Report IS3C General Meeting 8

Thursday 6 April 2023

Rapporteur: Wout de Natris

1. Opening

IS3C's coordinator Wout de Natris opens the meeting and welcomes the participants, including several new potential members with an interest in IS3C's work. After establishing the agenda without any changes, Wout makes a short opening statement in which he gives an overview of the road travelled by IS3C since its inception at the virtual IGF of 2020 and the work launched since. The schedule today points to work undertaken and the first successes that have been achieved.

2. WG 1 Status report – Nicolas Fiumarelli, chair

WG 1 has undertaken a global comparison of IoT policy with the aim of defining the best practices on security by design in these policies. The group has studied, compared and analysed documents from 20 countries and region's governments and/or regulatory agencies. The raw data on practices involves more than 100 pages, 442 different practices in all. Currently the report is being reshaped to highlight the outcomes better.

Where dissemination is concerned, IS3C plans to present the report at the upcoming MAG meeting in July and organize a special virtual session itself where the outcomes are presented to the wider community, besides sending the report out through as many networks as possible.

3. WG 2 Status report – Janice Richardson, chair

Chair Janice Richardson could not join this meeting as she is travelling and vice-chair Awo Aidam Amenyah apparently was not able to join. Wout de Natris fills in. In Addis Ababa the report was published and it is on our website. The WG is contemplating its next steps. Three webinars are announced. The dates will be announced soon. The final one is at EuroDIG on 20 June. The Polish sponsor, NASK, has invited us to participate in three events in Poland.

The idea on future work is to convene working groups on, over time, different topics. The first is on tertiary cyber security education and closing the current skill gap. The second is diversity of the workforce and cybersecurity in education in general. The third is on creating and providing online courses on cyber security aimed at the global south.

4. WG 3 Status report – Mallory Knodel, chair

WG 3 is on procurement and supply chain management. The work was planned over two years ago and is, finally, carried out. In June it is expected to present the first draft of the report. Mallory is joined in the research by Liz Orembo from Kenia. The WG studies procurement policy documents from large organisations. Mallory announces meetings where other members can join in the work.

5. WG 4 status report – Olévié Kouami, vice-chair

There is nothing to add, really, since the last meeting.

Selby Abraham, IS3C's webmaster, announces that EGIGFA has agreed to renew its support of the domain name, email, website hosting and maintenance and social media for another two years. The website has been updated, so it reflects our work in Addis Ababa, including pictures taken there during our sessions.

The coordinator welcomes this news and thanks EGIGFA for its report.

GDC

IS3C plans to contribute twofold to the Global Digital Compact of the U.N. Through the DCCG of the IGF and with its own input. Dr. Allison Wylde chairs our GDC WG. The date for submission was extended, again, to 30 April and this allows IS3C extra time to finalise the input. IS3C is presenting twice in the "Open Consultations", convened by the co-facilitators of the GDC process, Rwanda and Sweden. IS3C offered to work with the GDC and its outcomes and to deliver input to the 'Summit of the Future' in 2024. IS3C noticed that there is no "pillar" for cybersecurity in the GDC and that the concept of trust is extremely important. We have advised to add cybersecurity as an eight pillar.

Mark Carvell suggest to share principles and actions with the GDC. One principle is security by design, IS3C's WG 1 area of expertise. Second, inform endusers about the need for security, e.g. procurement officers, our WGs 3 and 5. Where actions are concerned focus should lie on the responsibility of designers, manufacturers and sellers to embed security standards.

Between April and June the co-facilitators convene deep dives into eight thematic areas. IS3C will actively participate in some. The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals in one topic. IS3C has a role to play here as well.

Selby Abraham mentions that he is inviting African IGF youths to join IS3C's work. Several are on the call today. Allison and Selby will work on how they can share their views on the GDC process.

6. WG 5 status report – Wout de Natris, chair

The work was able to start thanks to a contribution of the RIPE Fund. The concept is to produce a toolkit all organisations, public and private, can use when they start to procure ICTs. "The List" will contain those categories and underneath them those standards and best practices that the WG 5 advisory panel deems most elementary or urgent to deploy from a security point of view. Using this list allows organisations to procure secure by design ICT products, services or devices. The aim is to have a total of circa 40 security-related Internet standards and ICT best practices. The advisory panel will meet for the first time next week (circa 14 April). There are ten members from different stakeholder communities. Industry is still missing.

7. WG 6 final report – Louise Marie Hurel, chair

The WG chair is not present and has not provided an update, so the chair cannot share any update.

WG 7. A proposal in 2022 was not accepted by the funding organisation. The person driving the work has changed jobs since. The WG is dormant.

WG 8 is progressing towards its start. It will be on two specific standards, DNSSEC and RPKI. The focus will lie on the narrative, not on technique. More news will follow soon.

