

**IGF 2018 Second Open Consultations and Multistakeholder  
Advisory Group (MAG) Meeting  
11-13 July 2018  
UN Office at Geneva (UNOG), Switzerland**

**Executive Summary: Announcements, Decisions Taken and Next Steps:**

- *Taking into account the MAG's prior agreement to reduce the number of parallel tracks and redundant sessions in the annual meeting programme, as well as a three-day meeting schedule, the Secretariat determined that approximately 60 slots would be available for workshops. Based on the MAG's further agreement to take a more thematic approach to the programme, a 'hybrid' process was adopted for the workshop selection:*
  - *Acceptance of the top 40 scored proposals, as evaluated by the MAG, regardless of theme.*
  - *Identification of an additional 20 proposals to balance the thematic proportions of the selection, using the top-ranked proposals within each of the eight themes. The re-balancing exercise would also address any omissions or under-representation of the subthemes, and any strong imbalance in terms of the regional, stakeholder and gender balance across all speakers.*

*This has resulted in a list of approximately 70 proposals tentatively approved, with some potential diversity rebalancing or consolidation still to take place.*

- *It was decided that all eight themes – 'Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy', 'Digital Inclusion & Accessibility', 'Emerging Technologies', 'Evolution of Internet Governance', 'Human Rights, Gender & Youth', 'Development, Innovation & Economic Issues', 'Media & Content', and 'Technical & Operational Topics' – would be represented in the programme as tracks, and that each would have a dedicated thematic session in what was previously a 'main session' format.*
- *The thematic sessions will have roughly equivalent durations, at 80 minutes each.*
- *In response to their requests, IGF National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs) and Dynamic Coalitions (DCs) were accorded thematic sessions, respectively on 'Evolution of Internet Governance' with an emphasis on multistakeholderism, and 'Development, Innovation & Economic Issues' with an emphasis on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These communities will work with relevant MAG members to organize the sessions as they will be integrated with the Thematic (main) Sessions normally organized by the MAG.*
- *The final title for the meeting will be inspired by or incorporate a proposed title from the Government of France: 'Digital Revolution Requires Trust'.*
- *The formation of the UN Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (HLDPC) was officially announced in parallel with the meeting, on 12 July. The Executive Director of the Secretariat for the HLDPC and Ambassador of India, Mr. Amandeep Gill, briefed the MAG on 13 July.*
- *The IGF's Programme & Technology Manager, Mr. Chengetai Masango, was congratulated on his new temporary position with the HLDPC Secretariat.*

**Overall Summary**

1. The Second Open Consultations and MAG Meeting of the 2018 IGF preparatory cycle took place from 11-13 July at the UN Office at Geneva (UNOG), Switzerland. A virtual meeting platform (Webex), live [transcription and simultaneous webcasting](#) were made available to both in-room and online participants. An electronic queuing system to take the floor, developed by the IGF Secretariat, was also in place and applied equally to in-room and online participants. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Lynn St. Amour, with Ambassador for Digital Affairs of France, Mr. David Martinon, co-chairing as

representative of the IGF 2018 Host Country. Mr. Chengetai Masango represented the Secretariat, and Mr. Wai Min Kwok represented the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

2. The [agenda](#) for the three-day meeting focused on advancing preparations for the 2018 IGF, in particular reviewing and making a final selection of workshop proposals, identifying thematic main sessions, and assessing other components of the programme such as open forums, Dynamic Coalition (DC) and collaborative National and Regional Initiative (NRI) sessions, the requests for which have been submitted to the Secretariat. Developments in the work of intersessional groups – DCs, BPFs and the fourth phase of the policy initiative on ‘Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s) (CENB IV) – and NRIs were also discussed. Additionally, the work of the five MAG Working Groups was also reviewed.

3. The MAG Chair, Ms. St. Amour, formally opened the Open Consultations portion of the meeting and introduced the panel, including Mr. Kwok from UNDESA and Mr. Frédéric Paruta, Counsellor with the Permanent Mission of France to UNOG, representing the IGF 2018 Host Country. In his opening remarks on behalf of UNDESA, Mr. Kwok welcomed MAG members and expressed appreciation to the Government of France for their generous [hosting of this year’s meeting](#). Appreciation was also expressed for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)’s support. Mr. Kwok noted that the next few days of MAG deliberations would be critical for determining the themes and overall content of the annual meeting programme. Referring to an anticipated UN Secretary-General High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (HLPDC), Mr. Kwok announced that the IGF Secretariat’s Chengetai Masango would take up a temporary position related to the initiative and warmly congratulated Mr. Masango on his new role. In his opening address, Mr. Paruta underscored the Government of France’s pleasure at hosting the annual meeting, as well as the clear interest in Internet governance issues in his country, including by the President, Emmanuel Macron – on topics such as net neutrality, platform responsibility, misinformation, gender issues, and Internet & counter-terrorism, to name a few.

