

IGF 2020

MAG WG - IGF STRENGTHENING AND STRATEGY

The second meeting of the IGF Strengthening and Strategy Working Group was held on July 2nd 2020.

The meeting summary shown below has been drafted in accordance to the agreed agenda (Annex I).

1. Introduction

List of participants can be found in Annex II. Participants agreed to record the meeting.

2. Charter approval

The background and the objectives of the working group were explained to the new members. As stated in the charter the working group will develop proposals of actions implementable in the short and medium term on how to strengthen the IGF and to position it strategically in the evolving digital cooperation landscape. This will be done considering the options given by the IGF current mandate (par.72 of Tunis Agenda) and creating a liaison with the group of UN Secretary General on digital cooperation.

Anriette went through the paragraphs of the charter to collect inputs and comments from participants. Following are the main inputs received.

1) "PURPOSE AND APPROACH" – PARAGRAPH 1

Most of the participants agreed that the implementation activities could be carried on by the MAG, the IGF Secretariat or from other institutions and organizations who are taking part to the working group as it has been initiated and approved by the MAG. Nevertheless there was a request to get further details on how the implementation activities will be handled and if the implementation process will need an approval by the MAG.

It was observed that representatives from UNDESA and from the office of Fabrizio Hochschild should participate to the working group, as having all relevant actors discussing on what can be implemented could help to make more progress. Further the working group should work more closely to UNDESA and the group of UN SG involved on the roadmap for digital cooperation.

Some people observed that the objectives of the working group have several commonalities with par. 93 and 94 of the Roadmap for digital cooperation. It was highlighted the importance for the working group to support the implementation of par. 93 a) of the roadmap. Someone asked to underline this aspect in the charter.

It was also requested to specify that the working group should explore extensively the IGF strengths and the shortcomings.

2) “PROPOSED WG ACTIVITIES IN 2020” – PARAGRAPH 3

There were several requests to be more specific on the activities of the working group related to “*Act as a liaison group for the IGF MAG with initiatives emerging from the UNSG’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation*”. Someone observed that the concept of “liaison” will not be clear until the Options Paper is issued. It was suggested to be more proactive and to respond to the co-champions of Recommendation 5A/B with a short statement before the Options Paper is released.

Someone proposed to operationalize the “strategic and empowered multi-stakeholder high-level body” (93a)” and to send it as a contribution to the roadmap.

It was asked to participants if research papers could be included in the activities of the working group, explaining that the object of the research will be linked to IGF mandate.

Someone observed that could be useful to have a research paper focused on the HLP process and on the models that should result in more concrete outcomes being formulated by the community and not just by the governments.

Someone reinforced the importance to have research papers linked to IGF mandate, as it is important to make judgements on the issues IGF had to deal with since its inception, like focus of the agenda, participation, interaction between IGF community and other policy communities, the way IGF can improve multidisciplinary and so on.

Someone expressed interest to initiate and facilitate a broader discussion on par. 93 of the roadmap of digital cooperation.

There was a suggestion to inform the co-champions about the working group activities after the approval of the charter.

3. Priorities and next steps

- 1) Approve the charter. Anriette will send the revised version to the working group. Approval to be reached by email.
- 2) Participants to comment on the Google doc and to propose implementable activities.
- 3) Participants to propose via email the subject of the online discussions to be activated.
- 4) Anriette to share the research paper she mentioned during the call.
- 5) Next call will take place in the third week of July. The results of the doodle poll will be communicate via email.

Annex 1: Agenda

- Introduction
- Charter approval
- Digital cooperation roadmap: impact on the working group activities.
- Priorities and next steps
- AoB

Annex II: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- 1) Anriette Esterhuysen (MAG chair, WG co-chair)
- 2) Concettina Cassa (Mag Member, WG co-chair)
- 3) Chengetai Masango (IGF Secretariat)
- 4) Susan Chalmers (NTIA, MAG Member)
- 5) Bill Drake (University of Zurich)
- 6) Ben Wallis (Microsoft, MAG Member)
- 7) Paul Blaker (UK Government)
- 8) Jorge Cancio (Swiss Government)
- 9) Giacomo Mazzone (in a personal capacity)
- 10) Jody Pandey (Georgia Institute Electronic, India)
- 11) Matthew Shears (ICANN Board, in a personal capacity)
- 12) Timea Suto (ICC, MAG Member)
- 13) David Souter (Independent Researcher)
- 14) Mary Uduma (Mag Member)
- 15) Peace Oliver Amuge
- 16) Raquel Gatto (ISOC)
- 17) Raul Icheberria (LACNIC)