

IGF 2025

Second Open Consultations and MAG Meeting 14 to 16 April

Summary of action items & next steps

The second Open Consultations and Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) meeting in the IGF 2025 preparatory cycle was held on 14 to 16 April, online and onsite at the headquarters of the UN Office at Geneva (UNOG). The Host Country was represented by Mr. Ole-Martin Martinsen, Policy Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway, who co-moderated the meeting together with the IGF MAG Chair, Ms. Carol Roach, Under-Secretary at the Ministry for Grand Bahama, the Bahamas. The Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Li Junhua, provided [welcoming remarks](#). The traditional three-day meeting was followed on 16 April by a virtual session between the MAG and IGF Leadership Panel (LP).

This summary provides an overview of action items and next steps raised in relation to future actions and activities, as well as main decisions made. For a detailed record of the discussions, recordings are available here: ([Day 1](#) | [Day 2](#) | [Day 3](#)).

14 April 2025

Briefing on the current state of preparation for IGF 2025 by the Host Country and IGF Secretariat

- The Host Country provided an [update on the current state of the IGF 2025 preparations](#), also highlighting the Host Country's day-0 sessions and its governmental inclusion.
- The Host Country and the IGF Secretariat took note of input and remarks from IGF stakeholders regarding the Forum's arrangements. These include the extended inclusion of the press, of governments and of newcomers, the good functioning of the virtual IGF platform in all regions, the possible streaming of lightning talks and the shortening of session times.

Updates on IGF 2025 Tracks and programme elements

- The IGF Secretariat informed the community about the development of the High-Level Leaders' Track, [capacity development](#), [Youth Track](#) and [Parliamentary Track](#), as well as the judiciary and business engagement planned at the IGF 2025.
- Stakeholders were invited to connect the Secretariat with interested members from their networks, especially Ministers, the judicial and legislative branch.

IGF in the context of ongoing & upcoming digital governance processes

- UNDESA, UNCTAD, the ITU, UNESCO and the Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies provided briefs about the twenty-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society review process (WSIS+20) and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) implementation process, including the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance for the community to explore avenues for IGF's contribution. In addition, the Global Digital Partners presented the 5-Point plan for an inclusive WSIS+20 process, endorsed by over 150 organizations and individuals.

Updates from organizations on international digital governance initiatives

- Part of the open consultation, nine organizations took the floor to brief the community about their contribution to international digital governance relevant to the IGF.
- Presentations are available on the [IGF webpage](#) of the second open consultation and MAG meeting.

15 April 2025

Open Discussion: What to do in 2025?

- The MAG meeting continued with an open discussion on improvements of IGF 2025, which included suggestions to:
 - Place a National and Regional IGF initiatives (NRIs) booth in a central area of the IGF village,
 - Better leverage and promote intersessional work output, especially in consideration of the GDC implementation,
 - Attract more government representatives, following the Parliamentary Track model.

Final Workshop Review and Approval

The four MAG workshop selection groups, who finalized their workshop evaluations, met in groups to agree on their top workshop selection.

- Based on their proposed selection, the IGF Secretariat provided [statistics](#) to ensure diversity in the final selection of workshop proposals.
- The MAG agreed on a selection of 41 workshops with a list of 23 workshops to be merged and waitlisted depending on space availability on the programme.

To improve the workshop selection process at future IGFs, the MAG suggested to:

- Share the overall list of top workshop selections with the MAG ahead of the Open Consultation and MAG meeting for MAG workshop selection groups to consider duplications or a lack of diversity
- Consider more proposals of IGF newcomers in the evaluation process
- Flag sessions that were submitted under the wrong subtheme category early in time
- Put less weight in or change the hybrid strategy criteria, since proposals seem to provide very similar answers. Instead, the orientation session could be made mandatory.
- Better link policy questions to the workshop description to provide a better overview while evaluating the proposal.

