

**INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM 2026
NATIONAL, (SUB)REGIONAL AND YOUTH IGF INITIATIVES**

- Virtual Meeting I -

19 January 2026 at 13:00 UTC

SUMMARY REPORT

Action Items:

- *IGF Secretariat to explore modalities to raise awareness of NRIs across the UN system.*
- *NRIs to confirm interest in the review and update of the NRIs Toolkit.*
- *Ghana IGF to share details of the proposal on organizing NRIs sessions around regional priorities.*
- *IGF Secretariat to prepare a draft NRIs workplan and share for commenting.*

1. The first virtual meeting of the National, Regional and Youth Initiatives (NRIs) in the IGF 2026 preparatory cycle was held on 19 January 2026 at 13:00 UTC. The meeting was hosted by the IGF Secretariat's NRIs Focal Point. The final adopted version of the agenda is attached as Annex A1, the list of participants as Annex A2, and the list of meeting inputs as Annex A3.
2. The meeting was convened to discuss the implications of the UN General Assembly WSIS+20 Resolution for NRIs and to collect inputs for the NRIs work plan for IGF 2026.

Summary of Discussions

3. *Participants observed a moment of remembrance in honour of two late colleagues, **Ms. Muriel Alapini** and **Mr. Adil Suleimani**, acknowledging their valuable contributions to the IGF community.*

WSIS+20 UNGA Resolution

4. Participants reviewed the overview of actions for stakeholders emerged from WSIS+20 UNGA Resolution, as compiled by the WSIS+20 Secretariat.¹ Particular attention was given to the calls contained in paragraphs 98–103 of the Resolution. Based on this discussion, several concrete proposals were identified.
5. Participants proposed that the IGF Secretariat support increased awareness and visibility of National, Regional, Subregional and Youth IGFs (NRIs) across the UN system. In this context, NRIs could contribute by mapping the presence of UN entities in their respective countries and communities. It was suggested that a circular email and/or official letter be developed to explain the nature and role of NRIs, with explicit reference to the WSIS+20 Resolution.
6. Several participants highlighted the importance of increasing familiarity with NRIs within UNDP. A good practice was shared by the Iraq IGF, which has invited UNDP to join its national IGF multistakeholder organizing committee. This approach could be

¹ <https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/ws20/Follow-up-and-review>

considered by other NRIs, where feasible.

7. Participants suggested the establishment of a small working group to identify concrete actions NRIs can take to support the implementation of the WSIS+20 Resolution.
8. It was further proposed that NRIs incorporate relevant WSIS Action Lines into their programmes and reporting and share outcomes to help inform UNGIS processes.
9. The IGF Secretariat indicated that it would share existing written materials related to NRI visibility and awareness-raising for consideration, including possible improvements to content and visual presentation.

NRIs Work Plan for 2026

10. The proposed NRIs work plan for 2026 was discussed, and several inputs were provided by participants.
11. Participants called for improved alignment of NRI calendars, encouraging meetings to take place ahead of the global IGF where possible, in order to better inform global discussions and enhance inclusivity.
12. Broad support was expressed for retaining the current structure of NRI sessions at the global IGF, consisting of one coordination session, one main session, and three collaborative sessions, with a stronger emphasis on improving quality and impact.
13. Participants underscored the need to further strengthen youth engagement across NRI sessions.
14. A proposal was shared to organize NRI sessions around regional priorities, potentially through five sessions following a citizen-centred approach, complemented by institutional responses. The Ghana IGF representative indicated that it would share further details on this proposal.
15. Participants suggested better leveraging regional IGFs as platforms for continuous cooperation among NRIs and for developing substantive inputs throughout the year.
16. There was a shared view that NRI sessions should become more solutions-oriented and outcome-driven.
17. A proposal was made to appoint one NRI coordinator per main session to strengthen linkages between NRIs and the preparation of other main sessions.
18. Participants recognized the need to strengthen NRI fundraising strategies, including both financial and in-kind contributions. It was suggested that a checklist for in-kind contributions could be developed to support this effort.
19. It was noted that while the WSIS+20 Resolution provides the IGF with a permanent mandate and calls for more stable financing, financial constraints persist, reflecting broader pressures across the UN system and the global digital ecosystem.
20. A proposal was shared to include a dedicated “NRIs Project Lab” session in the programme. This session would serve as a practical space for NRIs to jointly design, launch, or scale collaborative projects, with potential outputs including joint policy briefs, capacity-building initiatives, shared indicators, or pilot actions, fostering cross-

regional cooperation grounded in local expertise.

