

MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy
Online Meeting
22 May 2025 at 19:00 UTC

Summary Report

The 97th virtual meeting of the IGF MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 22 May 2025 at 19:00 UTC. The meeting was moderated by Titti Cassa and a recording of the meeting is available upon request.

Titti opened the meeting by introducing the agenda.

Agenda

1. Update from the IGF Secretariat
2. Update on the 6 sub-working groups
3. General updates – WSIS+20/GDC/AI governance
4. AoB

Discussion

1. Update from the IGF Secretariat

There was no one from the Secretariat on the call.

2. Update on the 6 sub-working groups

Titti introduced the topic

- *WG 1 (Bruna): Work on a paper reinforcing the mission of the IGF and its long-term contribution to the digital cooperation and internet governance space.* https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dp19oLro_xLDXGx6jC17C-VaY2GJ7Qwc1f9Ik1U4DGg/edit?tab=t.0

Bruna was not on the call.

- *WG 2 (Chris): Draft a panel submission to the WSIS+20 Open Consultation Process (OCP) in order to host a discussions during the High-Level Event in Geneva:* <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lvTxDECW1hX9CJbchhBCfpMonkd06q0DRa862YcAWKI/edit?tab=t.0>

Chris noted that the draft program of the WSIS+20 HLE is now available, and there are two IGF-themed sessions: one on messages from Oslo that the Secretariat will organise, and the other on 20 years of the IGF that the MAG [WG-Strategy] will organise. Both are on Tuesday 8 July. Chris is discussing with the Secretariat to ensure the two sessions are complementary, and will send a note to the WG-Strategy list to organise a call for those interested in helping prepare the session. He

noted the challenge of having the event less than two weeks after the IGF, so getting an early start on the planning is important.

- *WG 3 (Titti): Host a dialogue webinar with ODET and other UN Agencies on the implementation of Para 68-71 of the GDC (MAP), together with DCs, NRIs and other intersessional work: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1suCaQDM-TWem29QZXTXcpxZS3_0JW8YL/edit*

Titti noted that the webinar was held, and was very well received, with more than 170 participants on the call. She noted that the GDC is seen as a driver of the six pillars of the Pact of the Future. She invited others to share their reflections on the session.

Chris noted that there seems to be some potential for overlap between the UNGIS and the Working Group on Digital Technology. Christine noted that there was positive impression of the IGF in the interventions of the UN actors on the call, seeing a positive role for the IGF, NRIs and intersessional work. Wout noted that the impression in EuroDIG was also very positive about the intersessional work that the IGF community is doing. He also noted that even if the IGF continues, there may be additional venues launched around the WSIS review process.

Juan felt that the IGF's renewal remains somewhat in question, but assuming it is renewed, we need to start work again on what we want from the IGF going into the future. He noted the IGF+ and other ideas that could be useful starting points for discussion and consideration. Theresa agreed that it was important to start thinking in these terms, and referenced the earlier "[IGF We Want](#)" document shared to the MAG - this has also been receiving input from the IGF and ICANN communities.

Chris noted that governments are also considering their proposals for the WSIS review, and specifically the IGF evolution. He also noted that the ICANN "IGF We Want" document is receiving some interesting feedback from the ICANN community on the ICANN WSIS+20 discussion list.

Christine noted that the funding continues to be a significant issue that needs to be considered, with stability as the priority.

Poncelet referenced Canada's intervention in the webinar about NRIs, and that this network is becoming stronger and more diverse and inclusive. We need to be clear about what NRIs bring to the table in the IGF community.

- *WG 4 (Flavio): Host a webinar on the implementation of the NM+10 Sao Paulo Multistakeholder Guidelines implementation to the IGF work.*

Ana reported back on the session at EuroDIG which discussed the SPMGs - it was a very good session and provided a focus on the 12 steps that should be followed to

implement the SPMGs. The session gave an opportunity to discuss each step and what they mean in practical terms. Flavio noted that this is important in how we frame the SPMGs in the IGF in Oslo.

Find [video](#) and [transcript](#) of the EuroDIG session online.

- *WG 5 (Amrita): Consider actions for fostering governmental engagement,*
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Zras1z1RQMaZyhkLkqWd_Q01tok419DVtoauShV_GQQ/edit?tab=t.0

Amrita was not on the call.

- *WG 6 (Bruna): Draft a high level Multistakeholder statement addressing the UNGA Presidency highlighting the importance of the IGF and the need for it to be transformed into a permanent effort and fora:*
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ezsfdAT5-y48GUfG9IJ96wK2cxxAbmc5h626UYE6XZY/edit?tab=t.0>

Bruna was not on the call.

4. General updates – WSIS+20/GDC/AI governance

Chris noted the new roadmap released this week by the WSIS+20 Co-Facilitators.

Ana noted that she moderated a session with the Albanian WSIS+20 Co-Facilitator. There was not anything significantly new, but she was enthusiastic about the process and acknowledged the importance of multistakeholder input and participation. Both Co-Facilitators will also be in Oslo for the IGF.

Wout noted that there will be a list open for people wanting to meet with the Co-Facilitators bilaterally in Oslo. They will also hold a meeting with the MAG.

On AI governance, Chris noted that the Thursday of the WSIS+20 HLE is marked in the program as the "AI Global Dialogue".

5. AoB

The next meeting of the WG-Strategy will be held on 5 June at **13:00 UTC**.

Chris noted that with the 19:00 UTC slot regularly getting fewer participants, it may be time to reconsider the rotation approach, and use only two time slots. He will send a note to the mailing list.

Amrith added an update on the Dynamic Coalition for Teens, which has been involved in some of the track, and have been working towards an IGF session being organised by the DCs on revitalising the IGF, and particularly on including teens, youth and children in the framework for the IGF. He shared the following links:

DTC: Framework for a Modernized IGF

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YqJtdNBjm28pLLjOYuenlB5DhAajU0uN/view?usp=sharing>

DC Cluster 1 Session Submission Drafting Document:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oAUnpDA7CrSDSsz9XBZNb_BA18aUHRmLHaY_wHnZMiY/edit?usp=sharing

List of participants

1. Christine Arida, Former IGF MAG member
2. Chris Buckridge, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member
3. Titti Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, IGF MAG member, Government of Italy
4. Fiona Alexander, Independent Expert
5. Jim Prendergast, Independent Expert
6. Juan Fernandez, IGF MAG member
7. Flavio Wagner, CGI.br and University of Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil
8. Amrith Kumar, Independent Expert
9. Poncelet Ileleji, Independent Expert
10. Milosevic, Desiree, IGF MAG member
11. Ana Neves, IGF MAG member
12. Wout De Natris, Independent Expert
13. Justin Fair, IGF MAG member
14. Manal Ismail, Independent Expert
15. Theresa Swinehart, IGF MAG Member
16. Ellen Taylor, Independent Expert