**1st 2017 IGF Open Consultations and Multistakeholder
Advisory Group (MAG) Meeting
1-3 March 2017
United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), Geneva, Switzerland**

Announcements, Decisions Taken and Next Steps:

- *As previously announced during the closing ceremony of the 2016 IGF in Mexico, the Government of Switzerland confirmed that the 2017 IGF annual meeting will be held from 18-21 December in Geneva, Switzerland, at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG).*
- *It was decided that the overarching title of the 2017 IGF would be: 'Shape Your Digital Future!'.*
- *A timetable for the call for workshop proposals, workshop evaluation and selection was established by the MAG (**ANNEX I**), and it is expected that the public call for workshop proposals will go out no later than 15 March, with the final selection of workshops coming at the next face-to-face MAG meeting set to take place from 13-15 June in Geneva.*
- *The 2017 sub-themes/thematic tracks for the program will once again 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 will be provided to help guide workshop proposers, who will be able to label or 'tag' their workshops using the list provided or by writing in their own sub-theme/issue areas.*

Overall Summary

1.   The 1st Open Consultations and MAG Meeting of the 2017 IGF preparatory cycle took place from 1-3 March at United Nations office at Geneva in Geneva, Switzerland. Online participation was made available for those who were unable to join in person. Ms. Lynn St. Amour moderated the meeting as she had recently been re-appointed[1] as Chair of the MAG for a second year. Mr. Thomas Schneider, Deputy Head of International Affairs, Federal Office of Communications of Switzerland, acted as Co-chair of the meeting representing the 2017 IGF Host Country. Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat and Mr. Armin Plum represented the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

2.   The agenda[2] for the 3-day meeting was focused on taking stock of the IGF 2016 meeting and intersessional processes, and progressing discussions on the programme and structure of the IGF 2017 meeting in Switzerland as well as other ongoing IGF community activities including intersessional work being carried out on an ongoing basis. A number of reference documents (**ANNEX II**) were made available on the IGF website ahead of the meeting which acted as

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[1] https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sga1708.doc.htm
[2] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/node?qt-front_igf_2017_first_open_consul=1#qt-front_igf_2017_first_open_consul

inputs to the discussions. [Transcripts][3] and [webcasts] from the 3 days of proceedings held in plenary can be accessed via the IGF website.

3.   The meeting began by taking stock of the IGF 2016 annual meeting, preparatory processes and community intersessional activities. A [synthesis paper][4] summarizing the contributions received by the Secretariat from the community taking stock of 2016 and looking forward to 2017 was presented and acted as an input to the discussions. A representative from the 2016 Host Country made a [video presentation][5] which highlighted some of the major achievements from 2016. Many expressions of thanks were conveyed to Mexico for both hosting a successful meeting and for being a long-standing supporter of the IGF. In a short [video address][6] presented on Day 2 of the meeting, the 2016 Honorary Host Country Co-Chair Mr. Victor Lagunes expressed his thanks to the entire IGF community and to the IGF MAG (both outgoing and incoming members) for all of their support in making the 2016 IGF a great success.

4.   It was said that the 2016 IGF successfully demonstrated the value of the IGF and its bottom-up, multistakeholder processes to the broader Internet Governance community. Many emphasized that the 2016 IGF showcased the work and growth of National and Regional IGF initiatives (NRIs); IGF intersessional activities such as Best Practice Forum(s), Dynamic Coalitions, and the work on Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s), etc. Many said that the IGF also demonstrated the importance of Internet governance issues as they are related to the United Nations sustainable development agenda and said that this should continue moving forward in a more structured way.

