Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Virtual Meeting XXVI

Summary Report

17 April 2018

1. The twenty-sixth virtual meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) took place on 17 April 2018. The meeting was facilitated by Markus Kummer and Israel Rosas, with Eleonora Mazzucchi representing the IGF Secretariat. The agenda of the DCCG meeting (ANNEX I) focused on updating coalitions on the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)'s recent discussions regarding the IGF programme, how these relate to DCs’ participation in the annual meeting, both individually and collectively, as well as miscellaneous issues concerning DC-relevant pages on the IGF’s website. The Webex recording of the meeting can be accessed here: https://intgovforum.webex.com/intgovforum/lsr.php?RCID=999852b547c834db4f085a850408d252

2. DCs’ last coordination call in March took place before the First Open Consultations and face-to-face MAG Meeting of the year, when IGF programme considerations typically begin. In light of this, a briefing on the MAG’s discussions was given by Israel, as one of the MAG members involved in putting forward and outlining proposed changes to the programme shaping in 2018. It was explained that these changes centred around taking a more structured and thematic approach to the programme, to make it more cohesive and focused, as well as to avoid substantive duplication and overlaps. The new approach was suggested by a group of MAG members, and then adopted by the wider MAG, on the basis of feedback received in the IGF’s annual stocktaking process and in the face-to-face meeting itself. It was further explained that this resulted in a first-ever IGF ‘Call for Issues’, made from 26 March to 13 April, in which DCs were also invited to participate, whose aim was to collect community input on the themes and subthemes (or ‘issues’) for the 2018 programme. DCs were shown the preliminary data from that process (ANNEX II), which gathered more than 300 submissions from all stakeholder groups and regions. The most popular thematic category to emerge was ‘Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy’. In response to a number of questions on what would come next, DCs were informed that the traditional call for workshops, and subsequent evaluation of workshop proposals, would remain the same and with the same criteria and methodology applied. The difference this year would be that workshop proposers would most likely be asked to make submissions under sets of themes and subthemes gleaned from the issues call. In general, the results of the call for issues, including both thematic preferences and distribution of those preferences according to stakeholder, regional groups, and even gender, would be used to inform the MAG’s decision-making on the programme. Markus also noted an overall push in the MAG this year to trim down the number of sessions in the schedule, and that this was an aspect of the improvements agenda to bear in mind.
3. It was reiterated that despite some revised approaches to the programme and their potential impact on IGF main sessions, a joint main session for DCs would once again be requested. In terms of their individual sessions in the programme, 90 minutes for each coalition, as was the norm for many years in the IGF schedule, would be assumed as the standard, and would be requested should it become a topic of discussion in the MAG. At the end of the last annual cycle, DCs had also asked that a more consistent process be put in place to collect their session applications and information. In view of this, the Secretariat prepared a template submission form for DCs’ review, comments and suggested edits. The form is loosely based on the workshop proposal form, but much shorter and presented in a simpler way. It was stressed that although DCs would use this form to make their requests this year, the only mandatory portion would be the links to their session report and activities report or outcome paper from the previous year, which have been the traditional requirements for coalitions to hold a session (ensuring they have both completed the report required of all IGF session organizers, and that they are an active DC). The timing for submission was also briefly discussed. It was said that components of the IGF programme are timed ‘backwards’ from when the workshops process has started. This generally allows more time for workshop proposals, as they undergo a lengthy evaluation by the MAG, with all other session requests coming afterward, and ideally one or two weeks before the second face-to-face MAG meeting. The MAG’s second meeting represents a target date by which all programme components are received. Given that the second meeting has been tentatively scheduled for 11-13 July, DCs could expect a deadline of roughly end-of-June for their session requests. It was also said that this deadline would be applied as uniformly as possible to all other session requests, including for open forums, Day 0 sessions, and others. The template for DCs’ request form will be disseminated on the DCs list and remain open until the next coordination meeting.

4. The issue of a possible common theme for DCs to take on this year was raised once again. Previous discussions had agreed that, should this be adopted in 2018, the theme would have to be sufficiently high-level for all coalitions to contribute. It was felt on this call, however, that it was too early in the IGF programme shaping to take a decision, when much of the direction of the meeting was still to be established – including its overarching theme or title. There were no objections to the project of working together on an Internet governance theme, but it was decided to defer any practical discussion on the matter to future calls.

5. The Secretariat also quickly touched on the matter of DCs’ papers from the previous year still being open for comment on the IGF website. The commenting platform has been left open, per the request made by DCs at the end of 2017. Any coalition no longer wishing to receive feedback was asked to let the Secretariat know. It was felt on the whole that the papers could remain open on the platform until replaced with this year’s papers. Finally, the Secretariat highlighted its invitation to DCs to submit the details of their individual meetings for the public IGF calendar that was recently shared.

6. It was agreed a next DC coordination call would take place in approximately one month, in early to mid-May, with discussions continuing on the DCs mailing list as needed.
ANNEX I

DC Coordination Meeting XXVI
Tuesday 17 April, 14.00 UTC
Draft Agenda

I. Update on First MAG Discussions & IGF 2018 Programme Shaping
II. DCs in the IGF 2018 Programme – Individual Sessions & Main Session
III. Advancing Common Theme/Project in 2018
IV. IGF Website: Closing DC Papers, Meetings Calendar

ANNEX II

IGF 2018 Call for Issues ‘Snapshot’

335 submissions received

Categories/Baskets in descending order:
Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy [70]
Digital Inclusion and Accessibility [54]
Evolution of Internet Governance [38]
Emerging Technologies (AI, distributed ledger, etc.) [31]
Innovation & Economic Issues [30]
Gender & Youth [27]
Media & Content [26]
Human Rights [24]
Other [23]
Technical & Operational Issues [22]

Stakeholder Groups in descending order:
Civil Society [140]
Private Sector [104]
Technical Community [50]
Government [30]
Intergovernmental Organization [21]

Regional Groups in descending order:
African Group [73]
Western European & Others Group [152]
Asia Pacific Group [54]
Latin American and Caribbean Group [36]
Eastern European Group [15]
Intergovernmental Organizations [4]
Other [11]
Participants List

Markus Kummer (Co-Facilitator)
Israel Rosas (Co-Facilitator)
Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)
Olivier Crépin Leblond (DC-CIV)
Jutta Croll (DC-COS)
Avri Doria (DC-SIG)
Nigel Hickson (DC-IoT)
Peter Koch
Minda Moreira (IRPC)
Charles Shaban
Sharada Srinivasan (DC-Connecting the Unconnected)
Smita Vanniyar (DC-Gender)