



**14th Annual Internet Governance Meeting
25 - 29 November 2019
Berlin, Germany**

Post-Meeting Report for Funded Participants

Please submit the report no later than 15 December 2019 to Ms. Lima Madomi from the IGF Secretariat at: lima.madomi@un.org

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- 1. How would you describe your participation at the IGF meeting? (max. 150 words)**

My participation in the IGF was an enriching experience. This was my second IGF, however, this time around, I represented the MAG of my country and not an IGO as in my first IGF experience. This allowed me the opportunity to attend as many sessions as I could on different thematic issues, as I wanted to hear as many perspectives as possible on issues such as misinformation, cybersecurity and data protection.

- 2. What is the most important benefit you have gained at the meeting? (max. 300 words)**

The most important benefit I gained was having the opportunity to learn about different experiences from both developed and developing countries on internet governance issues.

This included ways in which different countries organise national IGFs, the topics which are relevant to them, and the resources available for capacity building. Coming from a non-technical background, and working in a field outside of IG, while however serving on the TT MAG, participation allowed me to better understand issues which I lacked familiarity with. Being a new member of the TT MAG, it also provided a more in-depth understanding of the NRIs.

Physical participation also allowed for the opportunity to meet with various stakeholders, including those from donor organisations, and to establish contacts which can help build the IG community in Trinidad and Tobago.

3. What inputs do you plan to bring to your community from the meeting? (max. 300 words)

There are a few ways whereby what I learnt from the meeting would help me as a member of the TT MAG. The Trinidad and Tobago IGF is scheduled for January 2020 and as a leader of the session on “trust in the digital age”, I was able to learn a lot about misinformation and fake news, including steps to verify accuracy of online media reports. The information gathered during the sessions I attended, not only provided more ideas for discussion during the TTIGF, but also, provided resources which I can share with colleagues in Trinidad and Tobago. It was indeed helpful to learn that guides on cybersecurity and elections was being developed by the Commonwealth Secretariat, for instance.

The experiences shared about youth IGFs would also be something I will share as the TT MAG is seeking to increase youth participation in the TTIGF. Apart from youth ambassadors and country representatives sharing their experiences, I also met persons who run programmes targeting youth such as Caribbean Girls Hack. Such programmes and initiatives can be beneficial to Trinidad and Tobago, therefore, the potential partnerships formed in Berlin would certainly prove valuable.

4. Briefly outline your participation at the IGF meeting, including attended sessions, gained knowledge, networking, recommendations for improvements. (max. 500 words)

Some of the sessions attended included:

- High Level Internet Governance Exchange Panels on Data Governance and Safety
- WS 85/268 Misinformation, Responsibilities & Trust
- OF17 Formulating Policy Options for Big Data and AI Development
- OF29 PSI: How Media Could Fix the Cyberspace

- WS 389 Sex Work, Drug Use, Harm Reduction, and the Internet
- WS 236 A Universal Data Protection Framework? How to Make it Work?
- OF16 Collaborative Multistakeholder Approaches in Cybersecurity
- Emerging technologies and their interfaces with inclusion, security and human rights (NRIs Perspectives)
- WS 175 Beyond Ethics Councils: How to Really do AI Governance
- Multidisciplinary frameworks for policy-making in the digital age
- WS 308 Sustainability of NRIs: Strategy for Future IGF
- Dynamic Coalition on Small Island Developing States in the Internet Economy

While the discussions were very good, I found that with some sessions, particularly the NRI sessions, a lot of information is more or less the same, meaning that representatives would share the same updates at the various sessions. For the sessions attended, particularly in relation to data protection, one finding was that most of the sessions involved panellists from developed countries such as China, and while the resources shared are useful to an extent, it does not always reflect the realities of developing and small island societies. Wider representation is therefore required, or perhaps there needs to be greater encouragement for developing states or organisations operating in developing nations to organise workshop and open forums.

Date of submission:
11/12/19

Signature:
Anita Sohan