5.   The 2017 Host Country Co-Chair gave a short presentation which previewed some of the expected points of emphasis for the 2017 IGF set to take place in Geneva from 18-21 December. It was noted that Switzerland has been a longstanding supporter of Internet Governance dialogue and the IGF, going back to the 2003 WSIS Phase I. It was said that holding the meeting in Geneva, the home of many international organizations, UN missions, NGOs, and a place with vast expertise and knowledge of the Internet and its impact on social, economic and cultural issues, gives the 2017 IGF unique potential to break existing silos, bring in newcomers to the IGF and open up dialogue amongst all stakeholders. Switzerland re-iterated its commitment to working with the IGF Secretariat and the MAG to produce a 2017 program which is built in a truly bottom-up manner, inclusive to all stakeholders. The Swiss government and many other Geneva-based organizations reiterated throughout the 3-day meeting their strong commitment to taking advantage of the meeting's location in Geneva to bring unique insights and fresh ideas to the 2017 annual meeting and preparatory processes. Information for participants including logistical information and information on how to obtain a visa, etc. will be made available on a dedicated host country website in the coming weeks.

6.   During the lunchtime of Day 1, an open, informal presentation and discussion was led by a representative from UNDESA about the IGF Trust Fund.

[3] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/node?qt-front_igf_2017_first_open_consul=6#qt-front_igf_2017_first_open_consul
[4]https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/4229/494
[5] https://spaces.hightail.com/space/7f3Na
[6] https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByIO09jZhrBzb2Y1Zi1UbmFYQk0/view?ts=58b77a92

The IGF is an extra-budgetary project of the UN, and the IGF Trust Fund is the primary mechanism for the Secretariat's funding. The [presentation][7] can be accessed on the IGF website along with detailed financial information and all relevant information on how to contribute to the trust fund.

7.   Throughout the 3-day meeting, many from the broader IGF community and MAG emphasized that the IGF, which today is a year-round, open process and platform, may benefit from the development of a long-term, multi-year strategic plan which creates continuity to the various streams of IGF work. It was said that increased emphasis should be placed on expanding outreach activities and better communicating the work (past and present) and value of the IGF, bringing in newcomers, young people and under-represented stakeholders. Dedicated work should be done in a structured way to bring in stakeholders who may not be involved yet in IGF processes but who could benefit from the work of the IGF as well as from participating in the IGF's many processes..

 8.   Many tangible suggestions and recommendations for improvement are already in place, coming from, for example, the [CSTD working group on IGF improvements][8], from the 2016 IGF retreat and most importantly the IGF's mandate as stated in the [Tunis Agenda][9] and the [Outcome Document][10] of the 2015 WSIS+10 review. After some discussion on setting up a Working Group to address improvements, the MAG agreed to a proposal from the Chair to review all the significant streams of possible work (strategic multi-year plan, improvements, increased integration of intersessional activities, outreach, etc.) in order to prioritize, charter and plan all of them.

9.   There were also a number of suggestions about how the IGF could create increased synergies with other related organizations working on issues related to Internet governance, towards creating long-term beneficial partnerships for all stakeholders. Many advised that the IGF could act as a clearinghouse for the many new and emerging initiatives working on various specific issues and themes in the Internet governance space.. With this in mind, a number of related organizations, National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs) and other groups gave short briefings on their work and their respective relationships with the IGF. Representatives from the European Commission, SEEDIG, Nigeria IGF, IGF USA, Council of Europe, ICANN, WEF, EBU, INTA, 1 World Connected, DiploFoundation, Geneva Internet Platform, EURODIG, ICANN, the Dutch Government, UN-GGE, EBU, IGFSA, ISOC, Council of Europe, Govt. of China, West Africa IGF, African IGF, LACIGF and others reported into the meeting.

10.   Many emphasized that improvements can be made in better integrating both vertically and horizontally, the work and outcomes of the National and Regional IGF initiatives (NRIs); IGF Best Practice Forum(s); Dynamic Coalitions and work related to Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s) into broader short and long-term IGF programming. Outputs from these intersessional communities should feed into the meetings and discussions of any of the different constituent groups, so as to facilitate cross-pollination of

[7] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/funding
[8] http://unctad.org/meetings/en/SessionalDocuments/a67d65_en.pdf
[9] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/tags/about
[10] http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN96078.pdf

ideas and partnerships, particularly leading into the annual meeting where this could result in contributions to workshops or main sessions.

