

**Virtual Multistakeholder Advisory Group Meeting XII  
21 July 2015**

***Summary report***

1. The twelfth virtual meeting of the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) in the IGF 2015 preparatory process took place on 21 July 2015. Ambassador Jānis Kārklīņš from Latvia moderated the meeting as Chair of the MAG and Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the Secretariat. The agenda for the meeting was to get an update by the Secretariat on the state of preparations, continue the discussions on main sessions through an update on work done by the MAG working group on main session planning led by Mr. Virat Bhatia, an update on inter-sessional activities, and a continued discussion on the proposed Stanford deliberate polling project.

**Update on preparations from Secretariat**

2. The Secretariat reported that the deadline (15 July) had recently passed for workshops to update their proposals and that the Secretariat was now in the process of going through the workshops to be sure that all workshops comply with relevant guidelines. Work will now progress on scheduling and timing of the workshops and other sessions, also taking into account the main sessions, to try and prevent over-laps and to try and allow various themed workshops to feed into main sessions and vice-versa. Scheduling will also take into account the dynamic coalition meetings and best practice forums so that they take place ahead of their main sessions. There was a short discussion about the overall assessment and feedback from the community on the workshop selection process. The Secretariat reported that based on previous experience, the selection process had gone relatively smoothly and that the majority of workshop proponents were generally happy with the open and transparent selection process carried out by the MAG. For example, all of the merger suggestions had been accepted and there had been minimal complaints compared to previous years from workshop proponents who had not been selected.

3. It was reported that approximately 60% of the room available for pre-events have been filled. It was also noted that the objective is to not fill up the rooms as pre-events are meant to give space to stakeholders who want to meet for informal purposes. Day 0 is also a testing day for webcasting and online participation. 16 village booths have been allocated, which is about the same number as the IGF in 2014. The deadline for applying for a village booth is 15 August and it could be that there are more village booths in 2015 than in previous years. The Secretariat also reported that an additional planning mission to the venue in Brazil will be undertaken in August to further assess the conference grounds and facilities. This planning mission will complement the ongoing logistical planning being undertaken at the moment.

**Update on inter-sessional activities**

4. Ms. Constance Bommelear gave a brief update on the status of the 'Connecting the Next Billion' initiative. She reported that around 25 contributions had been received from the community and all have been posted to the IGF website. More contributions are expected to be received shortly from National and Regional initiatives. For example, it was noted that the Nigeria National IGF had taken place just a day prior to the MAG meeting and that the theme of connecting the next billion had been taken up by that National IGF. The IGF USA also reported that they had taken up the theme and intend to submit a substantial contribution.
5. It was confirmed that there is no deadline for these initiatives to submit inputs, as the 'Connecting the Next Billion' process is transparent, ongoing and iterative in nature. These contributions will feed into the process coordinated by the Secretariat and the yet to be composed MAG editorial group. The process will include wide public consultation and commenting. It was said that the goal was to have a draft output compilation by the end of the Summer, and that the open consultations and MAG meeting from 2-4 September will be a key milestone for the open-ended Editorial group to review the document. Public consultations will be organized in the months leading up to the IGF in November.
6. It was reported that the 6 Best Practice Forum's had been meeting approximately every 3 weeks, and that the work was moving along well. The groups are working towards having draft outputs ready for further review and consultation by the September open consultations and MAG meeting. Details on how to join the groups and ways in which individuals and organizations can contribute to the ongoing substantive work is available on the IGF website.
7. It was also reported that there is continued enthusiasm amongst the IGF Dynamic Coalitions and that 11 of them want to be part of the main session being held at the IGF and would like to have their various outputs discussed by the broader community there. There is agreement that by the 1<sup>st</sup> of August each DC would produce a draft output for posting to the IGF website for community consultation, leading to a further review by the MAG and community at the open consultations and MAG meeting in September. In September the MAG can then assess the progress of the various DC's and how the work might be presented at the main session in Brazil. It was discussed that it's important to ensure that the work of both the DC's and BPF's are open to all stakeholders and transparent in nature. It was said that the work of both streams is an important step towards creating more visible and portable outputs from the IGF, as recommended by the CSTD working group on IGF improvements.

#### **Update on preparations and scheduling of main/focus sessions**

8. Mr. Virat Bhatia led the discussion on the scheduling of main sessions as chair of the dedicated working group. Much progress had been made and several MAG members had played key roles in coming up with two options for schedules to accommodate the timing wishes of the various session coordinators. It was clarified that the scheduling options were only placeholders to ensure that each session had the appropriate amount of time but in the end it would be up to the Secretariat to refine the scheduling details taking into account the workshops

and other sessions such as dynamic coalition meetings and best practice forums that would need to meet prior to or after relevant main sessions.

9. There was a discussion about the previously proposed IGF@10 main session. While it had been withdrawn to accommodate for ample time for the many other thematic sessions; there was agreement that it was an extremely important session that should be fit into the overall schedule appropriately. There was agreement that perhaps some of the substance of that proposed session could fit both into the WSIS+10 review session as well as the taking stock and closing sessions, to ensure that the close of the IGF was forward looking.

