



Progress Report
GLO/06/X01
“Internet Governance Forum”
Project to support the Internet Governance Forum

Progress Report 2016

I. Introduction

This annual report presents an overview and synopsis of some of the activities undertaken as part of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) process in 2016 and is structured around the four expected accomplishments listed in the IGF Project Document which guided the work of the IGF Secretariat in 2016¹:

- creation of an enabling environment for multistakeholder policy dialogue related to key elements of Internet governance;
- enhanced collaboration among key organizations dealing with different Internet governance issues in support of development goals;
- exchange of information to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet;
- strengthened capacity building of developing country stakeholders to participate effectively in Internet governance arrangements.

On 16 December 2015, during the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (15-16 December 2015)², the United Nations General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/70/L.33 containing the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. In paragraph 63 of the outcome document, Member States acknowledged the role of the Internet Governance Forum as a multi-stakeholder platform for discussion of Internet governance issues and extended for another ten years the existing mandate of the Forum as set out in paragraphs 72 to 78 of the Tunis Agenda. Member States recognized that during that period, the Forum should continue to show progress on working modalities and the participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries.

2016 therefore was the first year of the IGF's new 10-year mandate and was marked by the 11th annual IGF meeting which was held from 6 to 9 December 2016 in Zapopan, Jalisco, México. The preparatory process for IGF 2016 included two rounds of face-to-face Open Consultations and Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) meetings – in April 2016 in Geneva at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and July 2016 in New York at United Nations Headquarters. Eleven online MAG meetings³ were also convened as part of the ongoing preparatory process.

The ongoing implementation of the recommendations made by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) Working Group on Improvements to the IGF⁴ were again a complementary priority for the IGF Secretariat, UNDESA and the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group. Considerable continued efforts were made to increase capacity building efforts, refine and improve working modalities through consultations with the IGF community, increase and enhance participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries and

¹ The IGF Project Document (2011-2016) is available at <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/2013/TrustFund/Project%20document%20IGF.pdf>

² <https://publicadministration.un.org/wsis10/>

³ Online MAG meeting summaries from the 2016 preparatory process can be accessed here: <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/mag-meeting-summaries>

⁴ http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/a67d65_en.pdf

improve and enhance the visibility of IGF outcomes.

Capacity building, through overarching efforts to improve working modalities towards facilitating increased participation and engagement of relevant stakeholders from developing countries in IGF processes throughout the year was a top priority in 2016 and will continue to be so moving forward. Through its expanding intersessional activities and engagement with National and Regional IGFs and other related Internet governance fora, together with improved online collaboration tools, the IGF is committed to expanding its platform enabling the discussion of public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet.

II. Activities undertaken in 2016

A. *Expected accomplishment 1*

Creation of an enabling environment for multistakeholder policy dialogue related to key elements of Internet governance

A.1. Taking stock of IGF 2015 and preparing for IGF 2016

The 1st Open Consultations and MAG Meeting of the 2016 IGF preparatory cycle took place from 4-6 April at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland⁵. Online participation was made available (live transcription, webex, webcast) for those who were unable to join in person. Ms. Lynn St-Amour moderated the meeting as newly appointed Chair of the MAG. Mr. Victor Lagunes, Chief Information Officer, Office of the President of Mexico, acted as co-chair of the meeting representing the 2016 IGF Host Country. Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat and Mr. Wai-Min Kwok represented the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

The agenda for the 3-day meeting was focused on taking stock of the IGF 2015 meeting and intersessional processes, and progressing discussions on the programme and structure of the IGF 2016 meeting in Mexico as well as other ongoing IGF activities. Transcripts⁶ and archived webcasts⁷ from the 3 days of proceedings held in plenary can be accessed via the IGF website and IGF YouTube channel.

The Open Consultations Day opened with a welcoming statement from United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs Mr. Wu Hongbo, who extended on behalf of the United Nations Secretary General a warm welcome and thanks to all incoming, continuing and outgoing MAG members, and the entire IGF community. Many expressions of thanks were given to outgoing MAG Chair Ambassador of Latvia Jānis Kārkliņš and many congratulatory messages were given to incoming MAG Chair Ms. Lynn St. Amour. Many expressions of thanks

⁵ Complete Summary Report of the 1st Open Consultations and MAG Meeting (4-6 April) -

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2016/magmeetings/732-summary-igf-1st-oc-and-mag-meeting-4-6aprilfinal/file>

⁶<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/jevents/icalrepeat.detail/2016/04/04/496/-/igf-2016-first-open-consultations-and-mag-meeting#transcripts>

⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oN0jG4sN6Y>

were also given to the 2015 IGF Host Country, Brazil, the 2015 Honorary Host Country Co-Chair Ambassador Benedicto Fonseca Filho, and to all those in Brazil who organized the meeting particularly the team from CGI.br.

Much of the first day was spent consulting with the broader IGF community, taking stock of the 2015 IGF and looking ahead to the 2016 IGF. Many recalled what a big achievement the WSIS+10 review and the extension of the IGF mandate for another 10 years was. Many speakers expressed the importance of taking advantage of the new 10-year mandate, of continuing to deliver the mandate set out for the IGF in the Tunis Agenda⁸, and in the WSIS+10 outcome⁹ which states that the IGF should improve its working modalities and increase the participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries.

