The 17ᵗʰ Annual Internet Governance Forum, ADDIS ABABA

28 Nov-02 Dec 2022

IGF ETHIOPIA 2022 ኢትዮጵያ

DAY 2

Wednesday, November 30

The Forum opens

The 17th IGF was opened on the morning of Tuesday 29th November, 2022 by H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The Prime Minister's address

The Prime Minister described the extent to which digitalisation has enabled transformation in Ethiopia and Africa, declared that his country's aspirations for inclusion and prosperity are "intimately tied to advancement in technology," and outlined some of the initiatives underway in the host country to maximise the value of digitalisation. The Prime Minister also described some of the opportunities and challenges associated with the Internet, for instance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"African countries," he said, "should be able to influence standards in a way that corresponds with our values and enables us to participate in innovative, emerging technologies." He urged the IGF to deliver "tangible, pragmatic and implementable proposals to ensure we create the resilient, safe and inclusive global community we all want."

The UN Secretary-General

Before the Prime Minister spoke, the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, addressed the meeting, building on the impetus of his Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the proposed Global Digital Compact. "We often hear that the future will be digital," he said, "but the future of digital must be human-centred." That, he said, included universal connectivity; freedoms of expression, rights of privacy and protections against online abuse; and the safe and responsible use of data.

The Secretary-General's words were reinforced by Under Secretary-General Li Junhua, who saw the IGF as "a convener and connector" which could bring about "concrete outcomes", whether in shaping global norms and standards or informing national-level regulations. He also stressed that "Building a resilient and empowering Internet will mean addressing the dark side of our digital reality."

Views from leading UN agencies

ITU Secretary-General-elect Doreen Bogdan-Martin recalled the spirit of optimism that characterised the World Summit on the Information Society and the words of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan when he then urged people to shape technology for the common good.

She described digital technology as "a uniquely powerful enabler" in health and education, for addressing the climate crisis and across the sustainable development agenda.

UNESCO's Assistant Director General for Communication and Information, Dr Tawfik Jelassi, emphasised the importance of human rights within the digital ecosystem. UNESCO has scheduled a conference next February on Regulating Digital Platforms for Information as a Public Good.

The UN Secretary-General's Technology Envoy Amandeep Singh Gill emphasised the need for inclusive participation in the digital economy, using digital public infrastructure to facilitate digital public goods, and the importance of data infrastructure and capacity that can support developmental gains. Like other speakers, he looked forward to the Global Digital Compact which is to be considered in the UN system in 2023.

An Open Forum towards the end of the day gave UN agencies an opportunity to highlight their activities relating to the Internet.
IGF Leadership Panel chair Vint Cerf emphasised the need to address both positive and negative aspects of our experience of Internet. He emphasised "safety, security, privacy, utility, accessibility …, affordability, resilience [and] operational stability" as key elements requiring concrete steps to realise the system that we collectively want."

Speaking for youth

Lily Edinam Botsyoe, coordinator of the Ghana Youth IGF, spoke to represent young people in the opening session.
The IGF is a good platform to foster cooperation among and for youth, and allow youth voices to be heard. Through the UGF 2022 Youth Track, many young people have been able to decide how they want to be represented at this year's IGF and how they regard digital transformation.
Young people stand ready to sit as equals with seniors and navigate the digital environment towards a better future.

"Dr Alison Gillwald
speaks to Forum participants."

The digital divide includes also many young people who don't have access to the Internet. The main reason is poverty but also lack of capacity and digital illiteracy. There is a strong need to invest in developing young people's skills.

The final high-level session

The final session of this year's high-level panels was held on Tuesday afternoon. A range of leading figures from across stakeholder communities commented on multistakeholder engagement in Internet governance, cooperation in cybersecurity, and other issues.

IGF themes

This Bulletin will include background information on the five main themes of this year's Internet Governance Forum (IGF) over the next three days. Two themes will hold main sessions in the Forum during Wednesday. Here's how they are described on the IGF website:

Governing data and protecting privacy

Data is the key resource of the globalised digital age. Its movement drives economies, and its analysis, particularly big data analytics, has been the basis for remarkable innovations across disciplines, from finance to health and law enforcement.

