MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy

Online Meeting 46
20 October 2022 at 14:00 UTC

Summary Report

The 46th virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group (WG) on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 20 October 2022 at 14:00 UTC. The meeting was moderated by Amrita Choudhury. The list of participants and the recording of the meeting is available upon request.

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

Agenda:

1. IGF involvement in the GDC
    a.   Tech Envoy virtual meeting
    b.   Follow up activities
2.   WSIS+20 action plan
3.   Update from the IGF Secretariat (IGF 2022 etc.)
4.   Update on behalf of the Office of the Envoy on Technology
5.   AoB

Discussion:

1. *IGF involvement in the GDC*

Amrita recalled to Chengetai to publish the Communique on Global Digital Compact promoting participation of the IGF community to the GDC processes.

The participants shared some impressions on the virtual meeting held between the Tech Envoy and the MAG saying that it was pretty general and of high level in relation to the role of the Tech Envoy and on how the IGF community could be engaged in the GDC.

Mark Carvell said that the concept came out during the virtual meeting related to the Global Digital commons needs more clarifications. He observed that it should be clarified the impact of this concept to the IGF and to the multistakeholder community and if it could imply the establishment of any global convention as for the other common resources (seas, space, etc.).

Anriette got the impression that the Tech Envoy is thinking of the GDC from a broader development and social justice perspective, rather than a narrow ICT or IG perspective. She said that the Tech Envoy suggested that the GDC focus on principles

and that any new treaties or conventions would not be desirable. She added that the GDC is an opportunity to articulate what kind of internet we want, for the future, and how it should be governed.

Jorge shared the importance of working on specific collaboration between the Tech Envoy Office and the IGF. He also shared that the survey on the GDC has been extended to March 31st.

Mark added that some Member States may argue in the direction of a multilateral process for establishing the Internet as a "common good" - which could end up being a negotiated treaty approach.

Wolfgang observed that there could be a new and broader NETmundial declaration. He suggested the IGF WG Strategy pushes for the activation of a multistakeholder drafting team focusing on the principles.

2. *WSIS+20 Action Plan*

It was recalled that the WSIS+20 action plan was initiated by Chris as an [open document](#) for the working group to use.

Mark Cavell commented the additions that he made to the document, noting that it includes seven objectives - awareness of the criticality of the review process; some kind of planning for the action plan in engage in consultations and ensure stakeholders have a clear idea on objectives of WSIS+20 review; engaging with members states and UN agencies involved in WSIS review; a compendium of what IGF, etc.

Anriette observed that the document is overlooking the fact that the 2015 resolution already identifies a process for the WSIS+ 20 review. She suggested basing the process on what has already been decided. She asked Chengetai to dedicate time in the first 2023 open consultation of the MAG to "WSIS+20".

3. Update from the IGF Secretariat

Chengetai gave an update on the IGF preparatory activities and on the parliamentary session. On the LP, he said that he expects a good participation of the members.

In relation to the EGM he said that a table will be published on the IGF website to share the activities done so far and the follow up.

Remaining agenda items (4-5)

There were no representatives from the Office of the Tech Envoy on the call, so there were no updates).

It was agreed that the next WG-Strategy call would take place on **3 November 2022** at 14:00 UTC.