



## Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group – Meeting XXIII (Face-to-Face)

### Summary Report

21 December 2017

1. The twenty-third meeting of the DC Coordination Group (DCCG) was held on 21 December 2017, during the 12<sup>th</sup> IGF in Geneva, Switzerland. The coordination meeting was facilitated by Avri Doria and Markus Kummer, with Eleonora Mazzucchi representing the IGF Secretariat. The YouTube recording and transcript of the meeting can be accessed here: <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2017-day-4-room-xxvi-dc-coordination-session>
2. The meeting began with an introduction from Markus, who congratulated DCs on a **successful joint main session** held the previous day. As in 2016, the session was based on [output papers submitted by a majority of DCs](#) and featured one speaker from each of those coalitions. The original moderating by Tatiana Tropina of the Max Planck Institute, who had moderated the same session in 2016, led to a vibrant substantive discussion and the emergence of many common areas of work among DCs. Markus further noted that in the future annual meeting cycles, DCs could play an enhanced role in making suggestions for the programme, in terms of themes for Best Practice Forums, main sessions, and even workshops, as subject matter experts in their respective fields with knowledge of current digital policy issues.
3. Speaking at some length on **the individual slots DCs are allocated** in the programme, a few coalitions raised the concern that some DCs may still not be meeting high enough standards for the session space, and that this could disadvantage all coalitions in future programming decisions. This is particularly true in the context of diminishing space in the schedule, where more intersessional groups and national and regional initiatives (NRIs) are also being allocated slots. It was suggested that DCs proactively agree on tighter standards for qualification to pre-empt this. That process may include standards not dissimilar to those applied to workshops, where a session proposal must have a gender, regional and stakeholder-balanced composition. As a further standard to be adopted, DCs might also be expected to submit a detailed description or session proposal as a prerequisite, rather than after their slot has been granted. Related to their individual sessions this year, some remarked that participation was not as high as expected, and that this could be attributed in part to logistics and delays accessing the venue, which were somewhat longer than usual for an IGF.
4. In light of what had been explored in the main session, several coalitions agreed that their coordinated work might lend itself to the **adoption of a common theme** for a main session, and even perhaps the development of a common output document, in

2018. This year's main session had revealed a deeper desire for substantive collaboration among DCs, building on a few existing efforts and closely-linked issues (e.g. between the DC on Gender and Internet Governance and the Internet Rights and Principles Coalition, and between the DC on Community Connectivity and the DC on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected). A "topics mapping" exercise leading into the identification of a common theme was also suggested. While it was raised that, taken together, DCs deal with a very wide variety of topics and that the common thread among them could risk being thin or appear contrived, it was also noted that there could be several advantages to work on a common theme in the coming year. One of these would be that early groundwork on a themed main session would put DCs in a good position for being granted main session space by the MAG – and perhaps one with longer duration than their sessions in 2016 and 2017. A unified theme would also help in promoting DCs over the course of the year and in increasing participation in their sessions, including a possible main session, in 2018. As a final note of advice for the future moderator of a DCs main session, Tatiana said that with the benefit of increased time, they should take the opportunity to give more of an introduction on each DC and highlight their accomplishments and active projects.

5. Broad reflections on the year ahead acknowledged that DCs have come a very long way in two years, and that they are on a path of continuous improvement and ever-closer collaboration. It was agreed future efforts should focus on communication and outreach on all the value DCs bring, especially in light of the strong interest the community has expressed in the topics of their work. In concluding their meeting, DCs further agreed **coordination work should start as early as possible** in the new year.

### **Annex – Participants List**

- Gunela Astbrink (DC on Accessibility and Disability)
- Luca Belli (DCs on Community Connectivity, Net Neutrality, Platform Responsibility)
- Maarten Botterman (DC on Internet of Things)
- Olivier Crépin Leblond (DC on Core Internet Values)
- Marianne Franklin (Internet Rights and Principles and Coalition)
- Nigel Hickson (DC on Internet of Things)
- Jeremy Malcolm (DC on Trade)
- Kaoru Mizuno (DC on Accessibility and Disability)
- Sivasubramanian Muthusamy (DC on Core Internet Values)
- Israel Rosas (Youth Coalition on Internet Governance)
- Andrea Saks (DC on Accessibility and Disability)

-Tatiana Tropina (DC Main Session Moderator)

-Stephen Wyber (DC on Public Access in Libraries)

-Christopher Yoo (DC on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected)

***Coordination Meeting Co-Chairs: Avri Doria and Markus Kummer***

***Rapporteur: Eleonora Mazzucchi (IGF Secretariat)***