

## **MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy**

### **Online Meeting 32**

**10 February 2022 at 1 p.m. UTC**

### **Summary Report**

The 32nd virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group (WG) on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 10 February 2022 at 1 p.m. UTC. The meeting was hosted by Concettina Cassa (Titti) and moderated by Amrita Choudhury. The list of participants is annexed to this report. The recording of the meeting is available upon request.

The co-chair opened the meeting by introducing the agenda:

#### **Agenda**

1. IGF 2021 taking stock:
  - a) NRIs
  - b) Youth
  - c) Parliamentarians
2. Current issues:
  - a) Leadership Panel
  - b) Tech Envoy nomination
  - c) IGF Expert Group Meeting (EGM)
3. Update on behalf of the Office of the Envoy on Technology
4. Workplan and proposals from the WG for 2022
5. AoB

#### **Points Discussed**

##### **1. IGF 2021 taking stock:**

There were no updates on the IGF2021 as the Secretariat was not present in the call to give an update.

##### **On the Synthesis Document:**

- Anriette Esterhuysen suggested that WG review the Synthesis Document and make some practical suggestions to the MAG on which all suggestions it should take up and if possible, comment on how the MAG can operationalize or implement any of the suggestions, etc.

- Paul Mitchel concurred that it would be valuable support if this WG could share a synthesis of the most important takeaways and share with him and the MAG before the first open consultation of the MAG.
- Velimira Grau suggested that while making suggestions the WG should also identify which of the suggestions help to enhance outreach within communities in a targeted manner (which was one of the suggestions from an earlier consultation) and suggest it to the MAG.
- Wolfgang suggested the need to prioritize the suggestions. He added that as the Secretary General has invited comments on the Global Digital Compact and the Summit on the Future is planned in September 2023, should the IGF and MAG engage on how to draft the document on the procedures on where we can make contribution.
- Jason responded that currently views of member States are being taken on the Global Digital Compact. Post getting the views and getting a go ahead, diverse ways will be adopted to take inputs from stakeholders, including collecting inputs from the IGF and IGF community including, NRIs, YIGF, BPFs, DCs, etc. The tools to be adopted for collecting inputs are also being explored.
- Responding to Raúl Echeberría's question on who would be organising the consultations, and would it be the IGF, Jason responded that they are flexible and look at MAG to provide leadership on how the IGF can contribute to the consultations. However, input would be gathered from different channels and events such as RightsCon.

## **2. Current issues:**

### **a. Leadership Panel**

Jason Munyan shared that they were hopeful of having the Leadership Panel as quickly as possible.

### **b. On the Tech Envoy nomination**

Jason Munyan shared that the applications submitted are being reviewed by the Executive Office of the Secretary General. The shortlisted candidates would be called for an interview.

### **c. IGF Expert Group Meeting (EGM)**

Jason Munyan shared that the initiative was being led by the IGF Secretariat and that the objective is to take stock of IGF.

Amrita raised the question of how the work of the WG and its strategic input could be discussed at the EGM.

Anriette suggested if the WG would consider providing inputs on the EGM. Flavio Wagner added that if any member from the WG is present in the EGM they can present the suggestions from this group.

It was agreed that Titti would be circulating a document for collating the comments from the WG on the EGM. Link to the document:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZQ0wyCbCUh44X-KYEIbD0\\_dQIBwUUH6P/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZQ0wyCbCUh44X-KYEIbD0_dQIBwUUH6P/edit)

A call on the same would be held on **22 February 14 UTC**.

### 3. **Update on behalf of the Office of the Envoy on Technology**

Jason Munyan provided an update on the activities being pursued by the Office of the Envoy on Technology.

