Dynamic Coalition Coordination – Meeting XIII (Face-to-Face)

8 December 2016 – Jalisco, Mexico

Summary Report

1. The thirteenth meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) was held on 8 December 2016 during the 11th IGF in Jalisco, Mexico, immediately following the Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) Main Session. The coordination meeting was facilitated by Avri Doria and Markus Kummer, with Eleonora Mazzucchi representing the IGF Secretariat. The YouTube recording and transcript of the session can be accessed here: [http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-day-3-room-9-dc-coordination-session](http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2016-day-3-room-9-dc-coordination-session)

2. The meeting took stock of the 90-minute main session, in which most of the participants present had a speaking role. The views were very positive with some noting, including Avri, that the quality of the discussion and moderation had been so good that the session could easily have filled three hours. Others remarked that an hour and a half prevents a meeting from “running out of steam” and a good session should end on a high note, as this one had. Much praise was given to Tatiana Tropina, the moderator of the session.

3. While agreeing the session had been a success, several suggestions were made for improving a potential DCs main session next year. It was remarked by a few participants that the session could have benefitted from a snappier title or added subtitle (e.g. “DCs Main Session: Presenting New Work/ New Work Proposals”). A future main session could also be better promoted or advertised through new IGF channels, like the newcomers track. It was noted the Twitter wall had been missed and that more efforts should be made to secure approval for one. One participant further recalled that at one national IGF there had been a live “agree” or “disagree” button for participants, with the results being projected and visible to both speakers and the audience, and that this could serve as an alternative and entertaining in-room feedback mechanism. Tatiana made the point that main session “stages” could be a hindrance to audience engagement, and that any consideration of a future main session room should seek to reduce this barrier between speakers and participants.

4. The discussion also focused on the DC issue surveys, which are still open online until after the meeting [the survey deadline is 9 January 2017]. Most DCs agreed with the concept of using surveys as a way of gathering feedback on their work but had comments on their implementation this year. Given that there had been a low response rate across DCs, it was agreed the surveys needed to be better promoted, both on the IGF’s website but especially by DCs themselves. Others raised the issue of whether the surveys were sufficiently accessible to persons with disabilities and questioned the approach to the anonymization of respondents (anonymous responses with no stakeholder group information, for instance, would not be particularly effective for data gathering purposes). It was later proposed that respondent names could be an optional field but that other basic identifier fields would be mandatory. The DC on Gender and
Internet Governance (DCGIG) raised a concern on data from the surveys potentially being skewed and insufficiently diverse if respondents only come from a DC’s issue-specific networks. Another participant remarked of her preference for the IGF’s longstanding “review platform” as a method for getting feedback and comments on outputs. Avri shared the view that since both the review platform and surveys had now been tried out by DCs in various years, perhaps each DC could choose what worked best for them, or together, a new alternative method or platform could be found.

5. A few quick remarks were made about the DCs booth, with many having enjoyed it and supporting its continuation next year – while advocating for the inclusion of coffee and snacks, for both the booth minders and participants.

6. DCs had some general thoughts on organizational best practices. One representative noted that the joint main session had been illuminating in that it had given him the chance to hear about the effective outreach other coalitions were doing, with Governments and youth groups, for instance. Others underscored the need to further engage youth in DCs’ activities and to strengthen the rapport with the Youth Coalition, YCIG. [YCIG has recently been quite active. They are in close communication with the IGF Secretariat and are interested in joint DC work. A member of YCIG, Arsène Tungali, was the remote moderator for the main session.]

7. Due to time constraints, the discussion on coalition best practices was limited but will be taken up on future calls with DCs. All aspects of DCs’ coordination work moving forward will be fully explored, along the lines of guiding questions shared with coalitions before this coordination meeting. The questions are available in the meeting description: https://igf2016.sched.com/event/06db63c985d9369668bb965579add52e?iframe=no

8. The next DC Coordination meeting will take place virtually in January 2017.

Coordination Meeting Co-Chairs: Avri Doria and Markus Kummer

Rapporteur: Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)