Some of the announcements and decisions taken during the 1st round of Open Consultations and MAG meeting were as follows:

- It was announced that the 2016 IGF annual meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held from 6-9 December in Guadalajara, Mexico, in the state of Jalisco.
- It was decided that the main overarching theme and title of the 2016 IGF would be: 'Internet Governance Forum 2016 - Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'.
- A timetable for the call for workshop proposals, workshop evaluation and selection was established by the MAG and it was announced that the public call for workshop proposals would go out no later than 15 April, with the final selection of workshops coming at the next face-to-face MAG meeting in July.
- The 2016 sub-themes/thematic tracks for the programme would be established through the call for workshops in a bottom-up manner after the workshop proposals are received and evaluated. A list of possible issue areas/sub-themes would be provided to help guide workshop proposers, who would be able to label or 'tag' their workshops using the list provided or by writing in their own sub-theme/issue areas.
- There was agreement that IGF Best Practice Forum (BPF) work should continue on the themes of 1) IXPs, 2) IPv6, 3) a theme related to cybersecurity and 4) a theme related to Gender and Access.
- There was strong support for continuing the 'Policy Options for Connecting the Next Billion(s)' intersessional work in a 'Phase II', pending a formal proposal for such work to be reviewed and considered by the MAG.

The IGF Secretariat convened an open information session during the annual WSIS Forum in Geneva on 5 May 2016¹⁰. This information session gathered the global, multistakeholder WSIS community to reflect upon the 2015 IGF work, including the WSIS+10 Outcomes that renewed the IGF mandate for another 10 years. The session also examined the role and potential impact of Internet Governance, ICTs and Internet on the recently adopted United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda and related goals (SDGs). Finally, the looked forward to the 2016 IGF in Mexico, and allowed stakeholders to ask questions and share information about how they can get involved in IGF intersessional activities.

⁸ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/aboutigf>

⁹ <http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN96078.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2016/Agenda/Session/228>

The second round of Open Consultations and Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) meetings¹¹ in the IGF 2016 preparatory process took place from 12-14 July 2016 at the United Nations headquarters in New York. Online participation was made available (live transcription, Webex, webcast) for those who were unable to join in person. Ms. Lynn St. Amour moderated the meeting as Chair of the MAG. Mr. Victor Lagunes, Chief Information Officer, Office of the President of Mexico, acted as co-chair of the meeting representing the 2016 IGF Host Country. Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat and Mr. Wai-Min Kwok represented the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

The agenda for the 3-day meeting was focused on advancing preparations for the IGF 2016 annual meeting and taking stock of the ongoing IGF community intersessional activities and other relevant Internet Governance related fora. Transcripts¹² and archived webcasts¹³ from the 3 days of proceedings held in plenary can be accessed via the IGF website and IGF YouTube channel¹⁴.

The Open Consultations day opened with a welcoming statement¹⁵ from United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs Mr. Wu Hongbo, who emphasized that the United Nations was committed to help foster the growth and strengthen the IGF moving forward, together with the multistakeholder community. It was also emphasized that the theme that the MAG proposed for the 2016 IGF, on “Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth”, was timely and forward-looking; particularly considering the broader work being undertaken to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which underscores that the Internet and information and communication technologies can play enabling roles in implementing the SDGs and their associated targets.

The IGF Secretariat gave a brief update to the community on programming progress for the annual meeting. It was noted that more than 260 workshop proposals¹⁶ had been received, which was the most proposals the IGF has ever received. Some figures on the proposals - including stakeholder and regional breakdowns - were made available on the IGF website¹⁷. It was also noted that 46 requests for Open Forums¹⁸ had been received, which was also the most requests for Open Forums that the IGF had ever received.

The 2016 IGF Best Practice Forums¹⁹ (BPFs) also provided brief updates to the community, and explained how all stakeholders could get involved in the various work of the BPFs. It was noted by representatives of the BPFs on IPv6, IXPs, Cybersecurity and Gender and Access that work was already well underway and that a number of inclusive and participatory processes were available for the broader community to get involved in. All stakeholders were invited to

¹¹ The summary report of the meeting is available at: http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-second-open-consultations-and-mag-meeting?qt-12_14_july_2016_ny_usa_es=7#qt-12_14_july_2016_ny_usa_es=

¹² <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/jevents/icalrepeat.detail/2016/07/12/753/-/igf-2016-second-open-consultations-and-mag-meeting#transcripts>

¹³ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/jevents/icalrepeat.detail/2016/07/12/753/-/igf-2016-second-open-consultations-and-mag-meeting#webcast>

¹⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/user/igf>

¹⁵ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2016/magmeetings/803-usg-statement-igf-2nd-mag-meeting-new-york-july-2016/file>

¹⁶ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf16-workshops/igf-2016-published-proposals>

¹⁷ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf16-workshops/igf-2016-workshop-stats>

¹⁸ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf2016-open-forums/2016-received-open-forums>

¹⁹ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/best-practice-forums>

join this work by subscribing to the dedicated BPF mailing lists²⁰ and joining the open virtual meetings. An update was also provided to the community on progress made in the intersessional work on IGF Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s) (CENB) - Phase II²¹.

Representatives from some of the National and Regional IGF Initiatives²² (NRIs) and the MAG coordinators then gave short updates to the community on the overall status of NRI activities as well as some of the work being undertaken towards increasing the synergies and collaboration between the NRIs and the IGF. All stakeholders were invited to join an open mailing list²³ which supports the coordination of this work and it was also reported that bi-monthly virtual meetings were being convened by the IGF Secretariat, open to the community, to help NRI coordinators and participants both plan their main session for IGF 2016 and work on other cross-NRI projects and collaborative work, etc. There was also an update on the ongoing work of the IGF Dynamic Coalitions²⁴ (DCs). The community was reminded that the thematic IGF DCs were open to all interested stakeholders and that a DC coordination group had also been set-up, supported by the IGF Secretariat, to help the DCs plan their main session for IGF 2016 and to also allow the DCs to discuss common issues or questions horizontally. Those community members interested in joining a DC, joining the DC coordination group or learning more about their work were invited to visit the IGF website²⁵.