16 April 2025

Planning IGF 2025 main sessions

MAG members agreed on three overarching main session topics, which would further be developed on dedicated mailing lists and virtual meetings:

1. The governance of new technologies including human rights, access and inclusion aspects
2. The governance of Artificial Intelligence
3. The role of the IGF in the WSIS and GDC implementation

The MAG stressed the need to secure speakers in time and avoid duplications with high-level session panels.

The three main session working groups will be open for contribution to any interested stakeholder.

Joint MAG – Leadership Panel Meeting

The joint meeting aimed at providing to the Leadership Panel (LP) an update on the Open Consultation and MAG meeting and exploring joint MAG-LP collaboration opportunities for Norway and 2025. The session was co-led by the chair of the MAG, Ms. Carol Roach, and of the LP, Mr. Vinton Cerf.

Mandate and Funding of the IGF

- The MAG and LP could advocate for a permanent mandate and a mix of funding coming from the UN regular budget and from extrabudgetary funds.
- All members were encouraged to reach out to their stakeholder groups and flag the importance of IGF funding. A dedicated session on funding could be organized at IGF 2025.

Communications Activities

- LP and MAG members volunteered to support an IGF marketing campaign funded by the GIZ. Video messages would showcase the importance of the Internet in education, business life and day-to-day activities.
- The LP finalized their two vision documents on WSIS+20 priorities and the IGF Outlook, which will be distributed to Member States, including the Internet We Want paper.

IGF 2025

- The MAG and LP could consider different activities to highlight the Forum’s importance during IGF 2025. Ideas included the distribution of useful material to Member States and others, applying metrics (e.g., ROAM-X) within the IGF ecosystem, and holding a session on the utility of the IGF to orient national governance discussions.

Roundtable exchange with facilitators of the MAG Working Groups, IGF 2025 intersessional activities and NRIs

Facilitators of the IGF intersessional activities (the Policy Networks on meaningful Access, on Internet Fragmentation, on Artificial Intelligence, the Best Practice Forum on Cybersecurity and the Dynamic Coalitions), as well as the MAG Working Groups and the NRIs presented to the MAG the status of their current work.

- MAG Working Groups (WGs)

The MAG WG on Strategy is divided into sub-groups working on six (6) objectives. The working documents will be shared via the public MAG mailing list.

The WG on Workshop Processes will resume its work after the IGF 2025 to develop suggestions on how to improve workshop selection processes.

The WG on youth engagement published the [call for the IGF Youth Mentorship programme](#), which will be open for applications until 27 April. MAG members were encouraged to apply as mentors and to share the form amongst their stakeholder group for mentee applications.

The WG on Multilingualism continues to translate MAG meeting notes into different languages on a voluntary basis, which the IGF Secretariat then publishes on the website. The MAG WG facilitator called for more volunteers to translate notes into other UN languages.

- Policy Networks and Best Practice Forums

The Policy Network on Artificial Intelligence (PNAI) is drafting a framework to categorize potential topics for this year's IGF cycle, including a list of AI-related events that PNAI could follow.

The Policy Network on Meaningful Access (PNMA) plans on creating a repository of good practices and contributing to the GDC implementation. During the consultation phase working towards the 2025 report, PNMA intends to collaborate more closely with NRIs, Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) and other partners of the IGF.

The Policy Network on Internet Fragmentation (PNIF) will ensure an inclusive and open dialogue on Internet fragmentation and build on last year's findings. The Network plans a first call beginning of May.

The Best Practice Forum on Cybersecurity will provide a written update to the MAG.

The consultants are yet to be onboarded before officially kicking off the IGF PN and BPF's work.

- Dynamic Coalitions

The Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) will organize four collaborative sessions at the IGF 2025 based on this year's subthemes, in addition to the traditional DC main session.

DCs also launched a series of webinars in the lead up to the IGF 2025. The next webinar on security in the digital age is planned to take place 30 April.

- National and Regional IGF initiatives

NRIs have been running internal consultations since the beginning of the year. They will focus on three collaborative sessions, as well as a main session on strengthening multistakeholder approaches.

NRIs are developing a position regarding the WSIS+20 review and will present it officially at the IGF 2025.