10. The Chair and host country confirmed that a couple of scheduling formalities could not be changed, including holding the opening ceremony in the afternoon of Day 1 and ensuring that the overall schedule grid each day remained constant in terms of when the lunch break would be held as well as the coffee breaks. This allows for participants to schedule bi-lateral meetings and other business around the IGF schedule in a uniform way.

11. The MAG asked the Secretariat to take into consideration a few key scheduling issues pertaining to the main sessions when preparing the overall grid for the week. It was suggested that the 3 hour WSIS+10 session should take place early in the week, perhaps even on the morning of day 1, as this session would attract many high-level decision makers who may only stay for the first couple of days of the meeting. It would also be useful to have the WSIS+10 session before the opening ceremony and session so speakers in the opening could reflect on the WSIS+10 discussions held just prior. It was also suggested that the main sessions pertaining to the inter-sessional work could take place later in the week, allowing the necessary feeder sessions to take place before the main sessions of the dynamic coalitions, best practice forums and Connecting the Next Billion.

12. Moving forward, the coordinators of all the various main sessions should use the already agreed upon guidelines for preparing the main sessions and all MAG members were encouraged to volunteer to help organize and take forward this extremely important work. Dedicated mailing lists would be set up for each session by the Secretariat and all MAG members were encouraged to start their outreach to attract experts to attend these sessions and to make the community aware of all the important sessions that will take place.

### **Discussion on the proposal from Stanford University to carry out Deliberate Polling on the margins of the IGF in Brazil**

13. There was a continued discussion on the proposal from Stanford University to carry out deliberate polling on the margins of the IGF in Brazil. MAG members had taken note and thanked Stanford University staff who had replied to some questions of clarification that the MAG had asked previously about the project. There was consensus that the deliberate polling project should be organized in a proposed “pilot project” format.

The proposal to revive the MAG self-assessment group was supported.

## Any Other Business

15. Some MAG members discussed a previous proposal made for MAG members to prepare statements of conflict of interests, as a way to improve transparency. It was said that this would be a good initiative, but most likely would be organized on a voluntary basis. As this was considered to be a complicated issue there was agreement to take forward this discussion online and also at the September face-to-face meeting.

16. It was said that good progress was made and that overall preparations were well underway. Important next steps for the MAG include the preparation of the main sessions, and driving forward the inter-sessional work. The next MAG virtual meeting will take place in mid-August. The Secretariat will communicate the date and time of this call in due course.

## 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>	
Mr. Amessinou, Kossi	Ingénieur Tic, Ministère du Développement, de l'Analyse Economique et de la Prospective, Benin
Mr. Bhatia, Virat	Chairman, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Communication and Digital Economy Committee, India
Ms. Cade, Marilyn	CEO, Strategies mCADE llc
Ms. Cambronerio, Fatima	Lawyer and specialized at law and technology, AGEIA DENSI Argentina
Ms. Chalmers, Susan	Internet Policy Consultant, Chalmers &

	Associates, New Zealand
Ms. Chaturvedi, Subi	Adjunct Faculty /Hon. Managing Trustee, IIT Delhi
Ms. Das, Ankhi	Head of Public Policy, Facebook India
Mr. Dengate Thrush, Peter	Counsel, Barrister
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. Jere, Towela	Programmes Manager, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
Ms. Kaspar, Lea	Programme Lead, Global Partners Digital
Ms. Kee, Jac SM	Women's Rights Programme Manager, Association for Progressive Communications
Mr. Kenyanito, Ephraim Percy	Policy Fellow, Access
Ms. Lazanski, Dominique	Public Policy Director, GSM Association
Mr. Markovic, Slobodan	Advisor for ICT Policy and Internet Community Relations, Servian National Internet Domain Registry
Ms. Miller, Cheryl	Director of International Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Verizon
Mr. Olugbile, Segun	CEO, Continental Project Affairs Associates
Mr. Nelson, Michael	Information Technology Trends and Internet Policy Consultant
Ms. Neves, Ana	Director of the Department of Information Society, “Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P.”, Ministry of Education and Science
Ms. Paque, Virginia	Director Internet Governance Programmes, Diplo Foundation
Ms. St. Amour, Lynn	CEO, Internet Matters
Mr. Valdez, German	Executive Secretary, Number Resource Organisation
Mr. Wagner, Flávio	Board Member, Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br)
<b>IGF 2015 Host Country</b>	
Mr. Ferreira dos Santos Jr. Jandyr	

<b>Other attendees</b>	
Ms. Arida, Christine	Director of Telecom Services and Planning Division, National Telecom Regulatory Authority, Egypt
Mr. Faye, Makane	
Ms. Monti, Cristina	European Commission
Mr. Moedjiono, Sardjoeni	
ICC BASIS	
Ms. Teleanu, Sorina	
<b>IGF Secretariat</b>	
Mr. Masango, Chengetai	Programme and Technology Manager
Ms. Barnes, Ma. Victoria	Assistant
Ms. Van der Spuy, Anri	Fellow
Mr Gahnberg, Carl	Consultant
Mr. Gutterman, Brian	Consultant
Mr. Degezelle, Wim	Consultant