

3 August 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Government of Japan will host the United Nations 18th Internet Governance Forum (IGF), from 8 to 12 October 2023, under the overarching theme “The Internet We Want – Empowering All People”. The IGF brings together different stakeholder groups to facilitate the discussion of public policy issues pertaining to the internet. Prominent individuals in the global Internet governance discourse are expected to take part in the forum. Participation and proceedings will be in hybrid format.

In recent years, the IGF has sought to strengthen the participation of parliamentarians in discussions on pressing issues related to the use, evolution and governance of the internet and related digital technologies. Building on last year’s parliamentary sessions, the IGF plans to further strengthen its Parliamentary Track, through expanding the set of intersessional activities dedicated to fostering inter-parliamentary dialogue and cooperation on key digital policy issues and delivering more action-oriented outputs.

As such, we would like to invite you and other Members of Parliament from your country to participate in the IGF 2023 deliberations. Particular attention is drawn to the Parliamentary Track, taking place on 8 and 9 October 2023 on the theme “Shaping Digital Trust for the Internet We Want”. Participants in this meeting would ideally be members of relevant parliamentary committees and those parliamentarians who work on digital affairs and internet policy issues.

The Parliamentary Track will include a series of sessions in which parliamentarians will engage and share experiences amongst themselves and with representatives of key entities in the digital policy space. The main points emerging from these discussions will form the basis for the output document from the Parliamentary Track, IGF 2023. A concept note on the Parliamentary Track is attached.

The programme, including parliamentary components together with related information, will be made available at the following websites: <https://www.soumu.go.jp/igfkyoto2023/en/> and <https://intgovforum.org>.

To: Presidents of all IPU Groups

Also attached is the practical information note detailing registration and logistics for IGF 2023. The note also explains the procedure and criteria for obtaining funding for participation on behalf of a limited number of MPs from the global south.

We look forward to welcoming members of your Parliament to the IGF 2023 Parliamentary Track and the overall IGF meeting.

For any queries or clarification, please contact Ms. Celine Bal, at Celine.Bal@un.org.

Yours sincerely,



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