



SCOPING MEETING THURSDAY 2 JUNE 2016 BEST PRACTICE FORUM GENDER 2016¹ (VIRTUAL) MEETING III (FRIDAY 17 JULYNE 2016): **MEETING-SUMMARY**

Context

In May 2016, at the first open consultations and multi_stakeholder advisory group (MAG) meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Geneva, Switzerland, input was gathered and feedback was given on the progress and outputs of the 2015 best practice forums (BPFs), including the 2015 BPF on online abuse and gender-based violence against women. At this meeting the need was stressed for continuing to dedicate an intersessional effort to the study of gender-related challenges where the Internet is concerned.

Note that this is the current working title for the BPF, and is subject to change when the scope of the BPF's work is decided upon.
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A transcript of the relevant session is available online: http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/3063
"Intersessional activities' at the IGF refer to activities that take place throughout the year, and that thus continue in the period between annual IGF meetings. See 'background' below for more information on such IGF outputs.

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It was decided to continue the BPF Gender in 2016 and, more specifically, to a) build on and improve the outcomes of the 2015 BPF Gender: online abuse and gender-based violence against women, and b) to dedicate the work of the BPF in 2016 to women's access to the Internet (or the gender digital divide).

2. Meeting III

The secondthird meeting for the 2016 BPF Gender took place on 17 Julyne 2016 and lasted approximately 8045 minutes; 4 using a freely accessible virtual platform (Webex). 5 The meeting was attended by 811 participants and led by Jac SM Kee and Renata Aquino Ribeiro; both of whom volunteered as MAG members to help coordinate the BPF's work in 2016.

During meeting III. participants continued the work that had commenced started during the BPF's Consequently, the first and second scoping meetings which had taken place on for the 2016 BPF Gender took place on 2 June 2016 (a summariesy of which both was were distributed to the BPF's mailing list) and lasted an hour; using a freely accessible virtual platform (Webex). The meeting was attended by 13 participants and was led by the lead coordinator for the 2015 BPF, Jac SM Kee, with the support of Renata Aquino Ribeiro; both of whom had volunteered as MAG members to help coordinate the BPF's work in 2016.

The meeting was <u>primarily</u> aimed at <u>reviewing a document that had been prepared to explain the purpose and methodology of webinars proposed in meeting II. <u>and improving the spreadsheet created to enable a mapping exercise</u>; and to talk about further methods for outreach.</u>

providing a platform to reflect on lessons learnt by the BPF in conducting its work on online abuse and gender-based violence against women in 2015; to delineate the BPF Gender's theme for intersessional work in 2016; to highlight possible areas and gaps for work and action; to evaluate methods for the BPF to operate and conduct its work; and to consider alternative means for publishing and issuing tangible outputs in 2016 in a manner that is most useful to the multistakeholder community, its diverse stakeholder groups, and relevant policymakers.

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A meeting recording	<u>z is available online:</u>			

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32. <u>BackgroundFeedback regarding explanatory note: mapping initiative</u>webinars

A report produced by the UN General Assembly Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Working Group on Improvements to the IGF called for the development of more tangible outputs to 'enhance the impact of the IGF on global Internet governance and policy'. To enrich the potential for IGF outputs, the IGF developed an intersessional programme of BPFs and other initiatives intended to complement other IGF community activities. The outputs from this programme are intended to become robust resources, to serve as inputs into other pertinent forums, and to evolve and grow over time.

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BPFs offer substantive ways for the IGF community to produce more concrete outcomes. While BPF outcomes have already been useful in informing policy debates, they are also viewed as iterative materials that are not only flexible but also 'living' in the sense that they can be updated at any time to accommodate the pace of technological change faced by Internet policymakers. BPFs have the freedom to define their own methodologies; tailored to each theme's specific needs and requirements. The term 'best' in BPFs should be interpreted lightly because the topics of BPFs often relate to themes that need to be addressed in a flexible manner in order to accommodate the pace of technological change.7.

In 2015, the IGF MAG decided to dedicate one of six BPFs to the study of online abuse and gender based violence. Over a period of nine months, fortnightly meetings were held by the BPF and an open, inclusive and transparent methodological process (including background desk research, a survey, case studies, gathering input on draft versions using online platforms, a social media campaign, and a 90-minute session at IGF 2015) was adopted to gather the input of a broad range of stakeholders (diverse in terms of stakeholder groups, regions and gender).

In December 2015, a 184-page report was published by the IGF, detailing the work and findings of the BPF, and today remains 'a living document' that 'can still be updated and changed as additional input and comments are received'. In addition, a 10-page summary version of the BPF's full report, with examples and brief case studies, was also published as a part of the IGF BPF Handbook 2015.9.