In addition to the face-to-face meetings of the MAG, eleven online MAG meetings²⁶ were also convened as part of the ongoing preparatory process. These meetings not only progressed program planning for the annual meeting but also provided a platform for IGF intersessional activities to report-in to the MAG and vice-versa.

A.2. The 11th IGF meeting

The 11th IGF was held from 6 to 9 of December 2016 in Zapopan, Jalisco, México. The meeting marked the first gathering of the global multistakeholder IGF community since the renewal of the IGF's mandate for 10 years by the United Nations General Assembly²⁷ at the WSIS+10 High Level Event²⁸ in 2015. With the overall meeting theme of 'Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth', the IGF provided a substantive platform for engaged and informed discussions about, among many other things, how the Internet can support and help to enable sustainable growth as envisaged by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development²⁹.

In the course of four days, more than 2000 delegates³⁰ from 123 countries participated in approximately 200 sessions at the IGF, with thousands more stakeholders actively engaging online. The overall programme was developed in a bottom-up and inclusive manner in

²⁰ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/best-practice-forums>

²¹ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/policy-options-for-connection-the-next-billion#about>

²² <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-initiatives>

²³ http://mail.intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/igfregionals_intgovforum.org

²⁴ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/dynamiccoalitions>

²⁵ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/dynamiccoalitions>

²⁶ Online MAG meeting summaries from the 2016 preparatory process can be accessed here:

<http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/mag-meeting-summaries>

²⁷ http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/125

²⁸ <http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN96078.pdf>

²⁹ http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

³⁰ <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-attendance-statistics>

consultation with the growing IGF community; with a view to enhance wide-ranging and diverse multistakeholder participation. The busy and productive meeting featured interactive dialogue and debate, and addressed a broad range of themes and issues including, but not limited to, the Internet and sustainable development; access and diversity; youth and gender challenges pertaining to the Internet; the protection and promotion of human rights online; cybersecurity; the need to enhance multistakeholder cooperation; critical Internet resources; Internet governance capacity-building; and other emerging issues that may affect the future of the open Internet.

The IGF is unique in the sense that it is convened by the United Nations Secretary General³¹ to be an open, multistakeholder forum bringing all stakeholders together as equals. Its UN mandate gives it convening power and the authority to serve as a neutral space for all stakeholders. As the community embarked on the second decade of the IGF, exchanges throughout the week recognized the important contribution the Internet makes in promoting social inclusion and economic growth. The importance of the Internet and its governance as a powerful tool to promote social inclusion and economic growth using transparent and inclusive multistakeholder approaches is clear.

To promote extensive stakeholder inclusion, transcripts and webcasts³² from all of the sessions were made instantly available throughout the meeting. Workshop reports and summaries of all the sessions were also published on the IGF's website. To complement these outputs, the Geneva Internet Platform³³, in cooperation with the IGF Secretariat, the Internet Society (ISOC), Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the DiploFoundation, delivered detailed and immensely useful reporting³⁴ from all sessions. These summaries were published online as well as in daily printed newspapers distributed at the venue for delegates onsite.

Providing even further opportunity to participate and enhance institutional memory of the dialogue that took place, all sessions were also live streamed, and session videos were instantly uploaded for online viewing. IGF social media channels such as Twitter³⁵ #IGF2016 and Facebook³⁶ were also particularly active during the busy week, and facilitated additional platforms for dialogue. Elon University's Imagining the Internet Center conducted interviews at IGF to gather opinions about Internet evolution and issues, inform policy and create a historic record. Videos of all Elon University interviews³⁷ were made available to all online. Daily video highlight films³⁸ and UN press releases³⁹ were furthermore produced and made instantly available to the global media to extend the IGF's outreach.

In order to help orient first-time participants to the IGF and to help them understand the organizational processes, as well as to foster their integration into the IGF community, a set of

³¹ <http://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs2/tunis/off/6rev1.html>

³² <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-transcripts-videos-reports>

³³ <http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/events/11th-internet-governance-forum>

³⁴ <https://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/events/11th-internet-governance-forum>

³⁵ <https://twitter.com/intgovforum>

³⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/IntGovForum>

³⁷ http://www.elon.edu/e-web/imagining/event-coverage/global_igf_2016/default.xhtml

³⁸ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/11th-igf-daily-video-highlights>

³⁹ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/news/press-releases/>

continuous activities throughout the 2016 programme was developed under the Newcomers Track⁴⁰ by the MAG and the IGF Secretariat. Communication with new IGF participants will be continued throughout 2017 through a dedicated IGF newcomers mailing list⁴¹.

As an initiative of the MAG Working Group on New Session Formats, and with support from the Secretariat, the IGF this year introduced new session types in the programme, including lightning and unconference sessions⁴². The experimental session formats provided an opportunity to engage with IGF participants, in particular young people, within settings that were informal and immensely lively. The 20-minute lightning sessions proved to be very popular. Held every day of the meeting during the lunch breaks, in a communal and central outdoor area of the venue, the sessions covered topics as varied as broadband affordability; Internet governance challenges in the Middle East and North Africa; the accountability of algorithms; and access to knowledge and culture online. High-scoring workshop proposals with compatible formats, which were not originally selected during the IGF 2016 workshop evaluation process, were re-formatted for the lightning sessions programme. Workshop proposers seized this opportunity enthusiastically and the 24 slots allocated to the lightning sessions were quickly filled. Unconference, in which participants proposed topics for presentation and discussion on a communal board, gave space to unplanned sessions on digital violence; African Internet rights; and free trade and Internet governance in Latin America.

