

**Virtual Multistakeholder Advisory Group Meeting VI  
18 March 2015**

***Summary report***

1. The sixth virtual meeting of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) in the IGF 2015 preparatory process took place on 18 March 2015. Ambassador Jānis Kārklīņš from Latvia moderated the meeting as Chair of the MAG and Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the IGF Secretariat. The meeting again concentrated on the on-going preparations for the tenth IGF meeting.

2. The MAG Chair and the Secretariat reported on their planning mission to João Pessoa, Brazil and said that the venue for the tenth IGF provides a very good setting for the IGF community to convene. The conference centre has modern facilities and it allows for all the various IGF sessions to take place on one level, thus facilitating interactions between participants and allowing maximum horizontal communication.

**Inter-sessional activities**

3. The co-facilitators of the *Working group on inter-sessional activities* presented a set of draft principles for the IGF inter-sessional work on 'Policy menus for connecting the next billion', as well as a draft methodology for this work, for the consideration of the MAG. The proposed principles include:

- the process will comply with the IGF and the MAG's working principles;
- the process will be open and inclusive, all stakeholders will be invited to contribute and should be able to actively participate;
- diversity of ideas and opinions and views will be welcomed, while consensus will be encouraged differences of opinions can also be acknowledged.
- contributions will be addressed and incorporated in a neutral fashion.

4. With regards to the methodology, it was underlined that a decision needs to be made on the format of the output of the inter-sessional work on 'Connecting the next billion' – whether this should take the form of policy messages, policy menus or something else. The MAG will also have to agree on the tool to be used for this work, such as a web platform allowing for people to insert comment remotely.

5. In terms of the process for taking the work forward, it was reiterated that the first step would consist in collecting input from IGF initiatives. A multistakeholder open-ended group would then be organized to facilitate and coordinate the integration of inputs into one draft document that will then be brought into several rounds of open consultations. This group will be open to all stakeholders, both MAG members and non-MAG members, who will be invited to contribute to the editing process at various stages. However, for efficiency reasons, it will be important to have a core multistakeholder editing group to make sure the work moves forward and deadlines are met. The group will not be doing any negotiating, but rather compiling and editing, taking into account all views and continually consulting with the broader community. Some proposals were made to invite each stakeholder group to identify two or three individuals that would represent them in the editing group. The methodology for this

work will be fine tuned taking into account the discussions held during the meeting and MAG agreement will be sought via the MAG mailing list. Once this methodology is agreed, the MAG and the Secretariat will proceed with further actions in terms of constituting this group.

6. It was underlined during the discussions that the three inter-sessional work streams (best practice forums (BPFs), dynamic coalitions, 'Policy menus for connecting the next Billion') were both separate but also inter-related. If applicable, the work-streams should contribute substantively to one another.

7. The BPFs will again be community efforts led by subject experts and MAG volunteers. The dynamic coalitions will continue to work as stand-alone groups, but the community will be encouraged to get further involved in these coalitions and their work will be more formally brought into the IGF inter-sessional activities and the annual meeting in Brazil. The horizontal work on the 'Policy menu for connecting the next billion' will start with gathering input from the national and regional IGF initiatives, and will continue to consult the larger community during the entire process. All three work streams should contribute to enhancing the repository of knowledge that already exists on the IGF website and is available to all stakeholders.

### **Main sessions**

8. The *Working group on main sessions* reported that it had developed a set of recommended guidelines for IGF 2015 main sessions, as well as a proposal for milestones and timelines for a transparent preparatory process for organizing the main sessions. The guidelines were drafted based on past years experiences and feedback from the IGF community and they include, among others, issues related to: criteria for adoption of themes for main sessions, public consultations, formats and innovations, content, policy questions, balancing speakers and enabling participation of new voices, the process for recognising dissent, role for MAG members, etc

9. The questions of how many main sessions would be held at IGF 2015 and how to select the topics/themes for these sessions were discussed at length. It was said that main sessions should be held on timely topics/issues, based on strong demand from the multistakeholder community. Ideally, main sessions should have an iterative lead-up process ahead of the IGF meeting in November and some sessions could be used to try and reach consensus/adoption/approval by the community on some forms of outputs. It was mentioned that, similar to 2014, not all of the IGF 2015 sub-themes would have a corresponding main session.

10. Some proposals were made for allocating main session slots to best practice forums and dynamic coalitions, so that they could present their work and ask for validation from the broader IGF community. It was also said that a main session would be needed in order to present the result of the inter-sessional work on 'Policy menus for the connecting the next billion' and to ask for community endorsement. Another suggestion was made for a session for national and regional IGF initiatives to showcase their work. In reaction to this suggestion, it was mentioned that inter-regional dialogue sessions were held at previous IGF meetings, and, while they proved to be useful, the MAG should look into new ways for mainstreaming the work of IGF initiatives. This

could be achieved, for example, by ensuring that IGF initiatives are integrated in all main sessions and are given the possibility to provide their perspectives on the topics discussed at these sessions.

