



**BEST PRACTICE FORUM GENDER 2016:
GENDER & ACCESS
MEETING 11 (7 NOVEMBER 2016)**

Background context: in May 2016, at the first open consultations and multistakeholder advisory group (MAG) meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Geneva, Switzerland, input was gathered and feedback was given on the progress and outputs of the 2015 best practice forums (BPFs), including the 2015 BPF on online abuse and gender-based violence against women. At this meeting,¹ the need was stressed for continuing to dedicate an intersessional² effort to the study of gender-related challenges where the Internet is concerned. It was decided to continue the BPF Gender in 2016 and, more specifically, to a) build on and improve the outcomes of the 2015 BPF Gender: online abuse and gender-based violence against women, and b) to dedicate the work of the BPF in 2016 to women's access to the Internet (or the gender digital divide).

1. The 11th meeting of the BPF Gender took place on 7 November 2016, and was led by Jac SM Kee, with Anri van der Spuy representing the IGF Secretariat.
2. The agenda (see Appendix A) for the meeting was focused on the ongoing planning and preparations for the BPF's work; taking stock of progress made thus far; presenting and reviewing Draft I of the BPF's output document; sharing progress made on case study deep dives for certain initiatives; planning the BPF's session at IGF 2016; and receiving input from the ITU on a mapping exercise and potential future collaboration. The meeting lasted approximately 70 minutes, and was attended by 12 participants³.
3. Each participant was again given the opportunity to introduce him- and herself, along with his or her interest in the BPF's work.
4. Participants were reminded that whilst the meeting could not be recorded at this stage⁴, a meeting summary would be shared on the BPF mailing list and uploaded to the IGF's website.

Update of progress and other news, review of Draft I

5. An update of progress thus far, including a description of the BPF's general tracks of work and proposed outputs, was provided.

¹ A transcript of the relevant session is available online: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/3063>.

² 'Intersessional activities' at the IGF refer to activities that take place throughout the year, and that thus continue in the period between annual IGF meetings.

³ The meeting was kindly hosted by UNESA as a result of a fault with the IGF's Webex account. Unfortunately a recording of the meeting is not available.

⁴ Ibid.

6. It was noted that Draft I of the BPF's proposed output document had been published on the IGF's review platform on 1 November and would remain open for public comment until 24 November 2016. The process of compiling and drafting the document was described (content was drawn from a combination of background sources, input received on the mailing list, and survey responses) and participants were reminded how to comment on the review platform.
7. The content of the Draft was briefly described and explained, and participants were given an opportunity to provide feedback. In general, participants expressed agreement with the structure of the report, and were encouraged to comment on the content before the deadline of 24 November.

Case study deep-dives: initiatives to overcome barriers

8. In the previous call, it was agreed that some volunteers would help to select at least one initiative per barrier and to ask volunteers to research such initiatives in more detail, or in a so-called 'deep-dive' exercise.
9. Volunteers were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the progress they had made in gathering input. It was noted that some volunteers had found it difficult to get feedback from initiatives, or to find relevant information. It was agreed that volunteers could select an alternative case study if one does not work, keeping in mind the selection criteria of regional diversity and the need for initiatives from both developed and developing regions.

Planning the BPF's session at IGF 2016

10. Participants were reminded that they would shortly need to start planning the BPF's session at the IGF. The way in which the session last year was organized was described, including lessons learned.
11. It was agreed that planning the BPF session would be taken offline to the BPF's mailing list due to a lack of remaining time in the meeting. Participants were asked to share recommendations for potential speakers and what the BPF should achieve through the session on the mailing list.

Planning potential collaboration with the ITU and UN Women's EQUALS initiative

12. In the final ten minutes of the call, representatives from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) were welcomed and given an opportunity to introduce the EQUALS initiative in general and its initiative mapping exercise in particular.
13. Parallels between the BPF's work and the ITU's work in this regard were highlighted, and various participants noted that not only is the ITU's mapping exercise a good and potentially useful resource, but the BPF's participants on the call agreed that it would make sense to forge a collaborative relationship to ensure that the BPF's mapped initiatives are also reflected in the ITU's initiative.
14. Due to time constraints, it was agreed to talk further about collaboration offline.

Next steps

15. The meeting finished with a summary and the proposal of a number of follow-up actions, namely:

Action 1: Comment on Draft 1: participants were requested to comment on Draft I currently on the IGF's review platform by 24 November 2016.

Action 2: Finalise case study deep-dives: It was agreed that Anri and Renata would collaborate with the volunteers and encourage final input by 20 November.

Action 3: Finalise collaborative relationship with ITU: It was agreed that the facilitators would liaise with the ITU to work out how it could collaborate on mapping initiatives.

Action 4: Summary of the discussion and scheduling of next meeting. A summary of the discussion will be prepared and shared on the BPF's dedicated mailing list by 9 November 2016.

Action 5: Next meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on or around 17 November 2016. The Secretariat would schedule the meeting and would distribute details enabling participation.

Meeting participants:

Anna Orlova (Russia)

Anri van der Spuy (South Africa)

Bruna Martins (Brazil)

Carla Licciardello (Switzerland)

Debora Albu (Brazil)

Jac SM Key (Malaysia)

Louise Marie Hurel (Brazil)

Renata Aquino Ribeiro (Brazil)

Shreedeeep Rayamajhi (Nepal)

Sylvia (Kenya)

Tamar Colodenco (Argentina/ Switzerland)

Theadora Mills (Switzerland)

Appendix A:

BPF GENDER & ACCESS

MEETING XI

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Collaboration with ITU/ UN Women's EQUALS (5 minutes)
3. Review of progress & other updates
4. Overview of Draft I
5. Plan session for IGF 2016
6. Updating BPF 2015 work & webinar
7. Deep-dive of initiatives: Renata progress
8. Next meeting: 20 October (finalise section on initiatives)
9. AOB