Bidding Plan for the IGF Event 2024

Introduction: With the soaring information technology, the digital divide has become one of the major manifestations of imbalanced global development and has received wide attention from the international community. Under the theme of "Deepen Cooperation on Governance, Bridge the Digital Divide", invitations have been sent to government officials, researchers, and practitioners to attend the conference for exchanges on subjects of promoting digital infrastructure construction and the innovation and application of emerging technologies, with the view of providing useful ideas and solutions in deepening international cooperation on digital governance and bridging the digital divide, and ultimately engaging all sides in global digital governance and creating a cyber-community of shared destiny to help achieve the sustainable development goals proposed by the United Nations.

I. Subject

Deepen Cooperation on Governance, Bridge the Digital Divide

II. Issue

Improve the digital governance to build the Internet that we desired

III. Organization Form

Online and Offline, Open Forum
The bidding invitation is extended to the International Cooperation Bureau of Cyberspace Administration of China and China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, and the language of the conference will be English.

IV. Contents

(i) Promote the construction of digital infrastructure for inclusive global digital development

The rapid development of information technology has made digital divide a major indicator of global imbalance. Many developing countries are facing evident shortages in digital infrastructure construction, a restraint to economic and social progress. Promoting it and enhancing inclusive global digital development is of great significance in closing the divide and promoting global sustainability. The open forum is expected to cover the current status and challenges of global digital infrastructure development, the responsibilities and roles of multiple actors, such as governments, international organizations, enterprises and civil society in promoting the development of digital infrastructure, cooperation mechanisms and advice, successful cases and best practices, and the spread and application of the Internet to maintain the security and stability of the Internet fundamental resource management system and ensure the access and reliability of the basic Internet resources for communal use.
(ii) Strengthen innovation and application of emerging technologies to bridge the global digital divide

New technologies and applications in particular artificial intelligence are profoundly altering the production mode and lifestyle. However, these technologies bring convenience and efficiency, while raising numerous governing challenges and ethical issues. The empowerment and governance of new technologies and applications matter greatly for the fair, safe and sustainable development in the digital era. The session covers subjects like the current status and developing trend of the global application of new technologies, the positive role of new technologies and applications in promoting economic development and upgrading public services, the governance challenges and ethical issues brought about by new technologies and applications, namely data security, privacy protection, and algorithmic bias, and governance strategies and advice for new application of new technologies from policy formulation, standard setting, talent cultivation to international cooperation.

V. Reasoning behind topic selection

The centurial changes in today's world are accelerating, and the development deficit and governance dilemma in the digital sphere are worsening. Countries need to strengthen the sharing of governance experience, further exchanges and cooperation, and bridge the digital
divide and share the digital dividend.

Proceeding from digital infrastructure construction and the empowerment and governance of new technologies and applications, closely following the theme of the Global Internet Governance Forum, the open forum aims to sparkle useful ideas and responses for enhancing international cooperation on digital governance and bridging the digital divide, promote the participation of all countries and parties in global digital governance, join hands in building a community of destiny in cyberspace, and contribute to the UN sustainable development goals.

VI. Speakers to be invited: Representatives from various sectors, including governments, international organizations, industry organizations, and think tanks worldwide.