8. WG 9 status report – Elif Kiesow Cortez, chair

This new working group focuses on emerging technologies, starting with A.I. and quantum computing and specifically at the policies governments and IGOs are writing at this point in time. The work includes a focus on the need for safety and security and in how far these topics are included. The work has not started, as the WG is in search of funding to do so. Raising awareness will be an important part of the work. As is the identification of the state of current affairs. We have heard the news of researchers calling for a moratorium on research. IS3C wants to have an active role in this discussion.

Wout mentions that the IGF secretariat has announced a Policy Network on AI and that IS3C will seek to cooperate with it.

Nicolas points to the opportunities and risks quantum computing will bring and that this could be part of our future research. Although quantum is still 10 to 15 years away, there is already work going on within e.g. IETF, but also the affected workfields need to be explored with safety and security in mind. What about the Metaverse and other emerging securities? Do we need a new working group for that?

Wout answers that other emerging technologies are in the back of our mind but resources at this point are limited.

Mark Carvell adds that the ITU has started a working group on Metaverses. We can keep an eye on it.

There is a question on how to join IS3C's work. This can be done by joining up on the IGF website and respond to calls for participation through our mailing list.

9. Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Mark Carvell, Senior Policy Advisor

In total there are 24 DCs. They are all self-generated and independent of the IGF. The group is coordinated and chaired by Markus Kummer supported by the IGF secretariat. The DCs were always a footnote in the IGF process. This has to change, as the IGF has to become more than just a yearly event. This intersessional work is exactly where the DCs fit in. IS3C has taken the lead to get the DCs more effectively integrated into the IGF system. How can DC outcomes become officially recognized IGF outcomes and influence the GDC process? This has been a struggle but things are changing. One of the results is an intersessional meeting for DCs that will convene for the first time on 10 July, where the DCs can showcase their work. Also we have pushed for an official liaison between the DCs and the MAG, a critical linkage. It has been established. There is also a need for more time for DCs to present on outcomes. This is still a challenge to be solved.

10. Outreach – Mark Carvell, Senior Policy Advisor

Wout: we have two slots now at EuroDIG. We need your support for submitting proposals in your region, as it will be stronger when a proposal comes from the region itself.

Mark Carvell points out several of the options coming up. To be present in Africa is important as we have never presented there so far.

IGF: we will be present there.

Nicolas: there will be a Caribbean IGF for the first time. We will submit a proposal at the Latin American IGF.

11. Finances – Wout de Natris, coordinator

Wout shares the information on funding and allocation in 2022-2023 in order to be transparent and accountable.

In 2022 Microsoft contributed $US 40.000 to the research in WG 1 and $US 5.000 to the IS3C secretariat. In euro's € 8.000 has been paid to the three researchers, João Falcao, Oscar Giudice and Savyo Morais and so far € 2.000 was paid to Nicolas Fiumarelli as project lead. € 3.000 was paid to Mark Carvell for work on the project.

In 2022 WG 2 received € 10.000 from SIDN Fonds and € 10.000 from NASK. This amount was divided 80 – 20 % between InSight S.A. as leader of the research and the IS3C secretariat.

SIDN, the .nl registry sponsored Wout personally with € 10.000 a year to be able to work in IS3C and to promote intersessional work in general (DCCG and IGF WG on Strategy).

We are supported in kind by the following organisations. Ecp, a Dutch public-private platform for all things ICT, supports IS3C by providing the international payments in WG 1, where Platform Internetstandards of The Netherlands carries the costs ecp incurs. EGIGFA sponsors our online activities and provides the webmaster, Selby, to our website. InSight supported the travel and presentations to the IGF in Kyoto and an obligatory event in The Netherlands.

In January 2023 IS3C has received funding from the RIPE Fund for WGs 3 and 5. € 24.500. This includes the research and work, the secretariat and an airplane ticket for Wout.

In April SIDN has indicated to support the work of Wout with € 10.000.

This is the current state of affairs. IS3C is working to receive further funding for the work introduced today.

12. AOB – all

Throughout the session there have been questions and comments. There are none left.

Mark Carvell thanks everybody who joined and shared their views and suggestions for work for the future. IS3C has undertaken important work. People are welcome to join this work and to spread this work within your respective networks.

13. Closing remarks – Wout de Natris, coordinator

Wout points again to the work undertaken and the road travelled. Our first members showed ambition and wanted to get things done. After the first year non-involved people started to indicate that IS3C was making an impression. From there we found the first funding and now it is all about delivering content. Our next phase will be more challenging: to move from theory to practice, to get our recommendations deployed and that is what Mark, Janice and Wout are working on in the background. This is also why turning a DC report into an IGF report is so important. It may help with getting currently non-involved stakeholders to take action.

Wout thanks all who participated and closes the meeting.

The recording can be viewed here: https://youtu.be/K_UBm4qg3jA