11.   There was a discussion with the IGF community about possible next steps for taking forward some of the ideas and suggestions stemming from the 2016 IGF Retreat on Advancing the 10 Year Mandate of the IGF[11]. There was agreement that perhaps different actors (UNDESA, IGF Secretariat, MAG, IGF Community) could be responsible for taking forward and assessing progress made on the various ideas and suggestions while recognizing which group or groups were responsible for the decision as well as implementation. Many agreed that an implementation roadmap could be created, complementary to ongoing work being done to implement the recommendations of the CSTD working group on IGF improvements. This roadmap and broader strategy could also inform work towards building a multi-year strategic plan for the IGF.

12.   The second day of the meeting, the first day of the MAG meeting, opened with brief remarks from new, continuing and outgoing MAG members participating in Geneva and online. The 2017 MAG had recently been appointed[12] by the new United Nations Secretary General. It was emphasized that outgoing MAG members were always encouraged to stay actively involved in IGF processes as their institutional knowledge and experience is vital to the IGF's future.

13.   A significant portion of the MAG meeting was focused on the work of the MAG working group on workshop review and evaluation process which had circulated an updated proposal to modify the 2016 MAG workshop review and evaluation process shortly before the meeting. New and continuing MAG members were given the opportunity to ask questions and suggest changes to the proposal. The proposal was focused on making incremental improvements to the workshop review and evaluation process based on feedback from the community, workshop organizers, outgoing MAG members, etc. while ensuring that the process was fair, transparent, inclusive, practical, and efficient. The updated review and evaluation process[13] was approved by the MAG and will be used in 2017.

14.   The MAG also had a discussion about what the overall title for the 2017 IGF should be. There was agreement that the title should be as inviting as possible, particularly to those stakeholders who may not be aware of the IGF's work, so as to attract as many new participants as possible. It was said that the title should also be provocative but also concise and to the point. Others also emphasized that the title should convey the participatory nature of the IGF. It was agreed that the main title for the 2017 IGF would be 'Shape Your Digital Future!'.

15.   There was agreement that sub-themes/thematic tracks for the 2017 program would be developed in a bottom-up manner based upon feedback from

[11] http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2016/812-igf-retreat-proceedings-22july/file
[12] https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/pi2193.doc.htm
[13] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/4229/512

the community received during the workshop proposal and evaluation process as workshop proposers would be asked to 'tag' their proposals, as was the case in 2016. Additional themes may also be brought in via intersessional work and through main sessions, etc. It was mentioned by many that cybersecurity issues could be explored in a bit more depth in 2017, and that the IGF could partner with other relevant fora dealing with cybersecurity issues to develop a clear stream of dialogue and capacity building activities related to cybersecurity.

16.   Others emphasized that emerging issues including big data, privacy, Internet of things, artificial intelligence and block-chain technologies, among others, could be explored in more depth. It was clear that IGF dialogue on themes related to access, Internet and sustainable development and peace building, human rights, Internet economy, trade issues and youth and gender issues, among many others, will also continue.

17.   A [short presentation](#) was made which described some of the work of the growing network of NRIs in 2016 and looked ahead to some possible areas of work in 2017 and beyond. There was broad agreement within the MAG and NRIs present that further efforts should be made to better integrate and include the fast growing network of NRIs into both the annual meeting program and the various intersessional tracks of work. The network of NRIs was asked to submit a proposal to the MAG with respect to what additional "bandwidth" could be implemented between the NRIs and the MAG.

18.   A proposal was made to continue the IGF intersessional work on 'Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s)[14]' building on the successful Phase II of the work completed in 2016. It was agreed that a more formal proposal for possible 2017 (Phase III) work will be submitted to the MAG for review.

19.   There was then a good discussion about the current status of IGF Best Practice Forum(s). There was agreement amongst the community and the MAG that further work should be done to be sure that the outputs of the IGF BPFs are widely disseminated and that those who might find such outputs beneficial be made aware of both the outputs and ongoing work of the BPFs. For example, while it was agreed that the IGF BPFs on IXPs[15] and IPv6[16] would not continue in 2017, there was a strong push to make sure that the useful work carried out by these BPFs over the past two years were better promoted.