3. Sharing lessons learned from 2015 BPF process.

2015 BI	PF process: Observations, Thoughts and Suggestions to Enhance the BPF Process, Participation and Outputs (2016). Available online:
://wwv	r.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf meeting/igf 2016/takingstock/694 contribution from igf best practice forums bpfs consultants/file
	IGF (2015). Best Practice Forum Online Abuse and Gender-Based Violence: Fourth and Final Report. Available online:
://wwv	r.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/best practice forums/623 bpf online abuse and gbv against women
	See pages 33-46. IGF (2015). Best Practice Forum Handbook. Available online: http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/best-practice-

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During the BPF's first second scoping virtual meeting on 2 June 2016, the group decided to organize a series of webinars with the combined objectives of raising awareness of the BPF's work, of providing a platform for participants to learn about others' experiences related to the BPF's work, and of encouraging and assisting participants to contribute to the mapping initiative. At the same meeting, it was decided that an explanatory note would be prepared to explain the nature of these webinars.

At meeting III, this explanatory note was shared and participants were invited to add their input directly to the document¹⁰ (on Google docs). One of the coordinators went through the content of the note and asked for input. Participants agreed that the current structure and input makes sense and would be useful to new participants to the BPF's work.

It was noted that the webinars would also help to encourage stakeholders to enter data into the mapping initiative. One way to do so would be to use existing (physical) events (e.g. a regional or national IGF session) for hosting a session attached to a webinar (i.e. an online/streaming element). It was also agreed that a section that clarifies the distinction between onsite events and online-only events as webinars should be included in the webinar guide.

It was noted that the first webinar will take place during an 'unconference' session at IGF Brazil on 12 July 2016 at 13:00 GMT (in Portuguese, as no transcription services will be available). It was agreed that Renata, who had obtained a slot at the meeting, would assume responsibility for managing and organizing this first 'mini-hackathon' webinar, which will be dedicated to the topic of the gender digital divide. It was pointed out that because the second Open Consultations and MAG Meeting will be taking place simultaneously in New York, it will be difficult to use the IGF's Webex platform to enable online participation. It was agreed that Renata would take the lead on investigating alternatives for enabling online participation.

In terms of the schedule, it was noted that only one webinar would be held a week. The first would take place at IGF Brazil, whilst the second could take place online or at Asia Regional Pacific IGF (APrIGF) (July 27-19) in Taiwan, or Latin America IGF (LacIGF).

4. Update: mapping initiative

During the BPF's first scoping virtual meeting, the group decided to map existing initiatives and/or reports that are related to the gender digital divide, women and (Internet) access, and/or the empowerment of women using information and communication technologies

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(ICTs). The aims of this ongoing exercise include to determine whether there are any lessons to be gathered from existing work and to identify related gaps in work and research.

A document aimed at gathering such input was drafted on an open and (generally) freely accessible platform (Google sheets), and subsequently shared on the BPF's mailing list for input.¹¹

It was noted that very little input had been gathered on the spreadsheet (discussed in meeting I) thus far and participants were again invited to provide their input in respect of existing initiatives and/or research in the field of the gender digital divide. map-existing initiatives and/or reports that are related to the gender digital divide, women and (Internet) access, and/or the empowerment of women using information and communication technologies (ICTs). The aims of this ongoing exercise wasinclude to determine whether there are any lessons to be gathered from existing work and to identify related gaps in work and research.

A document aimed at gathering such input was drafted on an open and (generally) freely accessible platform (Google sheets), and subsequently shared on the BPF's mailing list for input. ¹² During Meeting II, the participants discussed this document, the functionality of its layout and description, and potential improvements thereto. Suggestions include:

Regarding the location column in both the initiatives/reports tab: it was suggested and agreed to more clearly describe the meaning of the 'location' in its specific column, including national (which includes local initiatives), regional initiatives, and global initiatives. While it was pointed out that not all local initiatives may be as relevant to the overall objectives of the initiative, it was noted that local initiatives/reports may still offer useful examples.

<u>Jt was further proposed to consider adding geo-locations for the purposes of enabling the mapping of initiatives/reports in a more visual manner (a potential tool is available at: https://map.what3words.com/). It was agreed that a visual map of the locations/regions that initiatives/reports derive from could be created at a later stage using such a tool.</u>

Regarding the scope of the initiatives/reports: it was noted that there may be confusion as to what initiatives/reports could qualify for inclusion. In other words, there was uncertainty as to whether only initiatives/reports that relate directly to the gender digital divide should be included in the document, or also (for instanceexample) initiatives/reports related to

11 The document is available and freely editable online:

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12. The document is available and freely editable online:

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gender, access and empowerment more broadly. It was agreed that a close-ended column with a close-ended question should be included in both the initiatives and reports tabs to determine to what extent – if at all – an initiative/report includes a gender dimension. The column should therefore denote whether a(n) initiative/report is gender blind, gender-focused or partially includes a reference or dimension of gender.

