

AS DELIVERED 22 AUG 2024

Presented by Vint Cerf on behalf of LP/MAG at the GDC Consultation August 22, 2024

I am Vinton Cerf, Chairman of the Leadership Panel of the Internet Governance Forum. On behalf of my colleagues on the Panel, the members of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group and the thousands of participants in the Internet Governance Forum, I thank the organizers of this consultation session for the opportunity to address our view of the Global Digital Compact. In the interest of time, I will speak only to the relationship we aspire to develop with the adopters of the Compact although there is much else to say about the provisions in revision 3.

For the past 18 years, the IGF has tracked the evolution of digital technology and its applications, in large measure in the context of the Internet and the World Wide Web. The topics under discussion in the IGF have expanded to include all aspects of digital technology use and potential abuse. The manifold sessions of the IGF, the dynamic coalitions and other multistakeholder constructs have covered the waterfront of digital technology.

The Leadership Panel and the MAG are fully prepared to adapt IGF processes, practices and reporting to track and foster the implementation of the provisions of the Global Digital Compact as these become reality. We recognize the importance of documenting our observations and to identifying issues arising in the digital universe that require policy attention. We see, as desirable outcomes of our work, recommendations for venues in which issues may be resolved and even aspire, in some cases, to suggest avenues for their resolution. We are deeply committed to the safe, secure, accountable and constructive use of digital technology and to defending human rights in the digital world. We look forward to working with others, not least with the member states and other organizations of the United Nations, to that end.