20.   It was agreed that the IGF BPF on gender[17] issues would continue in 2017, building on its work carried out over the past two years. Pending a final proposal to be sent to the MAG for approval from the cybersecurity[18] BPF, there was also agreement that this BPF would continue in 2017. Proposals for new BPFs to be initiated and carried out in 2017 should be sent to the MAG for review as soon as possible. Some ideas for new BPFs included, but were not limited to, local content, online participation and combatting corruption online.

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[14] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/policy-options-for-connecting-and-enabling-the-next-billions-phase-ii
[15] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-ixps
[16] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-ipv6
[17] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-gender-and-access
[18] https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-cybersecurity

21.   Many from the community and MAG throughout the 3-day meeting lauded the growing network of IGF Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) and the work being carried out to increase synergies between DCs and to also support the integration of DC work into the broader IGF processes and annual meeting programming. It was agreed that a virtual meeting would be held in the coming weeks to further discuss DC-related and other issues.

22.   Finally, there was a short presentation on some of the new session formats[19] that were introduced into the IGF program in 2016. It was said that many participants enjoyed these new types of sessions and there was agreement that they should continue in 2017.

23.   There was agreement among the MAG that the second IGF Open Consultations and MAG meeting of the 2017 preparatory cycle should take place from 13-15 June in Geneva, Switzerland during the ITU WSIS Forum[20], pending confirmation that the facilities are available. The MAG will continue to hold periodic virtual meetings to continue carrying out preparations and facilitation of community intersessional activities. It was proposed that the first MAG virtual meeting could be held on Tuesday, 14 March.

Annex I

SESSION SELECTION FOR IGF 2017

REVISED PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Sl.#	Activity	Dates	Duration
1.	**Open call inviting session proposals**	15 March-3 May	**7 weeks**
2.	**Secretariat organizes and sends proposals to MAG for evaluation**	4-8 May	**5 days**
3.	**MAG session evaluation**	9-29 May	**3 weeks**
4.	**Secretariat analysis and evaluation of session results**	30 May-5 June	**1 week**
5.	**MAG reviews analysis, paying particular attention to regional and stakeholder balance**	6-12 June	**1 week**
6.	**MAG meets to select final sessions**	13-15 June	**3-day meeting**

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[19] http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-new-session-formats
[20] https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2017/

Annex II

Reference Documents

Agenda

-Overall Agenda
-Revised Day 3 Agenda

IGF 2016 Taking Stock and Looking Ahead to IGF 2017

-Synthesis Paper of Contributions Received
-List of Contributions

Themes

-Previous IGF Over-arching Themes
-Previous IGF Themes and Sub-themes

Main Sessions

-IGF 2016 Main Session Guidelines
Workshops

-IGF 2017 Revised Workshop Evaluation Process (as proposed by Working Group)
-IGF 2016 MAG Workshop Review and Evaluation Process
-IGF 2016 Workshop Proposal Form
-IGF 2016 Workshop Evaluation Interface
-IGF 2016 Guidelines for Workshop Proposers
-Considerations for Workshop Proposers
-10 Tips for a Great Proposal
-IGF 2016 Workshop Tags
-Outline of Session Formats
-Format of Background Paper for Panel Sessions
-IGF 2016 Workshop Reporting Template
-IGF 2016 Workshops / Statistical Synthesis of Evaluations

New Sessions

-Synthesis of Feedback Received on IGF 2016 Lightning and Unconference Sessions
-Outline of IGF 2016 New Sessions Programme
-Presentation from Working Group on New Session Formats

Other

-MAG 2016 - 2017 Composition
-NRIs Status Update
-IGF Trust Fund Presentation

Video

-IGF 2016 Highlights Video
-Message from Mr. Victor Lagunes, CIO in the Office of the President of Mexico & former MAG Host Country Co-chair