But for its widespread use, routine flow across borders, and fungibility, data remains a sensitive and unresolved topic. As a transnational, commercial asset, it operates in a largely unregulated environment, one with little consistency between national legal regimes.

The privacy of personal data is too often sacrificed over the course of data exchanges, from the point of collection to application and then storage, with deep consequences for trust and security.

In order to harness the significant promise of data, economically and for research purposes, discussions need to be relaunched around governance, integrity and the protection of citizens' privacy.

Avoiding Internet fragmentation

A core value of the IGF is the maintenance of an open, free and interoperable Internet. This implies that the entirety of the Internet's content is open and free to users, and that common technical standards and protocols continue to be deployed to achieve a network of interconnected networks across countries and regions.

This call – applying a framework to the Internet that prioritises the rights and freedoms of users as well as and through infrastructural, end-to-end coherence – has been echoed in the Global Digital Compact.

The risk of fragmentation is real and mounting, in particular intentional fragmentation as a matter of policy.

While technical and commercial fragmentation, where the functioning of the Internet is impacted by a mix of voluntary and involuntary conditions and business practices, need to be addressed, fragmentation by government policy that limits uses of the Internet or affects the open and interoperable character of the Internet is of specific concern.
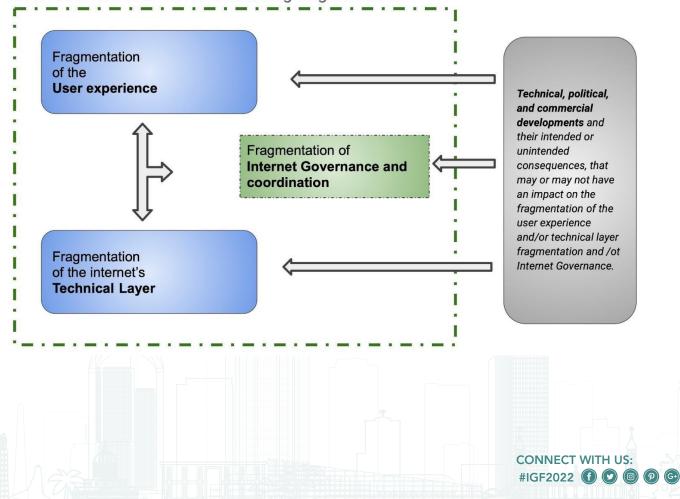
The Policy Forum on Internet Fragmentation

The IGF's Policy Network on Internet Fragmentation will present a draft framework for discussing Internet fragmentation. A draft framework, pictured below, will be presented at the IGF today as the result of discussions. It seeks to enable an inclusive multistakeholder dialogue which can identify what fragmentation (or what forms of fragmentation) should be avoided, and facilitate further discussion about actions, guidelines and principles.

Draft PNIF framework for discussing fragmentation

On Internet fragmentation

The UN Secretary-General has called avoiding fragmentation one of the global digital cooperation priorities.

The Forum's main session on the subject, on Wednesday morning, will explore risks posed while highlighting the positive structures, forces and agreements that have helped minimise fragmentation so far. Some stakeholders question the need or viability of maintaining an unfragmented Internet, and the session will consider the issue in terms of what was expected at the World Summit on the Information Society and what has happened since then.

Other sessions on the theme will be held on Wednesday and later in the week.

The rest of the programme

As well as the main session on Internet fragmentation, the auditorium will feature the work of the Forum's **dynamic coalitions.** These are independent expert groups, made up of diverse stakeholders, that are concerned with specific aspects of the Internet. Some twenty of them have been working since the last meeting of the IGF.

There will also be a main session concerned with **data governance and protecting privacy**, another of the Forum's major themes (described above) – and the day in the auditorium will end with a roundtable that gives IGF participants a chance to exchange views with the **Leadership Panel** which has been established since last year's meeting.

The UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, **Amandeep Singh Gill**

Other meeting rooms will feature almost fifty workshops, on all the Forum's themes. Details of these can be found in the schedule at the back of this bulletin. Parliamentarians will also discuss issues in the Forum's Parliamentary Track.

What are dynamic coalitions?

