IGF 2018

MAG WG – Multi-year Strategic Work Programme (WG-MWP)

The second meeting of the MAG WG-Multi-year Strategic Work Programme was held on June 14th, 2018.

The meeting summary below is organized according to the agreed agenda (Annex I).

1 - Intro/Logistics/Admin/Meeting Summary Approval

List of Participants can be found in Annex II, and participants agreed to the meeting being recorded. That recording can be found here.

Some WG participants requested additional time to review the meeting summary, and this was agreed.

The Chair pointed out there was an open call for a co-facilitator, and encouraged WG members to volunteer.

2 – Review following proposals for next steps:

The group began a discussion on how to make concrete progress on the suggestions coming forward from several proposals:

   a) Option Paper on Methodologies for the Development of Written IGF Outputs,
   b) Strengthening Cooperation within the Context of the IGF: A Roadmap for 2018,
   c) IGF Programme Framework

The group discussed what might be done to advance a pilot(s) for 2018 given the focus on producing more tangible, concrete outputs, possibly even some sort of “recommendations” (noting “recommendations” was a very broad term and could encompass many options, such as “Best Practices”, endorsements, or guidance on framing issues, etc.). It was stressed that this would of course be done while staying within the Tunis Agenda.

It was noted that there were several distinct steps to be explored (see below) in order to advance any of the suggestions, and given the relatively short time before IGF 2018, that we could perhaps start with an existing position. This would enable us to explore opportunities within the IGF ecosystem to advance that topic. The example was given of the Global Commission On the Stability of Cyberspace’s (GCSC) Call to Protect the Public Core of the Internet. Starting with such an existing position (assumed to be broadly supported), would allow the IGF community to explore how we might concretely help advance critical topics through all the activities across the IGF ecosystem as well as what else might be done to reach other parties to help advance these issues.

Sample Steps:

1 – choice of a substantive topic(s)
2 – deliberations and development of position on the chosen topic(s)
3 – community engagement processes throughout
4 – pilot various tools for broad community engagement/position development
5 – how to judge validity/status of any tangible output (consensus?)
6 – how to extend usefulness/impact of any such activity
There were questions re whether there was enough time ahead of the IGF and in the IGF agenda (given shortened timeframe), and questions about potential impact on resources. The group recognized these were valid concerns and agreed to continue moving forward while continually assessing impacts, etc.

There was also a suggestion that instead of piloting any of these suggestions, we focus on the output the IGF is already producing and looking into how these can be better utilized/promoted. The group sees improving current work as important but also recalled that the main criticism of multiple stocktaking reviews is clearly focused on improving outputs. It was also noted that the MAG had already agreed to extend the pilot “Geneva messages” from IGF 2017 main sessions to all sessions during IGF 2018, producing “IGF messages”, and that this was a start.

There were several suggestions on Main sessions: that they could act as an aggregator of key messages from all sessions within a track and perhaps even provide takeaways to various stakeholder groups.

Other suggestions were covered in the “Strengthening Cooperation within the Context of the IGF” proposal, where unique value propositions for the IGF were suggested, such as IGF could move from a Discussion Forum to be an:

1. Aggregator of consensus
2. Arbitrator of conflicts
3. Facilitator of information exchange
4. Mobilizer of resources
5. – etc.

And, finally other ideas focused on increasing engagement at a higher level (political and private sector) in these main sessions or in some “higher level sessions”.

There were several proposals for pilots in the lead up to IGF 2018. For example, choose up to 3 topics and invite the IGF community (virtually, and with the IGF Annual Meeting and NRIs - physically and virtually) to reflect on how it would impact politically, economically, socially, etc. and what might be done to positively impact the topic. Or, stakeholder communities could suggest topics they believe should be addressed, and then reach out to new communities to develop those sessions.

In support of the above, it was suggested that an agenda setting process drawing on existing processes and IGF intersessional work, could lead to activities during IGF 2018, which could draw on key messages from across the IGF ecosystem and then be used to identify topics to go forward in a multi-year program.

It was also suggested that there might be an opportunity to complement the activities of the Paris Peace Forum and the IGF 2018 through one of the pilots as suggested above.

d) IGF Annual Programme Overview

   It was agreed that this could be updated after the next MAG meeting once the overall programme outline is better understood for IGF 2018.

e) Poll (and draft poll) to IGF community

   This item was postponed to a future meeting due to time limitations.
3 - Next steps on engaging MAG, IGF community, Intersessional activities and NRIs

There was a discussion on engaging the MAG and broader community and it was agreed that the meeting summary and corresponding documents should be shared with the MAG and that we would ask the various co-ordinators/focal points to share these documents across the IGF community.

4 - Next steps/future agenda items

The Group agreed to continue with one (1) hour meetings every two (2) weeks and a doodle poll will be sent to schedule future meetings

Next meeting: TBD

5 - AOB

No items were requested.

<end>
ANNEX I - AGENDA

1 - Intro/Logistics/Admin/Meeting Summary Approval

2 - Review following proposals for next steps:
   a) "Option Paper on Methodologies for the Development of Written IGF Outputs"
   b) "Strengthening Cooperation within the Context of the IGF: A Roadmap for 2018"
   c) Proposal for an "IGF Programme Framework"
   d) IGF Annual Programme Overview
   e) Poll (and draft poll) to IGF community

3 - Next steps on engaging MAG, IGF community, Intersessional activities and NRIs

4 - Next steps/future agenda items

5 - AOB
ANNEX II – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CHAIR: Lynn St.Amour

MAG MEMBERS:
Casasbuenas, Julián
Cassa, Concettina
Croll, Jutta
Galstyan, Lianna
Jevtovic, Danko
Malcolm, Jeremy
Markovski, Veni
Suto, Timea
Wallis, Ben

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:
Balachandran, Pradeep
Chalmers, Susan
Donkor, Wisdom
Kummer, Markus
de Natris, Wout
Sivasubramanian, Muthusamy
Wagner, Flavio

IGF SECRETARIAT:
Mazzucchi, Eleonora