IGF Leadership Panel
Meeting II
29 June 2023 | 11:30-14:30 UTC | Online

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Leadership Panel held its second online meeting of 2023 on 29 June. The Panel heard a status update from the Secretary-General's Tech Envoy on the proposed Global Digital Compact (GDC) and related policy brief, reviewed the agenda for its face-to-face meeting in Geneva on 13-14 July, and discussed the vision paper entitled "Internet We Want", led by the Panel's Working Group D. In the context of its discussion on the GDC, the Panel also considered its joint submission with the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of a multistakeholder "Sounding Board" proposal to the GDC process' co-facilitators.

Decisions, Action Items & Next Steps

- Following the Tech Envoy's briefing, a dynamic discussion by the Panel focused on how the IGF could rise to the governance challenges posed by the GDC and help avoid duplication with a "Global Cooperation Forum" suggested in the policy brief. Some initial areas of agreement and steps for action emerged:
  - The Panel agreed its position with respect to the brief was that the IGF should be put forward as a non-duplicative mechanism to advance the objectives of the GDC.
  - Acknowledging that the IGF, as a global multistakeholder forum with thousands of active stakeholders, is both the ideal platform for the GDC and would need to be restructured, it was agreed the Panel should lead on a proposal for a renewed IGF adapted to the GDC's needs. In particular, the Panel and MAG group responsible for the "Sounding Board" proposal could shepherd this process.
  - The WSIS+20 Review in 2025, where the IGF's mandate will be considered for extension and could be adjusted, was suggested as a possible milestone toward which to work and activate such a proposal.
  - The Panel Chair agreed to draft a note on how to facilitate the "interoperability" of digital governance, a barrier in global digital cooperation that the GDC is seeking to address.

- In reviewing the agenda for the Panel's face-to-face meeting, the following was decided:
  - Governance interoperability should be part of the MAG and LP's joint session in Geneva.
  - Panel Members Lise Fuhr and Maria Fernanda Garza would draft talking points for the Panel's press conference, with a focus on narrative and "telling a story" about the IGF.

- Concerning general Panel matters, including the Panel's in-progress vision paper on "Internet We Want", it was decided that:
  - Panel Members would have until 7 July to submit comments on the current draft of the "Internet We Want" paper.
  - The Panel will hold mor frequent online meetings.

<u>Annex I – Draft Agenda</u>

Draft Agenda

I. Welcome from Leadership Panel Chair [5 min]

II. Briefing from UN Tech Envoy on Global Digital Compact (GDC) Policy Brief & Discussion with Panel [45 min]

III. Discussion on LP & MAG Joint GDC Multistakeholder Sounding Board Proposal [25 min]

IV. Review of Agenda & Planning for LP Face-to-Face Meeting - July 2023 [60 min]

V. Overview & Next Steps on "Internet We Want" Vision Paper [40 min]

VI. AOB [5 min]

<u>Annex II – Attendance</u>

Panel Members
Mr. Vint Cerf, Chair
Mr. Hatem Dowidar
Ms. Karoline Edtstadler
Ms. Lise Fuhr
Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill
Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves
Mr. Paul Mitchell
Mr. 'Gbenga Sesan
Mr. Lan Xue

Panel Support Persons
Mr. Ross Creelman
Mr. Yoichi Iida
Mr. Rob Middlehurst
Ms. Stephanie Reisinger
Mr. T. Santhosh
Mr. Wiktor Skwarek
Ms. Timea Suto
Ms. Anna Walch

Regrets
Ms. Maria Ressa
Ms. Huria Ali

IGF Secretariat/DESA
Ms. Céline Bal

Ms. Anja Gengo
Mr. Chengetai Masango
Ms. Eleonora Mazzucchi

DPIDG/DESA
Mr. Wai Min Kwok
Mr. Juwang Zhu