In between its annual meetings, the IGF community works to develop ideas on important issues which are then presented and discussed at the next Forum. These activities are collectively called the IGF intersessional work

Dynamic Coalitions are open, multistakeholder, and community-driven initiatives dedicated to exploring a certain Internet governance issue or group of issues.

There are currently 24 active coalitions focused on topics such as Internet rights and principles, innovative approaches to connecting the unconnected, accessibility and disability, child online safety, etc. Details of their work can be found on the IGF website.

As well as the main session on Internet fragmentation, the auditorium will feature the work of the Forum's **dynamic coalitions.** Their session will explore how they can contribute to the evolution of the IGF and the Global Digital Compact.

Speakers at the UN Forum

IGF 2022 Schedule
UN Conference Centre, Addis Ababa
(*All times local, UTC+3)

DAY 2: Wednasday 30 NOVEMBER 2022

CR1

09:30-11:00
POLICY NETWORK: INTERNET FRAGMENTATION

11:15-12:45
MAIN SESSION: AVOIDING INTERNET FRAGMENTATION

12:45-13:45
Break

13:50-15:20
DC MAIN SESSION

15:35-17:05
MAIN SESSION: GOVERNING DATA & PROTECTING PRIVACY

17:20-18:20
OPEN DIALOGUE WITH IGF LEADERSHIP PANEL

CR2

09:30-11:00
[WS#439] Afro-feminist AI Governance; Challenges and Lessons

11:15-12:45
[DC] Who's watching the machines? New tech, gende , race & sexuality

12:45-13:45
Break

113:45-14:45
[WS#364] Misty Metaverse: Blurring Letter of the Law

15:00-16:30
[WS#240] Pathways to equitable and safe development of AGI

16:45-17:45
[TH #83] Public interest algorithms for content recommendations (ARTICLE 19)

18:00-18:30
[TH #5] Global regulation to counter terrorist use of the internet
(Tech against Terrorism)

CR3

09:30-11:00
[WS #292] Connectivity at the critical time: during and after crises

11:15-12:45
[WS#242] Lessons Learned from Capacity Building in the Global South

12:45-13:45
Break

13:50-14:50
[WS #491] The future of Interplanetary networks-A talk with Vint Cerf

15:05-16:35
[WS#254] Trustworthy data flows: building towards common principles

16:50-18:20
[WS #399] Global Governance of LEO Satellite Broadband

CR4

09:30-10:30
[OF #46]Strengthening MS collaboration on DNS Abuse
(UK National Crime Agency & DNS Abuse Institute)

10:45-11:45
[OF #50] Global Conference on CCB: Cyber Resilience for Development (GFCE, World Bank & partners)

12:00-13:00
[WS#229] Dark patterns: an online challenge in consumer protection

13:00-13:20
Break

13:20-14:50
Closed Session (Parliamentary Track)

15:05-16:35
Closed Session (Parliamentary Track)

16:50-18:20
[WS#318] Gen-Z in Cyberspace: Are We Safe Online?

CR5

09:30-11:00
[DC] Community Connection to Ehealth, Telemedicine & MIoT

11:15-12:45
[WS#217] Joint efforts to build a responsible & sustainable Metaverse

12:45-13:45
Break

13:50-14:50
[TH #92] Ethics and Regulation of Emerging Technologies & AI (IFIP)

15:05-16:35
[WS#341] Global youth engagement in IG: successes and opportunities

16:50-18:20
[WS#440] Declaration for the Future of the Internet

CR6

09:30-11:00
[WS#160] Connectvity and Digital Rights a View from the Global South

11:15-12:45
[WS#253] Towards Cyber Development Goals: implementing global norms

12:45-13:45
Break

13:50-14:50
[OF #6] African Union Open Forum (AU & UNECA)

15:05-16:35
[OF #71] From regional to global: EU digital transformation approach
(EU Commission)

16:50-18:20
[WS#342] Protecting a Global Internet in an Age of Economic Sanctions

Banquet Hall A

09:30-10:30
[OF #89] Enabling a just data-driven African digital single market (AU & AfCFTA)

10:45-11:45
[WS#369] Harmonising online safety regulation - Data justice: What is to be done?