11. A discussion was held on whether main sessions should include a portion for workshop readouts. Some MAG members underlined that this might be an accountability measure for all workshops, which would thus be encouraged to produce concrete outputs. Others were of the opinion that, while the idea of having workshop reports presented at main sessions is based on a good intention, this does not always work very well in practice. In relation to this issue, a suggestion was made to look into the possibility of organising round tables where workshop belonging to a certain sub-theme could gather to report on their work and to discuss common issues.

12. MAG members were encouraged to either provide more ideas for main sessions or to express support for some of the proposals made during the meeting. Discussions will continue online, with the aim of having the MAG agree on a list of IGF 2015 main sessions at its next virtual meeting.

### **Outreach and communications**

13. The *Working group on outreach and communications* informed the MAG that a proposal came out during their discussions to consider the possibility of producing a booklet on the achievements of the IGF over the past 10 years. In reaction, it was said that similar work was being undertaken in the *Working group on IGF self-assessment* and that the IGF Support Association has also produced a flyer on the IGF; there is, therefore, room for synergies between these various initiatives and such synergies should be explored. This proposal will be further discussed online and at the next virtual MAG meeting.

### **Other business**

14. The next virtual MAG meeting will be held on **1 April**, 9 am UTC.

## Annex

### List of participants

<b>Chair</b>	
Mr. Kārklīņš, Jānis	Ambassador at large of Latvia
<b>Honorary Chair</b>	
Fonseca, Benedicto	Ambassador, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, Brazil
<b>Advisor to the Chair</b>	
Mr. Kummer, Markus	Member, ICANN Board of Directors
<b>MAG members</b>	
Ms. Arida, Christine	Director of Telecom Services and Planning Division, National Telecom Regulatory Authority
Ms. Alexander, Fiona	Associate Administrator for International Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce
Mr. Bhatia, Virat	Chairman, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Communication and Digital Economy Committee, India
Ms. Bommelaer, Constance	Geneva, Switzerland- Senior Director of Global Policy Partnerships, Internet Society (ISOC)
Ms. Cambronerero, Fatima	Lawyer and specialized at law and technology, AGEIA DENSI Argentina (Study Group & Academic Research Association in Law, Economy and Business at Information Society)
Ms. Chaturvedi, Subi	Adjunct Faculty/Hon. Managing Trustee, IIT Delhi
Ms. Das, Ankhi	Head of Public Policy, Facebook India
Ms. Doria, Avri	Independent Researcher, DBA Technicalities
Mr. Elgamal, Hossam	Board Member, AfICTA – Africa ICT Alliance
Mr. Esmat, Baher	Manager, Regional Relations Middle East, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

Mr. Fernández González, Juan Alfonso	Advisor, Ministry of Communications of the Republic of Cuba
Ms. Kaspar, Lea	Programme Lead, Global Partners Digital
Ms. Kee, Jac sm	Women's Rights Programme Manager, Association for Progressive Communications
Ms. Laksmi, Shita	Programme Manager, HIVOS Regional Office Southeast Asia
Ms. Lazanski, Dominique	Public Policy Director, GSM Association
Mr. Lee, Xiaodong	Chief Executive Officer, China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC)
Ms. Mahmutovic, Aida	Programme Manager, Oneworld - Platform for Southeast Europe (OWPSEE) Foundation
Mr. Moedjiono, Sardjoeni	National ICT Council Executive Team Member
Mr. Moisander, Juuso	Commercial Secretary, Information Society and ICT, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
Mr. Olugbile, Segun	CEO, Continental Project Affairs Associates
Ms. Okutani, Izumi	Policy Liaison, Japan Network Information Center
Ms. Paque, Virginia	Director Internet Governance Programmes, Diplo Foundation
Ms. St. Amour, Lynn	CEO, Internet Matters
Ms. Salakova, Marianne	Consultant on Internet related Policies, Legal Transformations Center
Mr. Wagner, Flávio	Board Member, Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br)
Ms. Zachariah, Desiree	Country Based Specialist, Antigua and Barbuda, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.
<b>IGF 2015 Host Country</b>	
Mr. Ferreira dos Santos Jr. Jandy	Counsellor, Head of the Information Society Division, Department of Scientific and Technological Themes, Ministry of External Relations
<b>Other attendees</b>	
Mr. Faye, Makane	
Mr. Gutterman, Brian	
Ms. Teleanu, Sorina	
<b>IGF Secretariat</b>	

Mr. Masango, Chengetai	Programme and Technology Manager
Ms. Barnes, Ma. Victoria	Assistant
Mr. Fatani, Rafid	Consultant
Mr. Quesada Rodríguez, Adrián	Fellow
Ms. Van der Spuy, Anri	Fellow
Ms. Baclig Lara	Intern