

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

## **Online Meeting 67 30 November 2023 at 14:00 UTC**

### **Summary Report**

The 67th virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 30 November at 14:00 UTC. The meeting was moderated by Titti Cassa, and a recording of the meeting is available upon request.

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

### **Agenda**

1. Plan of activities for 2024
2. GDC update
3. PNAI letter to support HLAB
4. WSIS+20 review
5. NETmundial+10
6. Update from the IGF Secretariat
7. AOB

### **Discussion**

#### **Plan of activities for 2024**

There were no further comments on the draft plan of activities on the mailing list. Chris Buckridge noted that this will continue to evolve in response to developments, and that there are a growing range of initiatives.

It was agreed that any feedback or input should be received by **12 December** (ahead of the MAG meeting on 15 December).

Jorge Cancio sought more feedback on what the Co-chairs would like to see. Chris suggested perhaps a more concrete suggestion of the NETmundial+10 would be useful. Jorge noted a few wording issues in the bullets about 2024 activities that should be updated. He also suggested that the work plan could include some development of plans to address the proposals made in relation to IGF evolution in relation to the Global Digital Compact (GDC).

Mark Carvell noted that there is no reference to intersessional activities and better incorporating them into IGF activities, including looking at the modalities of the different intersessional models. Secondly, he noted it may be important to reference the national and regional initiatives (NRIs) and continuing to develop their role in the IGF ecosystem. Thirdly, he supported Jorge's suggestion to flesh out the modalities of the IGF as a follow-up mechanism for the GDC, including monitoring stakeholders' progress with implementing commitments to action.

In the chat, Anriette Esterhuysen suggested that the WG can facilitate sharing MAG perspectives and to support the MAG in its role of channeling community input into the IGF process.

Carol Roach echoed Mark's points regarding better integration of the intersessional activities and NRIs. This is important as some of these groups seem to feel that they are on the outer. Finally, she suggested that the WG needs to manage its timeline to allow for more active MAG feedback on drafts produced for MAG (and Leadership Panel) sign-off.

Raquel Gatto suggested that some of the items referenced in 2024 activities could be combined or streamlined in the description.

### **GDC update**

Jorge noted that both facilitators will participate in the UNCTAD eWeek on 7 December. Chris and others also noted that there will be a remote consultation on 13 December regarding the Pact of the Future. Mark noted that he'd heard that there may be some additional consultation activities as the GDC is negotiated - he suggested that stakeholders at the UNCTAD event may suggest that these modalities be defined sooner (and make specific suggestions on how).

### **PNAI letter to support HLAB**

Draft letter: [Documento senza titolo - Documenti Google](#)

Titti shared the draft letter that had been drafted. Audace Niyonkuru, as Chair of the PNAI, outlined the content and the intent of the letter (to ensure effective linkage between the PNAI work and the activities of the HLAB on AI). Chris asked whether the letter was coming from the PNAI or the MAG [Chair]. Audace suggested it would be best to come from the MAG Chair. Carol noted that if it came from her, it was coming from the MAG, and therefore would need to be approved by the MAG (possibly at the MAG meeting on 15 December).

Anriette noted that it would be useful to ask the Secretariat to pass it on; she also noted that the PNAI is not part of the MAG, so it may be better to have the PNAI Chair sign it. She suggested the language might be a bit stronger.

Bruna Santos reinforced that time is of the essence, given how quickly the HLAB activities are moving forward. She also noted doubts about the process, and concern in relation to a "pre-cooked" outcome, so better to send a letter from the PNAI ahead of the HLAB meeting in mid-December.

Carol noted that the Tech Envoy is also part of the HLAB, however, it was agreed that this shouldn't prevent the Secretariat from transmitting the letter.

### **WSIS+20 review**

Ana Neves, Chair of the CSTD, noted that there will be a further CSTD consultation on Friday 8 December, and that she would be meeting with the ITU later in the day to clarify the various processes underway. She noted that this is an opportunity to work productively with the ITU.

She noted that the NetMundial is now also on the agenda, but planned to speak more on this at the next WG meeting.

Chris asked whether there was WG interest in developing an IGF community response to the CSTD consultation. Timea Suto noted the importance of aligning with the Leadership Panel on communications. Chris noted that there were some discussions ongoing with the LP to avoid misalignment on these issues.

Bruna, Chris, Anriette, Jorge and Titti volunteered to develop an initial draft response.

Mark noted some concern about the transparency of the Leadership Panel, and urged that the need for greater transparency, including reporting the LP's progress in advocacy of IGF outcomes in its key role as a bridge between the global stakeholder community and decision-takers in governments, civil society and business worldwide. Timea noted that there are existing mechanisms that have not been used to best effect for aligning and ensuring communication between the groups. Bruna noted the importance of having Carol in the LP to act as a bridge between the MAG and LP; she also noted that MAG liaisons were established for the LP sub-groups, and these haven't been consistently utilised. Carol noted that the LP has been generally supportive of the MAG's initiatives (such as the letters re. the GDC), and confirmed that she will be a champion for closer coordination between the two groups.

### **NETmundial+10 (NM10)**

Raquel gave an update on the announcement made by GCI.br to move forward with the NETmundial+10 event - this was done acknowledging the feedback that the agenda should be lightweight, with practical results, with work kicking off shortly. The goal will be to review the documents produced by the event 10 years ago. In terms of timing, the current plan is to hold it in the first week of May 2024. She also noted that this event will not be hosted by the Brazilian government, but will be supported by the Brazilian government; and that the NM10 event will be held alongside a G20 digital track event (as Brazil is 2024 President of the G20). This would also allow the outputs to be provided to WSIS+20 negotiations. The next step will be outreach to partner organisations to bring them on board.

Bruna noted that she has not been involved in the organisation so far, but suggested that a formal meeting be organised between the NM10 organising committee and the MAG/LP. She also noted that the scope is somewhat broader than had been previously discussed, so some further discussion would be useful.

Timea asked who best to reach out to to coordinate. Raquel noted that the organization is still coming together and additional partners will be welcome; a link will be added to the website for how to make contact.

Mark asked in chat, is it the intention - or expectation - that NETMundial+10 will agree specific inputs into the GDC process and the DFI process. Raquel noted that this is still being discussed.

### **Update from the IGF Secretariat**

There was no update from the Secretariat. The MAG will hold a virtual meeting on 15 December.

## **AOB**

The next meeting will be held on **14 December at 14:00 UTC**.

## **List of participants**

1. Chris Buckridge, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
2. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy
3. Bruna Santos, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
4. Carol Roach, IGF MAG chair
5. Timea Suto, (ICC Basis), former MAG member
6. Ana Christina Neves, Chair of the CSTD
7. Lynn St Amour, former IGF MAG chair
8. Evelyne Tauchnitz , MAG Member
9. Adam Peake, Former IGF MAG member,
10. Anriette Esterhuysen , former IGF MAG Chair
11. Philippe Schulte, BMDV, German Government
12. Flavio Wagner, CGI.br and University of Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil
13. Jorge Cancio, Government of Switzerland
14. Timea Suto, (NCC), former MAG member
15. Mark Carvell, EuroDIG
16. Niyonkuru Audace, PNAI coordinator
17. Abdulrahman Almutairi, MAG Member
18. Justine Fair, IGF MAG member
19. Kenneth Merrill, NTIA
20. Raquel Gatto, Independent Expert
21. Valeria Betancourt, Independent Expert