, HLPDC Secretariat
7. Livia Walpen, Government of Switzerland
8. Jim Prendergast, Independent expert
9. Lynn St. Amour, Internet Matters
10. Markus Kummer, IGFS
11. Mohammad Atif
12. Paul Blaker, Government of UK
13. Raúl Echeberría, Independent Expert
14. Raquel Gatto, Independent Expert
15. Timea Suto, ICC Basis
16. Wolfgang Kleinwächter, University of Aarhus
17. Wim Degezelle, IGF Secretariat