4. Proposed webinars for raising initiatives and collecting data

During the meeting, it was also suggested that a series of webinars be organized with the combined objectives of raising awareness of the BPF's work, of providing a platform for participants to learn about others' experiences related to the BPF's work, and to encourage and assist participants to contribute to the mapping initiative.

It was proposed that a series of two to three webinars be held, each with a diverse theme and potential guest speaker providing input on a specific initiative/ report and thepotential lessons learnt. The session(s) could thereafter be used to provide participants with assistance to contribute to the mapping initiative. It was proposed that the webinars be held at different times to cater for participants from diverse time zones.

It was agreed that Jac, Renata and Anri would lead an effort to draft an explanatory note to describe the nature and proposed objectives of the webinars, a proposed timeline and schedule, as well as a related call for participation in the BPF's work. One participant (Kat Jens) noted that she would be willing to give input on experiences from last year's BPF.

participants of the 2015 BPF process explained the methodology and working process followed in the past year, including the hosting of virtual meetings every two weeks; prioritizing outreach to different stakeholder groups through the use of methods like surveys, case studies, online platforms for gathering input, and social media campaigns; doing desk research and publishing an extensive report and a summary version of the report for the overall BPF 2015 handbook; and organizing and hosting a 90-minute session at IGF 2015 in November 2015 in João Pessoa, Brazil. It was noted that the BPF's work was only possible as a result of the significant time commitment that many volunteer and coordinating participants dedicated to the BPF's work, and that a similar commitment to stakeholder engagement should be prioritised prioritized in 2016.

4. Defining theme and scope: BPF Gender 2016

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One of the major points of discussion at the BPF Gender 2016's first meeting was what the focus of the BPF's work would be in 2016. It was agreed that the BPF's overall thematic area of 'gender' should be retained from year to year (subject to the agreement of the MAG) in order to ensure consistency and promote continuity; while a specific focus area may be selected every year<u>annually</u> to highlight a particular challenge with relevance to the overall theme. As to the working title of the BPF itself, it was noted that while the overall name of the BPF would be 'BPF Gender', it would also attain an additional sub-theme, like BPF Gender: Gender digital divide or BPF Gender: Access, to differentiate its work from a dynamic coalition on gender.

In terms of this specific theme for 2016, two potential approaches were discussed.

First, the need to update the 2015 report on online abuse and gender based violence was emphasized; as was the importance of re-packaging the report published by the 2015 BPF in a way that would be useful and effective for relevant stakeholder groups. One aspect of the report that, it was noted, could be updated as a result of recent developments in the field, is a section on strategies and responses to online abuse and gender based violence.

Second, participants also stressed the importance of addressing the gender digital divide in line with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in general and SDG 5, which aims to ensure gender equality and empower all women and girls, in particular. One participant also noted that work on access is particularly relevant and pertinent in her region, Latin America. It was further pointed out that work on the gender digital divide could also feed into and support another IGF intersessional activity, namely *Policy Options for Connecting the Next Billion*, which has entered its second phase in 2016. It was noted that if the BPF were to do undertake work in this field, it could lay important groundwork and give direction if the output document is as comprehensive as the output for the 2015 BPF.

On the other hand, it was also pointed out that due to the limited time at the BPF's disposal this year, it will not be able to as much work as the 2015 BPF did. Work on the gender digital divide could also feed into and support another IGF intersessional activity, namely *Policy Options for Connecting the Next Billion*, which has entered its second phase in 2016. Some participants pointed outemphasized that other organizations are also dedicating time and resources to understanding and addressing the gender digital divide (including the Broadband Commission's new working group on the theme), and that the BPF should refrain from duplicating such work, but should rather focus on identifying gaps and dedicating its work to addressing particular aspects of the gender digital divide. Suggestions from participants included looking at barriers to access for women; studying women's participation and engagement in global Internet policy processes; and looking at innovative ways to enable women's access and related empowerment.

It was suggested and agreed that the BPF could, in 2016, aim to undertake both tasks by potentially dividing the group and assigning tasks that could continue 'offline' beyond

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fortnightly meetings. <u>It was decided that a two-phased approach would not be feasible within the limited time available to the BPF.</u>

5. Timeline, resources and other considerations

It was noted that due to processes out of the control of participants and/or the MAG, BPFs in 2016 will have approximately 30% less time at their disposal than BPFs had in 2015. For this reason, it is important that the BPF's work not only starts as soon as possible, but that its proposed objectives and work are designed in a manner that is reasonable and achievable within the time at its disposal.