12:00-13:00
[TH #80] Internet sanctions: infringement to multi-stakeholder model

13:00-13:45
Break

13:45-14:45
[OF #87] ICANN Reducing inequality by enabling inclusive and resilient internet through global partnerships for sustainable development (ICANN)

15:00-16:00
[OF #51] ESCWA 2nd OF for Digital Cooperation in the Arab Region (UNESCWA)

16:15-17:15
[OF #59] How competition can support SMEs online market access (UNCTAD)

17:30-18:30
[OF #95] Internet shutdown and Network restrictions (Government of Japan)

Banquet Hall B

09:30-11:00
[DC] YCIG Session: Road to future IGFs

11:15-12:45
[DC] Internet & the Environment: Beyond Connectivity

12:45-13:15
Break

13:15-14:45
[DC] Platform responsibilities in times of conflict

15:00-16:00
[OF #61] Future of the Internet: Realising a shared vision (UK Government)

16:15-17:15
[OF #75] Combating Hate Speech – Answering the H & 5 W's Questions (CoE)

17:30-18:30
[WS #350] Why Digital Transformation and AI Matter for Justice

Press Briefing Room (PBR)

09:30-11:00
[WS#63] The Impact of Digital Citizenship on Statelessness

11:15-12:45
[WS#261] Perils and opportunities of data integration for security

12:45-13:15
Break

13:45-14:45
[OF #94] Privacy Risk Management in AI (Global Privacy Assembly/Governments of Italy, Canada & partners)

15:00-16:00
[OF #68] Our Action Plan for a Sustainable Planet in the Digital Aget
(UNDP & German Environment Agency/UBA)

16:15-17:15
[TH #99] The Data of Money: Blockchains and/or Surveillance? (Nym)

17:30-18:30
[WS#224] Ethical and legal boundaries for OSINT practices

Caucus Room (CC) 11

09:30-10:30
[OF #58] Promoting Internet standards to increase safety and security (Government of the Netherlands)

10:45-11:45
[NS] Support IS3C in Making the Internet More Secure and Safer

12:00-13:00
[OF #107] Technology and Human Rights Due Diligence at the UN (OHCHR & Government of ROK)

13:00-13:45
Break

13:50-14:50
[OF #108] Combatting Disinformation without Resorting to Online Censor (Government of Latvia)

15:05-16:35
[WS#266] INTERNET FRAGMENTATION AND SOVEREIGNTY IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

16:50-18:20
[DC] A Global Platform for SIDS Collaboration: The 1st SIDS IGF

Large Briefing Room (LBR)

09:30-10:30
[TH #36] Accessibility Standards a catalyst to Inclusivity (inABLE)

10:45-11:45
[TH #33] Understanding digital policy demands of rural and urban poor (African Open Data Research Foundation)

12:00-13:15
[OF #109] WSIS 2023

13:15-13:45
Break

13:45-14:45
[TH #47] Let's talk connectivity (African Child Projects)

15:00-16:00
[NRI] What do we do to achieve universal connectivity in the short term?

16:15-17:15
[NRI] Looking into practices how the Internet impacts and shapes democracy

17:30-18:30
[TH #60] Regulating Algorithms: what if – if not - and if so, how?
(Freedom Online Coalition)

"Speakers' Corner

09:30-10:00
[LT] Lets talk Connectivity

10:15-10:45
[LT] Hackeando la violencia de género en línea en Centroamérica (Hacking online gender-based violence in Central America)

11:00-11:30
[LT] What is the DNS Abuse Institute?

11:45-12:15
[LT] How to localize tech policies and achieve platform accountability

12:30-13:00
[LT] The intersection of disinformation and other online harms: combating digital offences

13:00-13:45
Break

13:50-14:10
[LT] Mobilizing Youth To Combat Mis-, Dis-, Malinformation (MDM) In Civil Society

14:25-14:55
[LT] How to Strengthen Community Resilience Against Online Violence

15:10-15:40
[LT] Systems thinking approach to the development of effective, interoperable and inclusive digital government

15:55-16:25
[LT] LEXOTA - Laws on Expression Online: Tracking and Analysing Responses to Online Disinformation in Sub-Saharan Africa

16:40-17:10
[LT] Using trustworthy AI to create a better world

17:25-17:55
[LT] Online Emerging Technologies and their Impact on Gen Z