

IGF 2021
MAG Meeting VII | 15 April 2021

Summary report

Action items & Next steps

IGF 2021 (sub)themes, policy questions and issues

- MAG issue teams to finalise their documents by 8:00 am UTC on Friday, 16 April. In doing so, they should consider the following: (a) avoid having long lists of topics; (b) have focused policy questions; (c) integrate references to the COVID-19 pandemic in some of the descriptions and policy questions, as relevant; (d) be sensitive to the issue of Global North and Global South perspectives; (e) consider stakeholder diversity when describing the issues and developing policy questions.
- Secretariat to further work on the documents to edit them and make sure they use consistent language and formats. The revised documents will be shared with the MAG ideally by 19 April end of day, to allow for final revision and approval at the MAG meeting on 20 April.

Workshop process

- WG-Workshops to continue working on the call for session proposals and the submission form, together with the Secretariat. Advanced versions of the documents will be shared with the MAG ideally by 19 April end of day. These will then be reviewed and approved at the MAG meeting on 20 April.
- The Secretariat to share the form for session proposals first with WG-Hybrid, for any additional input on hybrid elements, before sharing it with the full MAG.
- ❖ **The current tasks for MAG members (and related documents) are also available in the [MAG dashboard](#).**

1. The seventh virtual meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) in the IGF 2021 preparatory cycle was held on 15 April 2021. The meeting was moderated by Ms. Anriette Esterhuysen, MAG Chair.

Attached to this summary report are the meeting agenda and input documents (Annex I) and the list of participants (Annex II).

I. Introductions

2. The Chair welcomed participants and gave an overview of the meeting's agenda. She then thanked MAG members for advancing the work on IGF 2021 (sub)themes, policy questions and issues, noting that the group is now getting closer to the launch of the call for session proposals.

3. Mr. Przemek Typiak, Polish government, noted that the host country is continuing preparations for the Katowice meeting (tenders for various services have either been finalised or are upcoming). He also reminded MAG members to keep the host country informed about the COVID-19 situation in their countries and regions (e.g. travel restrictions, vaccination).

II. IGF 2021 (sub)themes, policy questions and issues

4. Ms. Esterhuysen reminded participants that the MAG had decided to implement a more issue-driven and outcome-oriented approach for IGF 2021, while ensuring that the forum remains open for stakeholders to discuss their issues of interest. To achieve this dual goal, the MAG has agreed on two baskets of issue areas for IGF 2021: (a) main focus areas (outcome-oriented, with 60% estimated time allocation): economic and social inclusion and human rights; universal access and meaningful connectivity; (b) emerging and cross-cutting issues (discussion-driven, with 40% estimated time allocation): emerging regulation: market structure, content, data and consumer/users rights regulation; environmental sustainability and climate change; inclusive Internet governance ecosystems and digital cooperation; and trust, security and stability. MAG working groups (issue teams) were formed for each of these areas, to develop descriptions, topics and policy questions to be included in the call for session proposals.

5. MAG members representing issue teams then gave brief overviews of the documents they had developed on the issue areas:

- Ms. Sook-Jung Dofel, speaking on behalf of the group working on [Environmental sustainability and climate change](#), outlined three key topics proposed for this issue area: the environment impact of increased digitalisation and Internet penetration; environmental education; and using the Internet and other digital technologies to manage and mitigate the impact of climate change and to achieve environmental sustainability.
- Ms. Courtney Radsch explained that the group working on [Economic and social inclusion and human rights](#) has identified eight topics for this category: economic, social and digital policies that facilitate and enable inclusion; policies and regulations to address the gaps in access, rights and accountability across economic, social and political domains; centering human rights in inclusive digital societies and designing, using and implementing technologies and policies in a human-centred manner; principles and safeguards to protect data rights and ensure data governance structures that are transparent, rights respectful and inclusive; protecting freedom of expression, mitigating censorship, and cultivating multilingualism for full inclusion; governance mechanisms and the need for regulation, open data and transparent governance; digital ethics and shifting notions of society and norms; and vertical versus horizontal networks of power.
- Mr. Karim Attoumani presented the document developed on [Universal access and meaningful connectivity](#), with a focus on three topics: understanding the user centric needs in terms of connectivity; enabling environment to the development and sustainability of infrastructures; and promoting the replicability of what works elsewhere.
- Ms. Chenai Chair highlighted two key topics proposed by the group working on [Trust, security and stability](#): cybersecurity – mitigating against cyber-attacks from various players; accountability of actors in cybersecurity.

- Mr. Amado Espinosa explained that the group focused on Inclusive IG ecosystems and digital cooperation would share its draft document shortly after the meeting. He also reminded participants that the work done by the group on [Emerging regulation: market structure, content, data and consumer/users rights regulation](#) was presented at the previous MAG meeting.

6. During the subsequent MAG exchanges, it was agreed to integrating the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for the field of Internet governance and digital policy in the narratives and policy questions for some of the issue areas, while also allowing the topic to be treated organically (i.e. coming up from session proponents). Another point made was to try to limit the number of topics and policy questions associated with each issue area, to allow for more focus.