List of Participants

Chair	
Ms. St. Amour, Lynn	Internet Matters
Host Country Co-Chair	
Mr. Schneider, Thomas	Deputy Head of International Affairs, Federal Office of Communication, Switzerland
MAG Members	
Ms. Abdulla, Rasha	Associate Professor at the American University in Cairo
Ms. Aquino Ribeiro, Renata	Researcher and teacher, E. I. Consulting, Fortaleza, Brazil
Ms. Bou Harb, Zeina	OGERO Telecom, Ministry of Telecommunications, Lebanon
Mr. Candia, Miguel	Officer, Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the UN Office at Geneva
Mr. Fernández González, Juan Alfonso	Advisor, Ministry of Communications, Cuba
Mr. Estrada, Miguel Ignacio	CEO, 1977 SRL
Ms. Franz, Liesyl	Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of the Coordinator for Cyber Issues at the Department of State, USA
Ms. Gatto, Raquel	Regional Policy Advisor, ISOC
Mr. Haojun, Ji	Counsellor, Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Mr. Ilishebo, Michael	Officer, Zambia Police Service
Ms. Kaspar, Lea	Programme Lead, Global Partners Digital
Mr. Lo, Mamadou	Head of Communication and Information Department, Credit Agricole Bank
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Mr. Markovic, Slobodan	Advisor for ICT Policy and Internet Community Relations, Serbian National Internet Domain Registry
Mr. Ndicho Bambo, Samuel	Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of External Relations
Ms. Nguyen, Carolyn	Director for Telecommunications & Internet Governance, Microsoft Corporation
Mr. Olugbile, Segun	CEO, Continental Project Affairs Associates
Mr. Pérez Galindo, Rafael	Head of Unit, Directorate for Information Society Services, Ministry of Industry, Energy and

	Tourism, Spain
Mr. Rhijn van, Arnold	Senior Policy Advisor/Project Manager, Telecommunications Market Directorate, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Netherlands
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Ms. Watkins, Laura	Policy Executive at Nominet
Former IGF Host Country Representatives	
Mr. Aboulyazed, Hisham	Senior Manager, Information Society NTRA, Egypt
Mr. Sardjoeni, Moedjiono	National ICT Council Executive Team Member, Indonesia
Mr. Resende, Igor	Deputy Head of the Information Society Division, on behalf of the Communication Ministry of Brazil
Mr. Rosas, Israel	Internet Policy Analyst at the National Digital Strategy Coordination, Mexico
Representatives of International Organizations (IGOs) and European Commission	
Mr. Lee Hibbard	Coordinator for Internet Governance and Information Society, Council of Europe
Ms. Cristina Monti	International Relations Officer, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission
Ms. Despoina Sareidaki	Policy Analyst, International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
Mr. Victor Owade	External Relations Division, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
Other Participants	

Ms.	Chrystiane	Roy	Canada
Mr.	Jorge	Cancio	Switzerland
Ms.	Irina	Divakova	Switzerland
Mr.	Patrick	Pardo	Switzerland
Mr.	Syed Atif	Raza	Switzerland
Mr.	Nicolas	Rollier	Switzerland

Mr.	Frédéric	Paruta	France
Mr.	Mark	Carvell	United Kingdom
Ms.	Ivana	Dondero	Italy
Mr.	Umberto	Dosselli	Italy
Mr.	Maheeshwara	Kirindigoda	Sri Lanka
Ms.	Katrina	Kosa-Ammari	Latvia
Mr.	Sammie Junior	Adetiloye	Nigeria
Ms.	Charlotte	Simões	Portugal
Mr.	Florin	Tudorie	Romania
Mr.	Henning	Envall	Sweden
Mr.	YASSINE	SALAH	Tunisia
Mr.	Taras	Popelniuk	Ukraine
Ms.	Susan	Chalmers	United States
Mr.	Brett	Makens	United States
Mr.	Cisse	Kane	ACSIS
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Mr.	Nigel	Hickson	ICANN
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Ms.	Marilyn	Cade	ICT Strategies– mCADE llc

Mr.	Jim	Pendergast	The Galway Strategy group
Ms.	Constance	Bommelaer	Internet Society
Mr.	Jovan	Kurbalija	DiploFoundation
Mr.	Derek	O'Halloran	World Economic Forum

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