The IGF Village⁴³ included a record number of booths (40 exhibitors presenting – double the amount from 2015); and gave exhibitors from across the stakeholder spectrum the opportunity to advance their work, network and create partnerships among the IGF's participants.

A.3. Retreat on Advancing the 10-Year Mandate of the IGF⁴⁴

In the outcome document of the General Assembly on the overall review of the outcomes of WSIS (A/RES/70/125 of 16 December 2015), the existing mandate of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) was extended for another 10 years, with a call to show “progress on working modalities and the participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries” and “accelerated implementation of recommendations in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development”. Against that backdrop, a two-day working retreat was convened by the UN Secretariat from 14-16 July in Glen Cove, New York as part of the process of continual improvement of the IGF.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) served as the secretariat for the General Assembly's overall review of WSIS+10 in 2015. Over a 6-month intensive negotiation process, there were many different viewpoints, at times polarised ones, from different countries and different stakeholder groups. It was envisaged that this retreat could help build a common ground for advancing the IGF so that it could continue to fulfill its

⁴⁰ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-newcomers-track>

⁴¹ Mailing list: igfnewcomers@intgovforum.org

⁴² <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/new-session-formats-at-igf-2016>

⁴³ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-village>

⁴⁴ Retreat Proceedings: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2016/812-igf-retreat-proceedings-22july/file>

mandate in the next 10 years. The timing of the retreat was also ideal, as it was six months into the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) was meeting at the same time as the retreat. The retreat also welcomed inputs on how the IGF discussions can better contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN Secretary-General, in his role to convene the IGF, and also DESA, has said that he will continue to count on the collective wisdom and support from the community of different stakeholders to implement the SDGs.

To select participants for the retreat, all relevant stakeholders, stakeholder groups and institutions were invited to submit nominations for participants in the retreat. Participants from the Stakeholder Groups directly selected over half of their participants, while the remaining seats were selected based on diversity considerations. A set of answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)⁴⁵ about the retreat preparations and modalities was produced and updated on a rolling basis when the Secretariat received additional questions from the community. The Secretariat also convened an open virtual meeting for the IGF MAG and the broader community leading up to the retreat, to answer questions and to seek input on how the retreat could be best organized.

The Secretariat also issued a public call for written contributions to the community asking for all stakeholders to share their ideas and suggestions on the issues that would be discussed at the retreat. All contributions⁴⁶ received by the Secretariat were then posted on the IGF website, and all retreat participants were asked to review and take into consideration these contributions during the relevant retreat discussions. Many of these suggestions were referenced directly during the retreat discussions. A set of background documentation⁴⁷ for the retreat was also made available for both retreat participants and the broader community on the IGF website. Finally, time was also set aside for dedicated discussions on the retreat during the IGF Open Consultations on 12 July which immediately preceded the retreat.

The retreat agenda reflected inputs from all retreat participants and followed a community-wide public consultation period. It guided the retreat discussions on how to deliver on the clear mandate of the IGF, as stated in the Tunis Agenda, built upon by the CSTD Working Group, and reiterated in December 2015, at the General Assembly on the 10 year review of the implementation of the WSIS. Retreat participants were also asked to volunteer to act as co-facilitators and/or rapporteurs for the various sessions of the working retreat.

At the outset of the retreat, all participants were reminded that the modalities for considering and taking forward any idea or suggestion coming out of the retreat would be subsequently considered by the global IGF community itself, as well as through individual Stakeholder community reviews.

Some points on the framework for the retreat were noted at its outset:

- The retreat was framed by the mandates of the Tunis Agenda and WSIS+10 review. It also aimed to build on the report of CSTD Working Group on improvements to the IGF and the many years of reflection of the MAG and the IGF community on improving the

⁴⁵ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-retreat-faqs>

⁴⁶ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-retreat-written-inputs>

⁴⁷ <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/2016-06-23-15-15-52/background-documentation>

working methods of the IGF.

- The retreat is about “how” the IGF could best work to deliver its role and how it could be best supported. So, it aimed to focus on the “how”– and did not try to carry out the substantive discussions that are to happen in the IGF itself.
- The retreat would work according to the Chatham House Rule. Retreat participants agreed to respect a voluntary code of conduct on “principled tweeting”.

Following the retreat, a compilation of the ideas and suggestions⁴⁸ that emerged was made available on the IGF website for public comment. The compilation document was structured according to the retreat’s programme, outlining possible areas of improvement for the IGF in the ten years ahead. All IGF stakeholders were encouraged to share their comments and additional suggestions for review by the community, and as input to the 2016 Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

A.4. Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)

A press release⁴⁹ announcing the renewal of the MAG for 2016 was issued on 23 March 2016. A total of 55 members, 21 among them new, were appointed. The Advisory Group members are from all stakeholder groups and all regions, representing Governments, civil society, the private sector and the technical community. All Advisory Group members serve in accordance with the MAG terms of reference⁵⁰ and in their personal capacities, but are expected to have close linkages with their respective stakeholder groups. Representatives of previous host countries and representatives of relevant international and regional intergovernmental organizations are also invited to attend Advisory Group meetings.

In a press release⁵¹ on 11 March, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Lynn St. Amour of the United States as the new Chair of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group of the Internet Governance Forum for 2016.

