

MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy
Online Meeting
29 August 2024 at 13:00 UTC

Summary Report

The 82nd virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 29 August at 13:00 UTC. The meeting was moderated by Amrita Choudhury, and a recording of the meeting is available upon request.

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

Agenda

1. GDC update (22 august Open Consultation and GDC rev.4)
2. [IGF strategic vision](#)
3. [IGF IWW main session](#)
4. Update from the IGF Secretariat
5. WSIS+20 review
6. AoB

Discussion

1. GDC update

Chris gave an update on [the letter](#) sent to the GDC Co-facilitators by the Chairs of the MAG and Leadership Panel on behalf of the MAG and of the LP. The objective of the letter was to reinforce the position of the IGF on the GDC and give a clear message to the co-facilitators. Chris recalled that the Vint Cerf made an intervention during the GDC stakeholders consultation held on 22 August.

Jorge shared that on [GDC Revision 4](#) there are mixed feelings as some people think it's not really hitting the right balance, but at the same time they fear that if silence is broken, the next version might be worse.

Adam Peak observed that [Rev 3 of the Pact for the Future](#) is out, also under silence procedure, until 3 September.

Elizabeth Oluoch shared that ICANN presented his position during the GDC consultation.

Wolfgang underlined that it is important to come with a clear concept on how to organize WSIS+20 and how to incorporate implementation mechanisms for the Gdc in the WSIS+20 as WSIS+20 will define the plans for the next 10-15 years. He said that the WSIS+20 could formulate an IGF plus and he suggested that the strategy working group works on a document to be shared with WSIS+20 to be discussed in Riyadh. Chris and Christine supported the proposal from Wolfgang.

Titti supported the proposal from Wolfgang saying that this could be reached only by creating a closer link between the WG Strategy and the WSIS+20 processes.

Christine suggested having this discussion through the “Internet We want session” as it takes into account what we see for the future, how the IGF can actually work on the implementation of the Gdc and then move this discussion to the WSIS + 20 process.

On GDC Rev. 4, Chris recalled how the paragraph of the GDC related to the IGF was reduced and that it is important to share with different State representatives what's significant in this draft, and what needs to be protected.

2. IGF strategic vision

Chris shared that the document will be used by several IGF sessions (Internet We Want, Dynamic coalitions sessions, etc.) that will discuss the future of the IGF in the context of the GDC.

Titti suggested including an item in the agenda of the next MAG meeting on the IGF strategic vision to get more comments from the MAG.

3. IGF IWW main session

Chris shared some information on the abstract of the session saying that it will talk on how the future of the IGF will look like and how it fits with other sort of UN processes and structures. Vint and Carol were suggested as moderators for the session . He added that it became clear in the Mag call that there are potential overlaps with some of what the Nris and the Dcs are planning to discuss in their main sessions. So there's a real need to actively align those sessions so that they all work together and actually contribute to a bigger, stronger message rather than simply fragmenting into different silos.

Anriette suggested that for the “Internet We Want “session to be able to send a message related to WSIS+20, the focus should be on the Internet governance in the context of the World Summit, it should not be another sort of rehashing of multistakeholder versus not-multistakeholder Internet governance.

Cristine asked for some information on the Leadership Panel and High Level sessions. Eleonora shared that the 5 High Level Sessions will be on the following topics:

- 1) AI Ethics
- 2) Digital Health
- 3) Digital Trade and financing
- 4) GDC+20
- 5) Digital Future of Digital Transformation

She shared that the Leadership Panel will have a public facing session as part of the High Level Track where they will present and discuss the most recent updates to the IWW paper.

4. Update from the IGF Secretariat

Anja gave an update on the IGF preparatory activities:

- The Local Host activated the website where information about the logistics is available. There are already around 1500 registrations to the IGF event.
- The call for travel support will be open until 10 September.

- The session of the Youth Summit will be on AI Governance in the area of education, focusing on innovation and ethical governance in that sense.

She added that the NRI main session will focus on the multi-stakeholder model in a broader Internet governance context. Anja will reach the IWW co-facilitators to be sure that there is no duplication.

Eleonora shared that a new version of the IWW paper will be available and that also the High Level sessions will avoid duplications with the IWW session.

It was also shared that the invitation letters to all heads of Parliament will be sent next week.

5. WSIS+20 review

There were some reflections on the possible models that could be adopted on the WSIS+20 process. Wolfgang observed that it could be part of an intergovernmental negotiation in NY that would mean a repetition of the WSIS+10 model that was not multistakeholder. As an alternative he suggested organizing half of the preparatory process in Geneva with the support of the IGF Secretariat, ITU, and the WG Strategy. This would mean that there will be a multistakeholder preparatory phase followed by a more intergovernmental phase for the final negotiation in NY. In the last case the IGF community could make proposals and there is a need to be more proactive.

Anriette observed that the WSIS+10 resolution already lays out how the WSIS+20 review will take place and it's not sure that the process could be modified. She added that there are supposed to be regional review meetings being organized by the Regional United Nations economic Commissions and she recalled that there is a UNESCO meeting that is part of the review process that should take place in February next year in Paris.

7. AoB

The next call will be on **12 September at 5:00 UTC**.

List of participants

1. Adam Peak, Former IGF MAG member
2. Amrita Choudhury, Group's Co-Chair, CCAOI
3. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat, NRIs coordinator
4. Anriette Esterhuysen, former IGF MAG Chair
5. Ana Christina Neves, Government of Portugal
6. Bruna Santos, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
7. Chris Buckridge, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
8. Christine Arida, Former IGF MAG member
9. Charles Shaban, Independent Expert
10. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy
11. Dino Dell'Accio, UNJSPF
12. Eleonora Mazzucchi, IGF Secretariat
13. Elizabeth Oluoch, ICANN
14. Philippe Schulte, German Government
15. Jim Prendergast, Independent Expert

16. Jorge Cancio, Government of Switzerland
17. Juan Fernandez, Independent Expert
18. Junko Kawauchi, Independent Expert
19. Lindsay Dickinson, Independent Expert
20. Markus Kummer (former IGF MAG
21. Peter Koch, Independent Expert
22. Roman Chukov, IGF Secretariat
23. Saba Tiku, IGF MAG member
24. Timea Suto, ICC, former MAG member
25. Tracy F. Hachshaw, Independent Expert
26. Washington Jiang, Independent Expert
27. Wolfgang Kleinwächter, University of Aarhus
28. Xiao Zhang, IGF MAG Member
29. Yuding Ying, Independent Expert