The IGF Secretariat noted that it would provide reasonable resources necessary for the BPF's work, and is in the process of recruiting a consultant rapporteur to support the BPF's work. It would also provide logistical support for meetings and other requirements as and when it may arise.

It was noted that regular, fortnightly meetings were beneficial to the 2015 BPF in maintaining momentum and enabling more work to get done sufficiently. As a result, it was decided to continue hosting meetings twice a month for the BPF until a methodology for the BPF's work has been designed. It was also noted that alternative means for conducting the BPF's work, like Slack and Trello, could also be used to enable better cooperation.

56. Participants and participation guidelines

At the start of the meeting, participants were reminded that as per IGF procedure (which prioritizes transparency and inclusivity), all meetings are recorded and recordings are available online. For safety and transparency reasons, all meeting participants were asked to introduce themselves. It was noted that, in the future, if participants wanted to participate on the condition of anonymity, steps would be taken to ensure the safety and privacy of other participants.

Meeting participants included:

Alejandra Errasmuspe (Uruguay) Amrita Choudhury (India)

Alexandre (Brazil)

Agustina Callegari (Argentina)

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Anri van der Spuy (South Africa)

Brenda Aynsley (Australia)

Brian Gutterman (USA)

Chengetai Masango (Zimbabwe)

Ginger Paque (Venezuela)

Jac SM Kee (Malaysia)

Katharina Jens (Norway)

Luis Bobo (Spain) (IGF Secretariat),

Jan Moolman (South Africa)

Luis Bobo (Spain)

Marilyn Cade (USA)

Renata Aquino Ribeiro (Brazil)

Smita Vanniyar (India)

Sylvia Monzón de Bidart (Argentina)

Wisdom Donkor (Ghana)

Yolanda Martinez (Mexico)

Youssouf Abdelrahim (Chad)

Wisdom Donkor (Ghana)

Zeina Bou Harb (Lebanon)

67. Next steps

The meeting finished with a summary and the proposal of a number of follow-up actions, namely:

Action 1: Summary of the discussion and scheduling of next meeting. A summary of the discussion will be prepared and shared on the BPF's dedicated mailing list by 228 June 6 July 2016, along with a Doodle poll for scheduling the time of the next meeting on

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16 June 2016 (the time slots offered will be 10:00 am, 11:00 am, or 12:00 pm GMT).along with a draft outline of the proposed webinars for input from the community.

- Action 2: Creation <u>Updating</u> of a collaborative mapping document for identifying areas of concern and future actionwebinar guide in accordance with feedback received during session. In line with inputs received during the meeting, the spreadsheet will be updated and shared on the BPF mailing list again.
- To determine current initiatives and work related to the gender digital divide, as well as to identify potential gaps in the field, participants will be asked to help in a mapping initiative, that will be created and shared using a collaborative and generally accessible online tool like Google Docs. The results of this mapping exercise will be shared with all participants at the next meeting of the group.
- Action 3: Planning of onsite event at IGF Brazil on 12 July 2016: It was noted that Renata would assume responsibility for organizing the first webinar at the Brazil IGF, including options for online participation, and will finalise details of the webinar and share same on the BPF's mailing list by 6 July to be able to invite participants to the webinar by 7 July. The participation and webinar guides can be shared along with this invitation.
 - Create Draft explanatory note for proposed webinars; Renata, Jac and Anri will draft an explanatory note to describe the nature and proposed objectives of the webinars, as well as a related call for participation.
- Action 4: Next meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 18 July 2016 at 13:00 CET (11:00 GMT), and that the Secretariat would schedule the meeting and distribute details forenabling participation mailing list and invite participants to BPF's work. A new mailing list will be created for the BPF's 2016 work and participants will be invited to join the new mailing list and reminded of the fact that all messages shared on the list are publically available on the IGF's website. The coordinators will draft a brief outline of the BPF's objectives for 2016 as part of an invitation to participate that will be distributed to the MAG and broader community.

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$\left(\cdot \right)$	Formatiert
1	Formatiert: Schriftart: 11 Pt.
1	Formatiert
1	Formatiert: Rechts: 0,63 cm
	Formatiert

Formatiert: Schriftart: 11 Pt

Formatiert



Formatiert: Standard, Abstand Vor: 0 Pt., Nach: 0 Pt., Tabstopps: 9,73 cm, Links

Formatiert: Rechts: 0,63 cm

Formatiert: Schriftart: Cambria, Schriftartfarbe: Benutzerdefinierte Farbe(RGB(118;113;113))

Formatiert: Schriftart: Cambria, Schriftartfarbe: Benutzerdefinierte Farbe(RGB(118;113;113))