A.5. Syntheses of contributions received by the IGF Secretariat

A number of public community calls for contributions from IGF stakeholders were issued over the course of the year by the IGF Secretariat. The various submitted contributions were published on the IGF website and summarised by the IGF Secretariat in synthesis/compilation papers or integrated into further versions of output documentation.

1. Call for contributions taking stock of the IGF 2015 meeting and looking forward to the IGF 2016 meeting, including suggestions on the format, schedule and themes.⁵²
2. IGF Retreat call for written inputs⁵³.
3. Call for inputs from stakeholders to the ‘Policy Options for Connecting the Next Billion-Phase II’ compilation report.

⁴⁸ <http://www.intgovforum.org/review/igf-retreat-proceedings-ideas-and-suggestions/>

⁴⁹ The press release is available at <http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/pi2159.doc.htm>

⁵⁰ <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/mag-terms-reference#overlay-context=content/mag-nominations-2016>

⁵¹ <http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sga1643.doc.htm>

⁵² The synthesis paper is available at

http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/index.php?q=filedepot_download/12/1

⁵³ <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-retreat-2016-call-for-written-inputs>

4. Call for contributions/surveys for IGF Best Practice Forums (BPFs)⁵⁴.

A.6. Ongoing implementation of the recommendations of the CSTD Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)⁵⁵

Throughout 2016, the IGF Secretariat continued to work with all stakeholders to continue to implement the recommendations of the CSTD Working Group on Improvements to the IGF. These recommendations have been actively implemented since adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2012, in all five key areas outlined by the Working Group: shaping the outcomes of IGF meetings; working modalities, including open consultations, the MAG and the Secretariat; funding of the IGF; broadening participation and capacity-building; linking the IGF to other Internet governance-related entities.

In 2017 the IGF Secretariat, together with the MAG and UNDESA, will continue to carry out this process of implementation of the recommendations to the largest extent possible, funding permitted.

A.7. Remote/online participation

Remote/online participation was an integral part of the IGF 2016 annual meeting, preparatory process and intersessional activities. Both physical open consultations and MAG meetings and the annual meeting were web streamed and live transcriptions were provided via the IGF website. A remote participation platform (WebEx) was available for online participants to actively contribute to the discussions, through text questions or comments, or audio/video interventions. Webex platforms were also used to enable participation of all stakeholders in meetings of intersessional activities including Best Practice Forum meetings and Dynamic Coalition and National and Regional IGF coordination meetings.

Remote/online participation details were published on the IGF website before each meeting. Remote participation manuals and instructions⁵⁶ were prepared and made available to online participants, moderators and hubs before the 11th IGF. Online training sessions were held to help them become familiar with the WebEx platform. Onsite trainings were also provided for remote/online participation assistants.

Organisers of remote hubs for previous IGF meetings were again encouraged to set up hubs for the 2016 meeting and the IGF Secretariat also reached out to new individuals and entities and invited them to consider planning remote hubs in different locations around the world. 45 remote hubs were organized around the world for the annual meeting, with approximately 2,000 stakeholders actively participating online. The largest number of online participants came from the following countries: United States, Mexico, Nigeria, Brazil, India, Cuba, United Kingdom, China, Japan, Tunisia and Argentina.

Throughout 2016 the IGF Secretariat provided continuous online participation support, by sharing WebEx services and moderating meetings at the request of national and regional IGF

⁵⁴ <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/best-practice-forums-4>

⁵⁵ http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/a67d65_en.pdf

⁵⁶ Remote participation manuals and guidelines are available at <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/igf-2014/remote-participation-2014>

initiatives.

The IGF Secretariat convened more than 100 webex meetings; for all stakeholders; throughout the 2016 work-year (across meetings of the BPFs, NRIs, DCs, MAG and other groups), further expanding the platform for dialogue on issues related to Internet governance for all stakeholders in all parts of the world.

B.

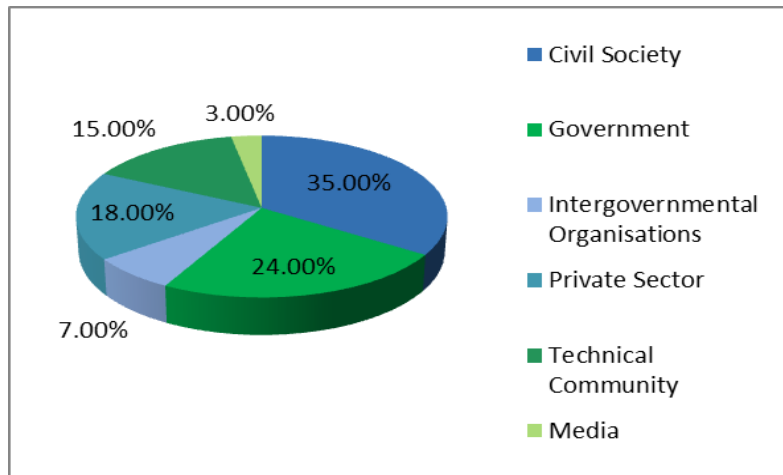
Expected accomplishment 2

Enhanced collaboration among key organizations dealing with different Internet governance issues in support of development goals

B.1. Participation in the IGF 2016 meeting

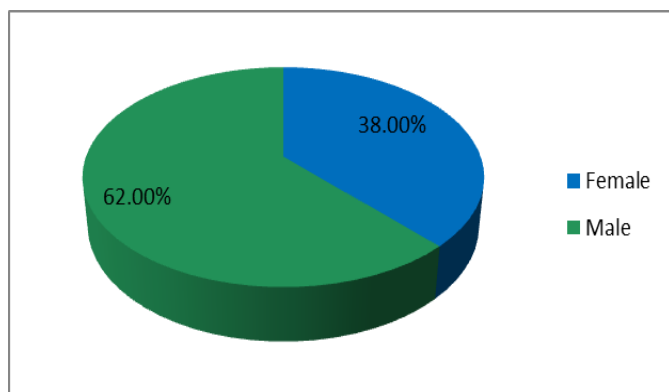
Onsite participants by stakeholder group