21. Participants also proposed reviewing the NRIs Toolkit, now ten years old, taking into account feedback collected through last year's NRIs survey².

Next steps

22. NRIs were invited to continue sharing their views on the following questions:
 - How can NRIs best support the implementation of the WSIS+20 Resolution?
 - What priorities and activities should be included in the NRIs work plan for 2026?
23. Participants were informed that the next NRIs meeting would take place in approximately four weeks and would be scheduled at earlier UTC hours.
24. For any suggestions or questions regarding the NRI survey report or WSIS+20 engagement, NRI coordinators may contact the IGF Secretariat's NRIs Focal Point at: anja.gengo@un.org.

ANNEX A1

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. IGF going forward
 - Implications of [General Assembly Resolution A/80/L.41](#) granting the IGF a permanent mandate
4. NRIs Workplan for 2026
5. AoB

ANNEX A2

MEETING PARTICIPANTS *(in alphabetical order³):*

1. Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong, Chad IGF
2. Agustina Ordoñez, Argentina IGF
3. Ahmed Farag, North African IGF
4. Alex Marciuc, Moldova IGF
5. Alishah Shariff, UK IGF
6. Ana Neves, Portugal IGF
7. Andrey Aleinikov, Russia IGF
8. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
9. Athanase Bahizire, DR Congo IGF
10. Barrack Otieno, Kenya IGF
11. Bozana Mitric, Austria IGF
12. Brahim Ousmane Mustapha, Chad IGF
13. Carina Birarda, Argentina IGF
14. Carlos Vera Quintana, Ecuador IGF

² https://www.intgovforum.org/en/filedepot_download/52/30221

³ Names indicated as participants identified in the Zoom online participation tool.

15. Clara Gninou, Youth IGF Benin
16. Dorijn Boogaard, Netherlands IGF
17. Nazar Kirama, Tanzania IGF
18. Emmy Okwir Ogule, did not identify
19. Ernest Mafuta, Zambia IGF
20. Fanny Salyou, Côte d'Ivoire IGF
21. Giacomo Mazzone, Italy IGF, EuroDIG
22. Jenifer Lopez, Panama IGF
23. Jennifer Chung, APriGF
24. Judith Hellerstein, IGF USA
25. Julian Casasbuenas G., Colombia IGF, LACIGF
26. June Parris, Barbados IGF
27. Katarina Gevorgyan, Armenia IGF
28. Kristina Hakobyan, Armenia IGF
29. Levy Syanseke,
30. Lilian Chamorro, LACIGF, Colombia IGF
31. Lillian Nalwoga, Uganda IGF, East Africa IGF
32. Lito Ibarra, El Salvador IGF
33. M. Abraham Sanyoh,
34. Marcelo Valenzuela, Chile IGF
35. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, African IGF
36. Marko Paloski, North Macedonia IGF
37. Martha Ngedu, Nigeria IGF
38. Mohammad Abdul Haque Anu, Bangladesh IGF
39. Nancy Carter, Canada IGF
40. Nicolas Zahn, Swiss IGF
41. Noah Flumerfelt, Canada IGF
42. Obed Sindy, Haiti IGF
43. Peter Koch, Germany IGF
44. Peterking Quaye, Liberia IGF
45. Poncelet Ileleji, Gambia IGF, West African IGF
46. Qasim Pirzada, Pakistan Youth IGF
47. Ramadhan Rahman, Iraq IGF
48. Rita Wehbe, Lebanon IGF, Arab IGF
49. Sabrina Heber, Germany IGF
50. Salavat Ormoshev, Kyrgyzstan IGF
51. Sandra Hoferichter, EuroDIG
52. Shanea Lewis, Caribbean IGF
53. Shin Yamasaki, Japan IGF
54. Suada Hadzovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina IGF
55. Suzete Centeio Pereira, Cabo Verde IGF
56. Tatiana Jereissati, did not identify
57. Tijani Ben Jemaa, North African IGF
58. Titti Cassa, Italy IGF
59. Vinicius W. O. Santos, Brazil IGF
60. Wisdom Donkor, Ghana IGF
61. Yao Amevi A. Sossou, Benin Youth IGF
62. Zdravko Jukic, Croatia IGF

ANNEX A3

INPUTS

- WSIS+20 review UNGA resolution and actions
<https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/ws20>
- Results of NRIs survey (2025)
https://www.intgovforum.org/en/filedepot_download/52/30221