

Thank you, Chair, and colleagues.

Following the WSIS+20 review, the IGF community enters a new phase. The outcome reaffirmed the multistakeholder model and gave the IGF a permanent mandate.

This decision is a recognition of the Forum's value as a global space for inclusive Internet governance dialogue.

However, permanence brings responsibility. The focus now is on ensuring the IGF is sustainable, well-resourced, and able to support meaningful participation and follow-up on global commitments.

At the same time, recent developments remind us that multistakeholderism cannot be taken for granted. The cancellation of key global convenings, such as RightsCon, illustrates how quickly spaces for engagement can disappear. When that happens, stakeholder voices risk being excluded from shaping outcomes. This reinforces the importance of the IGF as a resilient and open platform. It is not just a place for dialogue, but a critical mechanism to ensure that diverse stakeholders continue to have a seat at the table, even in challenging geopolitical contexts.

Looking ahead, we see three priorities:

1. Strengthening the IGF's role in the WSIS+20 implementation: As WSIS+20 moves toward roadmaps, metrics, and accountability, the IGF can help ensure these processes remain inclusive and informed by all stakeholders.
2. Supporting the broader IGF ecosystem: In addition to a strong IGF Secretariat, National, Regional, Subregional, and Youth IGFs are essential to producing lasting impact and connecting local

realities with global discussions. In 2025 alone, the Internet Society Foundation proudly supported the IGF Trust Fund, 37 NRIs, and 25 schools of Internet Governance with more than \$520,000.

3. Protecting the integrity of the multistakeholder model: We're convinced that any evolution of the IGF should reinforce its open, bottom-up nature, and avoid creating structures that limit or fragment participation. That's why we organized a consultation to invite our community to share their ideas on how the IGF should evolve. Their responses will inform our non-paper on priorities for the WSIS+20 implementation. Which will appear shortly.

In short, while the WSIS+20 outcome document strengthened the IGF's mandate, the current environment shows why that mandate matters. The IGF must continue to provide a trusted, inclusive space for collaboration, especially when other avenues for participation are under pressure.

Thank you.