Civil Society	35.00%
Government	24.00%
Intergovernmental Organisations	7.00%
Private Sector	18.00%
Technical Community	15.00%
Media	3.00%



Onsite participants per gender

Female	38.00%
Male	62.00%



The participation of Governments and policymakers also increased significantly this year, with far more open forum sessions held than in any previous IGF. Organizers of these 32 open forums⁵⁷ – a session type traditionally reserved for governments, IGOs and relevant international organizations – included the Governments of China, Cuba, Egypt, Germany,

⁵⁷ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-open-forums>

Indonesia, Japan and Mexico, as well as the African Union, European Commission, Organization of American States (OAS), and OECD. A delegation of 12 members of the European Parliament, the largest ever to come to an IGF, was also in attendance.

The IGF brought together a number of UN and intergovernmental organizations as organizers of Day 0 events, open forums, and workshops. Over the course of the week, WIPO, which actively participated in the meeting this year, the ITU, UNESCO, the office of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, the World Bank, and the OECD all held or co-organized sessions. As an indicator of the expanding relevance of Internet governance in diverse policy areas, for the first time UN Women and UNICEF also organized IGF events - on SDG 5 and the use of ICTs by women, and children's rights research, respectively.

WIPO's participation in the 11th IGF again demonstrated the numerous areas of convergence between intellectual property (IP) and Internet governance. The World Economic Forum (WEF) made significant contributions to the meeting. It participated in a Main Session on the IGF's intersessional activities, and held both a Day 0 event and open forum on connectivity, which brought in a number of partners including the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Global Connect, and the Alliance for Affordable Internet, as part of its ongoing Internet for All initiative.

B.2. National, Regional and Youth IGF Initiatives

National, Regional and Youth IGFs (NRIs) have been emerging spontaneously ever since the IGF was convened in 2006. They are independent in their work, and organized in accordance with the core IGF principles of being multistakeholder, bottom-up, inclusive, open, transparent and non-commercial. The NRI network nearly doubled since the 10th IGF; growing from 37 NRIs at the end of 2015 to a current record of 72 recognized NRIs⁵⁸ at the end of 2016. The NRIs are active and immensely useful contributors to the IGF community's intersessional activities.

The linkages between the NRIs and the global IGF have increased significantly thanks to many joint work activities such as the organization of sessions held during the 11th IGF, collaborative work on developing publications containing guidelines, and best practices on how to establish and run a successful NRI. Records from the NRIs' regular fortnightly meetings⁵⁹ also serve as valuable and tangible inputs to the global IGF; providing more local and issue-specific perspectives to policy challenges.

B.3. Participation in various Internet governance-related events and processes

In 2016, the IGF Secretariat continued to interact and communicate with other Internet governance-related entities, as part of the efforts to consolidate the IGF's linkages with such entities.

During face-to-face open consultations and MAG meetings in 2016 and periodically during online MAG meetings, the IGF community was briefed and interacted with related Internet governance initiatives such as initiatives of the European Commission, Council of Europe,

⁵⁸ NRIs records available on [IGF website](#)

⁵⁹ Meeting summary reports available on the IGF website [here](#)

UNCTAD, UNESCO, ITU and UNECA. Briefings and presentations also came from the Global Internet Policy Observatory, the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise, the Net Mundial Initiative, Stanford University (Deliberative Poll), World Economic Forum Internet for All Initiative, Friends of the IGF, Geneva Internet Platform and Access Now, to name a few.

The Secretariat participated in a number of events where matters related to Internet governance in general and the IGF in particular were discussed. This included national and regional IGF initiatives, ICANN meetings; the Geneva Internet Conference, the annual World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum and meetings of the CSTD. The Secretariat's participation and interaction with stakeholders at such events allow the IGF to better relate to the evolving Internet governance ecosystem and to ensure that the IGF is appropriately placed within the various processes. The IGF Secretariat also participated and acted as a resource at the fourth African School on Internet Governance which was held in Durban, South Africa, from 11 to 15 October 2016.

C. *Expected accomplishment 3*

Exchange of information to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet

C.1. Online collaboration

The IGF website has continued to be a valuable tool for stakeholders to find and share information. In 2016, the Secretariat continued to work to improve the online collaboration opportunities for the IGF community by linking more information and adding functionalities.

During 2016, one of the main technical advances was the introduction of a new website for the IGF⁶⁰. Some of the main new features of this new website include:

- Embedded multilingualism for the content, with an article translation system
- Improved adaptation to different devices and browsers, such as easy menu access
- Unified document repository with versioning system
- Content accessible with rich search (type of document, containing logical expressions, by language and more)
- Unified place to present transcripts, videos and reports, accessible from direct search
- Content upload for communities of users
- Dynamic presentations of statistics
- Embedded multimedia content
- Feedback forms and survey integrated systems
- Room reservation integrated system
- Event-friendly (one screen) presentation of social activity
- Embedded event schedule system presentation
- Integrated calendar for NRIs
- Possibility to integrate external sites in the same platform
- Commenting feature for content

⁶⁰ <http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/>

- Possibility of internal forum system

Additional on-track improvements for the new site in 2017 include, but are not limited to:

- Profile for direct registration
- Encrypted sensitive information for profiles
- Language extension with collaborations
- Extension of Website platform support for NRIs
- Potential integration of external IGF community tools
- Rich comment system
- Direct upload of content by members with security systems

During 2016, this new website architecture was formally incorporated (after beta-testing) around September 2016 and the previous website was kept open for reference. There were 69,252 visits to the former IGF previous during the year, and 32,522 visits in the new website since its establishment in September 2016 and until the end of the year. These are sessions in which connections to the IGF website were made from different devices, or from the same device, with a separation of at least 30 minutes. Considering that a person can open several sessions at the same time from the same device, it has been calculated that more than 117,253 sessions were opened to the previous IGF website in 2016 and 67,750 visits were made in the new website (running from September 2016). The average session duration was 02:43 minutes in the previous website with a mean of 4.53 pages visited per session, while in the new website the mean session duration was 3:25, with 2.64 pages per session, showing that the searched content is found in faster, richer manner.

In regards to language, about 65% of the opened sessions were initiated from English-language configured devices in the previous website, compared to 49% in the new multilingual site. Spanish reached 21% in the new site, while staying at 7.5% in the previous website. In that website, French and Portuguese represented about 3.50%, Chinese 3% and German 1.4%. In the new website Portuguese represented 3.3%, French 3% and Chinese 2.5%. It has to be noticed that available languages during IGF 2016 in the new website were English and Spanish (pilot for IGF 2016), while this feature increases moving forward. From a geographical point of view, Mexico had 21% of the sessions in the new website, USA 14.6%, Russia 4.2%, Brazil 3.5, Germany 2.9%, UK 2.6%, India 2.5% and France 2.4%.

2016 again featured an improved online review platform⁶¹ embedded into the IGF website for stakeholders to provide comments and suggestions on draft documents. The 'Sched'⁶² tool, which was used again by the Secretariat and integrated into the IGF website ahead of the IGF 2016 annual meeting, was received with appreciation by stakeholders.

The growth of social media activity amongst the IGF community has been a significant achievement in recent years and the IGF Secretariat, together with the MAG and all stakeholders, is working to continue to broaden the reach of the IGF online through various social channels. It is estimated that tweets about the 2016 IGF (#IGF2016) reached millions of interested stakeholders in the lead-up to and throughout the week of the annual meeting in Mexico. The IGF Secretariat worked with the MAG outreach and communications working

⁶¹ <https://www.intgovforum.org/review/>

⁶² <https://igf2016.intgovforum.org/>

group to build a dedicated page on the IGF website related to social media outreach and engagement.

Several mailing lists were again created and managed by the IGF Secretariat in 2016 and were used by MAG members and other IGF stakeholders to work collaboratively on the preparations for the annual meeting and inter-sessional activities.

C.2. Web-based repository of IGF documentation

In 2016, a wealth of materials was added on the IGF website, including, but not limited to: various contributions received from stakeholders and syntheses of such contributions, summary reports of open consultations and MAG meetings (including the virtual meetings), background papers submitted by workshop organisers, etc. transcripts of the open consultations and MAG meetings, inter-sessional documentation produced by various IGF communities (BPFs, DCs, NRIs, etc.) as well as transcripts and reports of the various sessions held during the annual IGF 2016 meeting.

C.3. IGF Inter-Sessional Outputs/Outcomes and other IGF Publications

As outlined in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda, the publication of the IGF's proceedings is part of the Forum's mandate. In fulfilling this part of the mandate, the IGF Secretariat produced and published the IGF 2015 proceedings publication, which included all transcripts and reports of sessions held during the 2016 annual meeting.⁶³

The IGF 2016 Chair's Summary⁶⁴ was also prepared once again by the IGF Secretariat and submitted for approval to the Chair of the meeting.

In 2016, the IGF furthered its work on *Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s)*⁶⁵. This year, the intersessional initiative focused on local and regional specificities to enabling meaningful access and also investigated how ensuring meaningful Internet access can support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CENB Phase II⁶⁶ of this seminal work builds on the IGF community's work on this topic in 2015 (Phase I). Together, over 120 substantive contributions from a diversity of stakeholders and stakeholder groups are reflected in this initiative, which helps to illustrate the need for not only enabling more people to access the Internet, but also for them to benefit from and be empowered by the developmental potential of the Internet.

The IGF Best Practice Forums (BPFs)⁶⁷ continue to offer unique platforms to investigate topical Internet policy challenges by collecting community input and experiences in a flexible and bottom-up manner. The BPFs gather knowledge that exists with different groups,

⁶³ The book is available at Part I: http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/3367/208 and Part II: http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/3367/209

⁶⁴ The Chair's Summary is available at http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/12/411

⁶⁵ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/policy-options-for-connecting-and-enabling-the-next-billions-phase-ii>

⁶⁶ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/policy-options-for-connecting-and-enabling-the-next-billions-phase-ii>

⁶⁷ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/best-practice-forums-4>

organizations, experts and individuals, to make it available as a useful resource to the broader community in the form of tangible best practice outcome documents⁶⁸. Through their substantive outreach efforts and continued calls for input and contributions, the BPFs enabled more diverse and varied participation in IGF processes, including from a richer variety of regions and stakeholder groups. By continuously involving new people in their work, the various BPFs also contributed to enlarging the global footprint of the IGF. As a part of the 2016 community intersessional activities, the third cycle of BPFs focused on Gender and Access, Understanding the Commercial and Economic Incentives behind a Successful IPv6 Deployment, Contributing to the success and continued development of Internet exchange points (IXPs), and Building Confidence and Security in the use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) through Enhanced Cooperation and Collaboration. BPFs worked throughout the year in an open and inclusive way via open mailing lists, regular virtual meetings and BPF workshops during the 11th IGF meeting.