- On universal connectivity, work is in progress to finalize the baseline framework based on the consultation with multiple stakeholders.
- A multi stakeholder network on capacity building has been launched by ITU, UNDP, and the Office of the Tech Envoy.
- For the development of human rights due diligence, the second draft of guidance on human rights due diligence was circulated and is expected to be discussed in RightsCon. The Tech Envoy's Office is planning to hold consultations at RightsCon related to Our Common Agenda and the Global Digital Compact.
- Input is being sought on a paper on Internet shutdowns which is expected to be finalized by the summer for presentation to the Human Rights Council. This paper will link into the work on implementing the common Agenda in that area (on Internet shutdowns).
- In the area of digital public goods, the Tech Envoy's Office is working closely with the Digital Public Goods Alliance and has announced a new steering group that includes UNDP, the Tech Envoy's Office, as well as the governments of Germany and Norway.
- Jason shared that the Acting Envoy spoke on the topic of digital public goods at the European Union open-source policy summit 2022.
- The report of IGF 2021 in Katowice has been posted on the Tech Envoys website.
- The acting Tech Envoy spoke at an event hosted by the government of Estonia on the path to human centric digital cooperation and is going to speak at the European and African Union Summit on the open internet for inclusive and human centered digital partnerships; in the follow-up to WSIS in a CSTD session, and workshop on responsive inclusive technology organized by the permanent mission of Kenya,
- In respect to the environment, the establishment of the Policy Network on the Environment was mentioned. Round tables were organised by the Coalition on Digital Environmental Sustainability (CODES) to discuss the draft action plan for a

sustainable planet and digital age. The input received in the round table would be shared with a broader community during the UN Environment Assembly.

- The Common Agenda consultations would be held on 21 and 22 February on the topic of promoting peace, international law, and digital cooperation, including the Global Digital Compact, for which there was a call for interventions on informal consultations.

Adam Peake raised the issue of RightsCon being a semi closed event and if these consultations could be more open. Jason responded that RightsCon is having the option of free participation.

Responding to Anriette's comment on the special status of the IGF, and its distributed network of regional and national IGFs, Jason responded that the objective is to reach different stakeholders and communities using different channels.

Wolfgang asked Jason if there were any new developments on Trust and Security, any additional activities from the Office of the Tech Envoy. Jason shared there are no additional activities at this time.

Velimira raised the question of how IGF can contribute to the Global Digital Compact.

#### 4. **Workplan and proposals from the WG for 2022**

Chris Buckridge suggested that this WG could work to integrate, harmonize and then synthesize the different outputs which are being generated from the different venues discussing IGF strategy right now.

Paul highlighted the need to rationalize the inputs being received to make them actionable. He suggested the WG identify and suggest the top 3 things that can deliver benefits, over the next 24 months or can be implemented in the first quarter, would be helpful.

The **submission of the Charter of the WG to the MAG** was discussed.

- Timea Suto suggested that a half page overview of this WG be prepared highlighting its contribution, and a concrete plan going forward along with the uniqueness of this WG.
- Titti would be sharing a link to a Google doc where WG members can share their inputs on the submission to MAG and what should be the plan of the WG for 2022.

## **Next Meeting**

Next meeting of the WG would be held on 3 March 14 UTC

## **Annex 1:**

### **List of participants**

#### **Annex 1: List of participants**

1. Paul Mitchell, MAG chair
2. Adam Peake, MAG Member,
3. Ben Wallis, Microsoft, Independent Expert, past MAG Member
4. Amrita Choudhury, Group's Co-Chair, CCAOI, MAG Member
5. Anriette Esterhuysen, IGF 2020 MAG Chair, Group's Co-Chair
6. Alice Weiss, Academic Intern, Government of Switzerland
7. Chris Buckridge, RIPE NCC, MAG Member
8. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy, former MAG Member
9. David Souter, Independent Expert
10. Flavio Wagner, CGI.br/ Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil, past MAG Member
11. Jason Munyan, Office of the Envoy on Technology
12. Jim Prendergast, Independent Expert
13. Paula Martins, APC, Independent expert
14. Fiona Alexander, Independent expert
15. Mark Carvell, Independent expert
16. Przemysław Typiak, Government of Poland
17. Roman Chukov, Group's Co-Chair, Mag Member, Russian Government
18. Timea Suto (ICC)
19. Tereza Horejsova, MAG Member
20. Raul Echeberria, Independent expert
21. Velimira GRAU, EC/DG-CNECT
22. Roberto Zambrana, President, ISOC Chapter Bolivia, MAG Member
23. Ric Airx

24. Vadim Glushchenko

25. Wolfgang Kleinwächter, University of Aarhus