



Internet Governance Forum

Eighteenth Annual Meeting, 8-12 October 2023

Guidelines for Participation

A) Purpose of the IGF

1. The purpose of the IGF is to maximize the opportunity for an open and inclusive dialogue and the exchange of ideas on Internet governance (IG) related issues; create opportunities to share best practices and experiences; identify emerging issues and bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public; contributing to capacity building for Internet governance related issues.

2. The main aim of the IGF is to facilitate open and inclusive multi-stakeholder discussions on Internet governance related issues that inform and contribute towards decision making processes elsewhere.

3. [UN Rules and Regulations as well as the IGF Code of Conduct](#) are mandatory to be followed.

B) Conduct

4. All participants of the IGF must commit themselves to respecting all human rights as they are reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

5. All participants of the IGF must refrain from any conduct going against the fundamental rights of any person or group of persons.

6. All participants of the IGF must refrain from any kind of illegal activity.

C) Health requirements

7. All participants will respect the obligation to cover their mouth and nose in the meeting premises and the queues at the entrance; as well as to maintain a social distance.

8. All participants to the IGF must commit themselves to respecting any other COVID-related requirement described on the IGF 2023 websites of the Secretariat and the Host Country.

D) Participation in the Eighteen Annual IGF Meeting

9. The Internet Governance Forum welcomes the participation of all stakeholders in the Internet governance ecosystem, including all entities accredited by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), as well as other institutions and individuals with expertise, experience and interest in all matters related to Internet governance.

10. All IGF participants are expected to ensure a harassment-free experience for everyone, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, or religion (or lack thereof). Any form of harassment will not be tolerated. Offensive language and imagery shall not be approved within any of the Forum's activities. Participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference at the discretion of the organizers.

11. Participation in the Forum is free of charge, and participant status shall be provided to any individual who fulfills the requirements and agrees to adhere to the terms of these Guidelines.

12. Use and/or distribution of defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials are strictly prohibited.

E) Expulsion from the Conference

13. The Secretariat reserves the right to expel participants from the sessions due to disruptive behaviour or violation of these Guidelines. The Secretariat reserves the right to define appropriate conference behaviour, in accordance with generally defined UN conference procedures, and is particularly sensitive to issues involving displays of disrespect to other participants, or the conference staff.

F) Publicity

14. Commercial media, logos, flags, banners or printed publications are not allowed.

15. By entering the premises of an IGF meeting, the participants understand that video recordings and photos may be taken in public areas such as meeting rooms, lobbies and corridors, as long as it doesn't disrupt participating activities or security protocol. These may be taken by the organizer or registered professional press and media outlets.

Recording audio and video during closed meetings and in designated high-security zones is generally not allowed.

The IGF Secretariat provides full transcription, audio and video recordings for all sessions that are part of the official meeting programme. These are made available on its website.

G) Material Distribution and Demonstrations

16. Written materials and documentation can be distributed at the designated spaces. The distributed materials should be related to Internet governance and of a non-commercial nature. The documents should follow UN guidelines on suitability and should not be blatantly inflammatory or potentially libellous, and the actions and arguments should be criticized based on their merits and not their source. As the IGF adheres to the generally used UN principle of discouraging ad hominem attacks, organizations should refrain from singling out individual persons, companies, countries or entities in the materials they distribute. Concrete examples can be highlighted in the overall coverage of IG issues as long as it is not done in a blatantly inflammatory or potentially libellous way.

17. Participants are requested to refrain from distributing non-official material, such as information related to other meetings, future conferences or publicity material.