7. Action items & next steps

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- Secretariat to further work on the documents to edit them and make sure they use consistent language and formats. The revised documents will be shared with the MAG ideally by 19 April end of day, to allow for final revision and approval at the MAG meeting on 20 April.

III. Update from the Working group on workshop process

8. Mr. Roberto Zambrana gave an update on the issues discussed by the Working group on workshop process (WG-Workshops), noting that the group has started working on three key documents: (1) the overview of [IGF 2021 main focus areas and emerging and cross-cutting issues](#), to include text developed by the dedicated issue teams; (2) the [IGF 2021 call for workshop proposals](#); (3) the [workshop proposal form](#), developed together with the IGF Secretariat. The following aspects have been discussed within the group:

- Including other types of sessions, in addition to the 'traditional' panels, debates, roundtables of 60–90 min. Such additional types of sessions could include flash sessions and lightning talks of 30–45 min.
- The discussion on an estimated number of sessions to be included into the IGF 2021 programme is to be continued. Consideration will be given to the previous MAG discussions on not having more than five parallel sessions, as well as to the host capacity to allocate up to ten parallel rooms.
- Consideration to be given to the option of reserving some slots for open issue teams, to compensate the expected higher amount of workshop proposals that are likely to be rejected this year.
- Discussions are ongoing on how to foster a closer relation between the main focus areas and the cross-cutting issues when session proposals are submitted. One option could be for

proponents to be able to select both a main focus area and a cross-cutting issue as relevant for their proposals.

- MAG members could consider recommending that some session proposals are allocated to the IGF 2021 preparatory phase (as opposed to having them simply rejected).

9. Ms. Esterhuysen noted that the Secretariat will launch not only a call for workshop proposals, but also a call for different types of sessions (e.g. open forums, networking sessions, presentations). This will be in line with the dual goal of having both a focused and an inclusive IGF. It will also be possible for sessions to be held fully online.

10. Other points raised during the discussions included (a) a suggestion to make optional the question on how the session proposal is related to the sustainable development goals (SDGs), and (b) a recommendation for the MAG to consider ways in which sessions are more diverse in terms of panellists/key participants.

11. Mr. Adam Peake reminded MAG members that the Working group on hybrid meetings (WG-Hybrid) has shared a [draft document with suggestions for issues](#) to be included in the call for session proposals (e.g. moderation and facilitation for on-site and online participants, interactivity, use of online tools). He encouraged MAG members to review the document and add their suggestions. Ms. Esterhuysen then noted that the Secretariat and the WG-Workshops are already incorporating suggestions from the document in their work on the call and form for session proposals.

12. Action items & next steps

- WG-Workshops to continue working on the call for session proposals and the submission form, together with the Secretariat. Advanced versions of the documents will be shared with the MAG ideally by 19 April end of day. These will then be reviewed and approved at the MAG meeting on 20 April.
- The Secretariat to share the form for session proposals first with WG-Hybrid, for any additional input on hybrid elements, before sharing it with the full MAG.

13. The next MAG meeting will be held on 20 April 2021.

Annex I

Meeting agenda and input documents

Agenda

1. Welcome from the Chair
2. IGF 2021 (sub)themes, policy questions and issues (groups presentations)
3. Update from the working group on workshop process
4. AoB

Input documents

- Briefing document for issue teams
- Draft documents from WG-Workshops
 - IGF 2021 main focus areas and emerging and cross-cutting issues
 - Call for Workshops proposals
- WebForm for WS Proposals (in progress)
- Working document from WG-Hybrid
- Issues teams documents:
 - FOCUS: Economic and social inclusion and human rights
 - FOCUS: Universal access and meaningful connectivity
 - Cross-Cutting: Environment
 - Cross-Cutting: Inclusive Internet governance ecosystems and digital cooperation
 - Cross-Cutting: Trust, security and stability
 - Cross-Cutting: Emerging regulation: market structure, content, data and users rights

Annex II Participants

Last name	First name
MAG Chair	
Esterhuysen	Anriette
IGF 2021 Host Country	
Typiak	Przemysław
MAG members	
Andriamampionona	Hariniombonana
Afonso	Carlos Alberto
Attoumani	Karim
Chair	Chenai
Charlton	Paul
Chharia	Rajesh
Choudhury	Amrita
Dofel	Sook-Jung
Espinosa	Amado
Fantinati	Mattia
Harsianti	Juliana
Hordyński	Ryszard
Khanal	Raj Ananda
Mukanova	Ayazhan
Peake	Adam
Radsch	Courtney
Zambrana	Roberto
UN DESA	

Kwok	Wai Min
Representatives of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and European Commission	
Frank	Nicola
Russo	Lucia
Representatives of former and future IGF host countries	
Gridl	Rudolf
Other participants	
Amessinou	Kossi
Carvell	Mark
Cassa	Concettina
Cohen	Frederic
Degezelle	Wim
Faith	Afia
Kummer	Markus
Munyan	Jason
Parris	June
Skwarek	Wiktor
Sutto	Timea
Wagner	Flavio
Wallis	Ben
IGF Secretariat	
Bobo Garcia	Luis
Gengo	Anja
Masango	Chengetai
Teleanu	Sorina