

## **MAG Working Group on IGF Strengthening and Strategy**

### **Online Meeting XXI**

**3 June 2021 at 1 p.m. UTC**

### **Summary Report**

The 21<sup>st</sup> virtual meeting of the IGF MAG's Working Group (WG) on IGF Strengthening and Strategy (WG-Strategy) was held on 3 June 2021 at 1 p.m. UTC. The meeting was hosted and moderated by the Group's co-chair Livia Walpen with a support of the co-chair Amrita Choudhury. The list of participants is annexed to this report. The recording of the meeting is available only to the meeting participants upon request.

The co-chair opened the meeting by introducing the agenda:

#### Agenda

1. Results of the questionnaire for the MAG: Comments and follow-up action
2. Comments on the Preparatory Phase document of the IGF 2021
3. MHLB open consultation (June 14)
4. Update on behalf of the Office of the Envoy on Technology.
5. AOB
  - a. Update from the IGF Secretariat/UNDESA on the MHLB
  - b. Update the IGF Secretariat/UNDESA on the Parliamentary Track.
  - c. Youth Involvement in the IGF process

#### **1. Results of the questionnaire for the MAG: Comments and follow-up action**

The deadline for responding to the [questionnaire](#) had been extended. Titti Cassa presented the – in the meantime – 25 final responses of the MAG members. The objectives and mandate of the working group were confirmed, particularly with regards to the implementation of the UNSG's Roadmap on Digital Cooperation

The participants discussed the idea of a mapping exercise that was proposed in the last WG strategy call as a follow-up to the questionnaire: The idea is to look at all the eight areas of the roadmap and link them with the work already being done in the IGF. This would help to raise awareness of the IGF's existing work and avoid duplication. The mapping exercise could be conducted involving the IGF Secretariat and the Office of the Tech envoy in a flexible and informal manner.

It was decided to form a small drafting group. The following people agreed to volunteer: Paula, Poncelet, Tereza, Nigel, Titti, Amrita, Jorge, Livia, Jason, Anriette.

#### **2. Comments on the Preparatory Phase document of the IGF 2021**

Participants discussed the preparatory phase document of the IGF 2021, which is a MAG document. The background for this undertaking is that Anriette as MAG Chair suggested that it would be helpful to receive the comments by the WG-Strategy members on this document.

The participants generally welcomed the document and did not have many comments.

It was said that it would be important to focus the preparatory phase and not spread it out over a too long time period (maybe 3 months would be too long)? Maybe it would be better to bring it closer to the IGF, not start too early.

Also, the IGF participants' perspectives should be taken into account as much as possible, in particular their time resources and willingness to participate in the preparatory phase.

Regarding the parliamentary track, it was said that more clarity is needed on how it will proceed and what the mandate of this track is. It was emphasized that it is important to involve parliamentarians as early as possible in the preparatory process, but maybe by now it is already a bit late? Also, the December date for the IGF does not seem to be an ideal timing for parliamentarians.

Regarding youth, it was noted that youth involvement should be mentioned specifically in the preparatory phase document. The same goes for the IGF newcomer track.

Participants agreed that the minutes of this meeting will serve as a feedback to the MAG Chair to the preparatory phase document.

### **3. MHLB open consultation (June 14)**

Chengetai and Jason informed that there will be another consultation on the Multistakeholder High-level Body (MHLB) on 14 June, where UNDESA will present its suggestion/model on how to implement the MHLB. Chengetai said that this further consultation will take place because it has been requested from various sides. It should serve as an opportunity for any final comments by stakeholders in this process.

After this additional round of consultations on 14 June, UNDESA plans to hand over its suggestion/model on the MHLB implementation to the UNSG. It will then be the decision of the UNSG how to proceed further and how to implement the MHLB.

Many participants of the WG strategy asked if a document summarizing UNDESA's suggestion/model on the MHLB could be shared in written form before 14 June. Chengetai said he will check, as several people requested this.

### **4. Update on behalf of the Office of the Envoy on Technology.**

Jason Munyan gave an update to the WG Strategy members on the activities and developments regarding the UN SG's Roadmap on Digital Cooperation.

He informed that the Office of the Tech Envoy will be involved in different sessions at RightsCon that will take place soon, among others on civil society engagement and Africa.

In this regard, Adam shared that he is also organizing a session at RightsCon on the recent EU internet legislation.

Furthermore, Jason invited everybody to the consultations on the MHLB on 14 June.

### **5. AOB**

#### **a. Update from the IGF Secretariat/UNDESA on the MHLB**

No additional updates were provided by the IGF Secretariat/UNDESA.

**b. Update the IGF Secretariat/UNDESA on the Parliamentary Track.**

The parliamentary track was already discussed under agenda point 2.

**c. Youth Involvement in the IGF process**

Anja gave an update on the preparations for the Youth Summit that is planned. It will have high-level participation. Also, there will be an online youth gathering before hand.

**Update by Missions Publiques**

Antoine from Missions Publiques gave an update on their initiative with the EU Commission, the EU Council and the Parliament. They will organize a citizen's deliberation with 200 randomly selected people on the topic "digital decade & future of digitalization in Europe". It will take place in 24 languages. This process might also be relevant for the IGF. One idea is to present the results at the IGF 2021.

**Next meeting:** the next virtual meeting of the WG is planned for **17 June - 1 PM UTC**.

**Annex 1:**

**List of participants**

1. Adam Peake, MAG Member,
2. Amrita Choudhury, Group's Co-Chair, CCAOI, MAG Member
3. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
4. Antoine Vergne ( Missions Publiques)
5. Ben Wallis, Microsoft, Independent Expert, past MAG Member
6. Carlos Alberto Afonso, Executive Director, Nupef Institute, MAG Member
7. Chengetai Masango, IGF Secretariat
8. Concettina Cassa, Group's Co-Chair, Government of Italy, past MAG Member
9. Eileen Cejas, Youth SIG / Coordinator of Youth IGF Argentina & Youth LACIGF, Independent expert
10. Fiona Alexander, Independent expert
11. Flavio R. Wagner, CGI.br and Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
12. Jason Munyan, Office of the Envoy on Technology
13. Jorge Cancio, Government of Switzerland
14. Joyce Chen , MAG Member, APNIC
15. Jim Prendergast, Independent Expert
16. Livia Walpen, Group's Co-Chair , Government of Switzerland, MAG Member (host country rep)
17. Markus Kummer, IGFSa
18. Nigel Hickson Government of UK
19. Paul Charlton, Government of Canada, MAG Member
20. Paula Martins, APC, Independent expert
21. Poncelet Ileleji, Independent Expert
22. Roman Chukov, Group's Co-Chair , Mag Member, Russian Government
23. Timea Suto (ICC)
24. Tereza Horejsova, MAG Member
25. Wim Degezelle ( IGF Secretariat)

26. Wolfgang Kleinwächter, University of Aarhus