Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD) Annual report - 2022

DCAD works to (a) promote the participation of persons with disabilities in the IGF and other Internet governance processes, and (b) to ensure that ICT accessibility is included in the key debates around Internet governance and digital policy to build a future where all sectors of the global community have equal access to the information society. The coalition plays a key and ongoing role in the IGF by advising and collaborating with the IGF Secretariat and various national and regional IGF initiatives to ensure that their processes and meetings, both onsite and virtual, are accessible.

This year, DCAD had less activities as usual since we are in a process of reorganizing, however, despite this process, our Liaison remained actively involved in all the DC Coordinated sessions, activities, reports and attended the calls and participated in the reports.

In 2022, DCAD had two major involvements, one was our efforts to work with the Secretariat on accessibility improvements to the IGF Website and also we sent out our annual accessibility guide and tips to the Secretariat. DCAD also was active in the NRI and DC network to ensure that other NRIs are made friendly and accessible for people with disabilities. We worked with many of the NRIs to ensure accessibility was taken into account. In 2020/21 we launched a survey asking NRIs to report on the accessibility of their events.

Our other major effort this year relates to our accessibility work connected to the IGF Expert Group Meeting. In the run up to this meeting DCAD worked closely with the DCCG, the NRIs and the Secretariat in preparing accessibility talking points and short paragraphs on accessibility issues which we sent to the Secretariat. DCAD contributed to the DCCG Paper on how Dynamic Coalitions can strengthen the IGF? This paper was submitted as an input to the EGM. Additionally, several of the focal people chosen by the NRIs to attend the Expert Group Meeting agreed to take the talking points and bring them to the attention of the other experts who were attending the meeting.

DCAD website and mailing list

DCAD's website and mailing list is ably managed by Joly MacFie, the Administrator of the Internet Society's Accessibility Special Interest Group. The website gives DCAD the flexibility to host the NRI survey and the DCAD Fellowship application form, for example. Joly MacFie also maintains the membership list that is made available on the website. Further information is at: <u>https://igf-dcad.org</u>