2017 IGF Best Practice Forum (BPF): Cybersecurity – Virtual Meeting IV

Summary Report

18 September 2017

1. The IGF Best Practice Forum (BPF) on Cybersecurity held its fourth virtual meeting on 18 September 2017. The meeting was facilitated by Markus Kummer. The primary purpose of the call was to do an initial review and taking stock of the contributions received thus far and to chart a way forward for the writing process. A recording of the meeting is available here: https://intgovforum.webex.com/intgovforum/ldr.php?RCID=bdda133e1cd8bf1bc86e191899d2da45

2. The meeting began with an overview of the contributions received in response to the BPF’s public call, in which an initial ‘soft deadline’ of 15 September was set. Participants were informed that a total of 14 contributions were received to date and that several other potential contributors had been in contact with the BPF’s facilitators and the Secretariat to indicate that they intended or were interested in submitting (ANNEX II contains current list of submissions). Bearing in mind that contributions will continue to be accepted until the end of September, the number of inputs will likely surpass last year’s Cybersecurity BPF. It was further decided on the call that submissions can continue to be made on a rolling basis up until the IGF itself, but that only those received within 30 September would be guaranteed for incorporation into the output document. This was seen to make sense in terms of facilitating the logistics of drafting the document. The target date for a first draft will be 1 November.

3. Maarten van Horenbeeck, the BPF’s lead expert, then provided a brief analysis of the contributions based on his own partial reading. Maarten noted that two major themes were emerging from the documents, namely an emphasis on cybercrime and on what constitutes the critical infrastructure that needs protecting in the event of cyber attacks. Electrical grids and transportation networks were cited as clear examples that should fall into this category, although further examination might still be needed as to what the key pieces of infrastructure are in terms of the functioning of the Internet itself. On the latter, it was suggested that the BPF begin to engage experts in this area.
4. Next steps for parsing the submissions were also discussed. All members of the BPF group were strongly encouraged, first of all, to read all contributions and share any impressions. Maarten offered to kick off the work by splitting out the submissions into possible sections for the output document, in particular focusing on any specific policy proposals made. This initial work would be shared on the mailing list for comments, so as to ensure the substantive process begins in an inclusive and bottom-up way. Wout de Natris was also invited to give his view on submissions responding to the open-ended question he had suggested including in the questionnaire on what, according to the contributors, is the ‘most critical cybersecurity issue that needs solving and would benefit most from a multi-stakeholder approach within this BPF’.

5. The Secretariat gave a quick update on outreach to IGF National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs), for which a slightly differing questionnaire had been prepared. It was said that the NRIs had recently been issued a reminder about making submissions and that some had already done so, notably the Mauritius IGF. The Secretariat’s NRIs focal point noted she would inform initiatives at their next joint meeting that they would still have the opportunity to submit until the end of the month as well as focus on reaching out to NRIs from developing countries. It was also mentioned that there was a desire for increased interaction between the BPF and the NRIs, in particular so NRIs could benefit from the BPF’s expert viewpoints, both in and outside the global IGF.

6. BPF Co-facilitator Segun Olugbile briefed participants on the organization of the Cybersecurity main session at the IGF, which he is also co-facilitating, and for which there would be opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration. The focus of the main session will be on cybersecurity for sustainable development but will also incorporate findings from the BPF. Related to this, Segun emphasized that Maarten would be invited as a speaker in the session so this connection can clearly be made.

7. Finally, Jesse Sowell of the Messaging, Malware and Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (M3AAWG), who has recently joined the BPF’s activities, gave a briefing on the M3AAWG’s latest initiative to develop a network of regional, grassroots working groups for fostering local anti-abuse expertise.

8. It was agreed that before the BPF’s next meeting, group members should have time to review the full list of contributions received by 30 September, and therefore the meeting should take place the week of 9 October.
Annex I – Participants List

Markus Kummer (Facilitator)
Segun Olugbile (Facilitator)
Anja Gengo (IGF Secretariat)
Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)
Julio Balderrama
Carina Birarda
Marilyn Cade
Maarten van Horenbeeck
Andrew Cormack
Peter Franco
Dave Kissoondoyal
Mallory Knodel
Naveen Lakshman
Wout de Natris
Jesse Sowell
Zakir Syed
Akinremi Peter Taiwo

Annex II – BPF Contributions as of 18 September 2017

-Mr. Shredeep Rayamajhi
-Mr. Ben Wallis / Microsoft
-Dr. N. Sudha Bhuvaneswari
-Mr. Foncham Denis Doh / Cameroon Internet Governance Organization
-Mr. Ji Haojun / Government of China
- United Nations Cuban Association
- Ms. Anita Sohan / Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO)
- Mr. Mohit Saraswat
- Mr. Akinremi Peter Taiwo / African Civil Society on Information Society (ACSIS)
- Mr. Peter Micek / Access Now
- Mr. Naveen K. Lakshman
- Ms. Carina Birarda / ISOC Cybersecurity SIG
- Ms. Luisa Lobato
- Mr. Dave Kissoondoyal / IGF Mauritius
- Dr. U.M. Mbanaso / Centre for Cyberspace Studies, Nasarawa State University
- Ms. Amali De Silva-Mitchell
- Mr. Opeyemi Onifade / Africa ICT Alliance (AfICTA)