Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Virtual Meeting XXVIII

Summary Report

4 July 2018

1. The twenty-eighth virtual meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) took place on 4 July 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 DCs on IGF 2018 and the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)'s discussions ahead of its face-to-face meeting on 11-13 July. Other issues, such as DCs’ session requests and the DCs’ 2018 ‘Briefing Document’, were also covered. The Webex recording of the meeting can be accessed here: https://intgovforum.webex.com/intgovforum/lsr.php?RCID=59078784c227d46114736674b82fdae4

2. The meeting began with a few updates on IGF 2018. Namely, the dates and venue for the annual meeting were confirmed – it will take place on 12-14 November at the headquarters of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. Coalitions were also informed of a shortened programme this year, with a three-day schedule rather than the traditional four. The informal ‘Day 0’ before the start of the programme, in which community ‘pre-events’ were usually scheduled, would also not take place this year.

3. Related to this slimmer schedule, the DC co-facilitators said they would make every effort to seek approval on DCs’ request for 90-minute individual slots, which last year, as a space-saving measure in a very full programme, were reduced to 60 minutes. It was reiterated that differentiated time slots (60 minutes for some coalitions, and 90 minutes for others) were suggested but not supported by a majority of DCs during a coordination discussion at the 2017 annual meeting. It was also mentioned that other types of sessions, such as National and Regional IGF Initiative (NRI) collaborative sessions, would be similarly slotted at 60 minutes in the 2018 programme. Some members emphasised that 60 minutes would not be sufficient for their coalitions’ work, while others noted this would constitute a ‘fair reduction’ in light of all the other reductions anticipated in a schedule that would be much shorter.

4. A proposal for a joint DCs main session was discussed at length. It was reiterated that coalitions had previously expressed their strong agreement to organize and request such a session from the MAG, as has been done the past few years. Israel reminded coalitions of the MAG’s programme shaping efforts during this cycle and the renewed orientation toward a more cohesively thematic meeting. After a community process of reviewing suggested issues for the meeting, and the MAG’s own discussions, this has resulted in eight
final themes to guide the content of the meeting: ‘Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy’, ‘Digital Inclusion & Accessibility’, ‘Development, Innovation & Economic Issues’, ‘Emerging Technologies’, ‘Evolution of Internet Governance’, ‘Human Rights, Gender & Youth’, ‘Media & Content’, and ‘Technical & Operational Topics’. Given this, the question of whether DCs would be willing to propose a session around one of the themes was raised. Although it was previously thought a thematic session would be too complex to accomplish because of DCs’ very diverse topical interests, a suggestion to hold a session on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) found a lot of support. Some of the other programme themes were considered, notably ‘Cybersecurity’, but the SDGs as a topic, which would fall under ‘Development, Innovation & Economic Issues’, was thought to be both broad enough to cover all DCs’ fields of work, and could provide a good opportunity to demonstrate linkages between DCs and the UN agenda. The point was further made that ‘sustainable development’ as a concept is specifically inclusive of human rights considerations, as well as youth and accessibility-related issues, among others.

5. The updated ‘Dynamic Coalitions Briefing Doc’ for this year was also discussed. It was repeated that this document, which had been conceived originally in 2017, had been very helpful for MAG members, in particular new ones, as well as the wider IGF community, to better familiarize themselves with DCs. While the MAG and community know of DCs and the issues they work on, it was felt not enough detail was available on their internal working modalities and the types of activities they undertake. Last year, this straightforwardly explanatory document had been useful for underlining the real range of DC work and the diversity of coalitions’ outputs, which can be both tangible or intangible, and take the form of written reports or activist and other efforts. It also provided a window into how DCs independently manage their activities and participate in many fora outside the IGF. As this document had been effective in 2017, coalitions had agreed to collectively update the text to produce a 2018 version, working in an open, editable document, ahead of the MAG’s face-to-face meeting. In addition, they had agreed to include an annex containing a maximum of one page on the status of each coalition’s work and links to their output documents (also available on individual DC pages in the relevant section of the IGF website). The Secretariat reported that a number of DCs had already contributed details on their own coalition, that a few others had informed they would do so shortly, and that a small number were pending updates. In the interest of having the document finalized before the MAG meeting, it was said it would be closed in its current state in the coming days.

6. Finally, it was agreed that further discussion on the agreed main session topic would move to the DCs mailing list, including any inputs arising from DCs’ internal considerations of the topic. Initial ideas and formats and approaches would also be put forward before DCs’ next coordination meeting.

7. The next DC coordination call will take place in approximately one month, in mid-August, and will be scheduled through the usual poll.
ANNEX I

DC Coordination Meeting XXVIII
Wednesday 4 July, 14.00 UTC
Draft Agenda

I. Update on IGF 2018, incl. MAG Discussions
II. Request for DCs Main Session
III. 2018 ‘DCs Briefing Document’
IV. AOB

Participants List
Markus Kummer (Co-Facilitator)
Israel Rosas (Co-Facilitator)
Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)
Luca Belli (DC3, DCNN, DCPR)
Jutta Croll (DCCOS)
Jutta Croll (DC-COS)
Tracy Hackshaw (DC-SIDS)
Nigel Hickson (DC-IoT)
Marie-Laure Lemineur (DCCOS)
Minda Moreira (IRPC)
Esmeralda Moscatelli (DC-PAL)
Smita Vanniyar (DC-Gender)