The more than 200 thematic workshops and other sessions that took place throughout the week⁶⁹ of the annual meeting have also produced output reports (curated together with session transcripts and videos) which are available to all on the IGF website and now serve as resources and inputs into other relevant processes.

C.4. Dynamic Coalitions

Using their first-ever shared main session at IGF 2015 as a starting point, IGF Dynamic Coalitions held regularly monthly meetings⁷⁰ and coordinated closely before IGF 2016. Over the course of the year, DCs have made significant progress toward synchronising their work and adopting fundamental common standards of transparency and inclusiveness (open archives, open membership, open mailing lists), and have developed agreed-upon targets and deadlines for the publication of substantive papers⁷¹. They have also jointly participated for the second time in a survey exercise to gather feedback on their papers.

While there are currently 16 DCs, the community of DCs is also growing: two new coalitions, on ‘Community Connectivity’ and on ‘Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected’, emerged in 2016. Several more have recommitted to their activities, notably the coalitions on Internet and Climate Change and the Youth Coalition. Other groups, on defining “publicness” in the digital age and on schools on Internet governance, are in an exploratory phase and have expressed interest in launching DCs of their own.

D.

Expected accomplishment 4

Strengthened capacity of developing country stakeholders to participate effectively in Internet governance arrangements

⁶⁸ <https://www.intgovforum.org/review/2016-igf-best-practice-forums-bpfs-draft-outputs-as-of-2-november/>

⁶⁹ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-transcripts-videos-reports>

⁷⁰ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/dc-coordination-activities>

⁷¹ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/2016-dynamic-coalition-output-documents-surveys>

D.1. Participation of developing countries in the IGF process

The IGF Secretariat, together with the MAG and the broader IGF community, have continued their efforts to increase participation in IGF meetings (including the preparatory processes) and to attract and encourage more participants from developing countries.

The expansion of IGF intersessional activities, including Best Practice Forum(s); Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s); coordination meetings of the National and Regional IGFs; Dynamic Coalitions, etc. have also contributed to increased participation of stakeholders from developing countries in IGF processes as the majority of this work is carried out online (open webex meetings) and through mailing lists, etc.

In 2016, financial support was again provided to stakeholders from least developed countries, developing countries and transitional economies to enable them to participate in open Consultations, MAG meetings and the 11th IGF. The IGF also funded or partially funded approximately 70 missions for members of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) from developing or least developed countries to actively participate in IGF Open Consultations, MAG Meetings and the 11th IGF. Eligibility criteria for funding a participant to attend the IGF and/or the Open Consultations and MAG meeting were published on the IGF website.⁷²

D.2. Internships and fellowships at the IGF Secretariat

The IGF Secretariat continued its highly successful fellowship programme which allows young people active in the field of Internet Governance an opportunity to work at the IGF Secretariat for up to nine months. A fellow from Bosnia and Herzegovina joined the Secretariat during 2016.

III. Conclusions

2016 again proved to be a very busy year for the IGF as the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society took place only a few weeks after the 10th IGF in Brazil. After the IGF mandate was renewed, work began immediately on selecting a new MAG, formally preparing the 11th IGF and kicking off IGF community intersessional activities. The Retreat on Advancing the 10 year mandate of the IGF and the community consultations which were carried out in parallel and IGF engagement in other Internet governance fora including participation in and support of National and Regional IGFs, allowed the IGF to increase synergies and communications with the broader community. The secretariat and MAG worked continually to consult and work with the IGF community on considerable inter-sessional activities, as well as on improved working modalities and programming for the annual meeting. A record number of National, Regional, Youth and other IGF initiative meetings also took place during the past year and these NRI meetings will only continue to increase in 2017.

Throughout the year the IGF continued to strive towards fulfilling its mandate by providing an open and inclusive multistakeholder platform to discuss policy issues related to the Internet. Looking ahead to 2017 the IGF will strive to build upon the significant progress it has made in recent years in fulfilling its mandate and implementing the recommendations of the CSTD

⁷² <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/416-eligibility-criteria-for-funding-a-meeting-pariticipant/file>



working group on IGF improvements. The IGF will also focus its efforts on refining and improving its working modalities and increasing and enhancing the the participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries. Capacity building efforts will remain a cross-cutting priority.

Another one of the expected accomplishments of the IGF, as indicated in the project document, is an “enhanced collaboration among key organizations dealing with different Internet governance issues in support of development goals”. In addition, the Working Group on Improvements to the IGF underlined that it was “important for the IGF to continue and improve its interaction and communication with other Internet governance-related entities in order to further global policy dialogue”. It is, therefore, necessary for the IGF to continue to sustain its relations with such Internet governance entities, including NRIs, UN organizational partners such as the ITU, UNESCO, WTO, WIPO and others, as well as organizations such as the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), regional Internet registries, etc.

NRIs have been created around the world to carry on discussions on Internet governance issues that are of particular relevance for the respective countries or regions. It is important for the IGF to not only maintain but to strengthen and consolidate its linkages with these initiatives and to continue to support and encourage them.

It is expected that the IGF will build on the progress made in recent years carrying out bottom-up, substantive inter-sessional activities and building bridges between the IGF and the broader (and growing) Internet governance community. The IGF Secretariat will continue to consult with the multistakeholder community during open consultations, through the MAG, and using the IGF website and other outreach and communication channels, to ensure that the IGF platform for dialogue is as broad, open and transparent as possible.