4. The Secretariat then gave an overview of progress achieved thus far in developing the IGF 2018 programme. It reported that in response to the public [Call for Workshops](#), it had received a record number of [359 proposals](#), 344 of which were evaluated by the MAG following a standard screening. Of the [eight themes](#) from which proposers were asked to choose, ‘Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy’ emerged as the most popular, in line with a [Call for Issues](#) that had been conducted before the Call for Workshops. The Secretariat observed a good gender balance in the process, with a near even split of men and women listed among the workshop organizers and speakers. It also reported that a high number of [open forum requests](#) was received, with a tentative list of 30 considered eligible to obtain a slot in the programme. [15 requests for slots](#) meeting eligibility requirements were also received by DCs, with a further four to six slots for collaborative sessions preliminarily requested by NRIs. In addition, the highest-ever number of [requests for IGF Village booths](#) was received, at 82, for an expected 56 booths available at UNESCO. It was said that the [call for IGF remote hubs](#), participants joining the meeting online as groups, was now open until 15 October. Mr. Masango shared that the facilities at UNESCO, the venue for the meeting, were suitable, and that the necessary technical enhancements would be made to meet the IGF’s requirements for online participation and live webcasting.

5. Mr. Masango also informed that due to several considerations (notably complementary events and venue availability), [‘Day 0’ community events](#) would not be able to take place at the IGF 2018 venue. Stakeholders wishing to hold such events could self-organize and the details would be publicized on the IGF website. It was reported that during Day 0, UNESCO would hold an event on Artificial Intelligence; as the day, 11 November, coincides with Armistice Day, it was said a number of other events would be

taking place around Paris, including the start of the [Paris Peace Forum](#) organized by the French Government.

6. The respective facilitators of intersessional groups – IGF [BPFs](#), [CENB IV](#) and [DCs](#) – were invited to update participants on developments in their activities. The various BPFs, on [‘Artificial Intelligence, Big Data & Internet of Things’](#), [‘Cybersecurity’](#), [‘Gender & Access’](#) and [‘Local Content’](#), all reported they had held at least one meeting with their members and were accelerating outreach. Some were looking to expand their membership, as with Local Content, which said it was engaging institutions like UNESCO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), while continuing BPFs, such as Gender & Access, were examining their prior work to identify additional challenges that should be addressed. The Cybersecurity BPF shared that it had begun substantive work and has issued a call for volunteers to contribute to an initial research paper. The facilitator for [CENB IV](#) said a call for contributions to its output paper would go out soon, and that case studies to support the work were already being collected.

7. Regarding DCs, participants were encouraged to consult a [comprehensive briefing document](#), posted to the MAG list and IGF website, which details DCs’ recent individual and collective work. The document highlights the latest reports and activities by DCs, their common objectives and standards of work, as determined through regular coordination meetings, and gives an overview of how coalitions were formed and how they work. The co-facilitator for DCs relayed the groups’ shared request to hold a main session, as they have done in the past few IGFs, specifically on the theme, ‘Development, Innovation & Economic Issues’ with an emphasis on the SDGs, as well as for 90-minute individual session slots. The co-facilitator further reported that two new coalitions had joined the community of DCs, on [‘Schools of Internet Governance’](#) and [‘Small Island Developing States in the Internet Economy’](#).

8. Participants were briefed on the work of NRIs by the Secretariat Focal Point. The [network of NRIs](#) has continued to grow, it was reported, at more than 100 to date, including groups focused on youth beginning to participate in the community. A couple of key NRI meetings in 2018, some of which the Secretariat was able to join in person, were referenced – the Afghanistan IGF in Kabul, and the European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG) in Tbilisi, Georgia. Through regular joint calls hosted by the Secretariat, NRIs had also agreed to co-organize specific activities during the annual meeting, namely requesting a main session on ‘Evolution of Internet Governance’ with a focus on multistakeholderism, and up to six thematic ‘collaborative sessions’. Positive synergies with a number of BPFs and the CENB initiative were also highlighted.

9. Further briefings were given by the co-facilitators of each of the [MAG working groups](#), respectively on IGF Improvements ([WG-IMP](#)); Outreach and Engagement ([WGOE](#)); Workshop Review and Evaluation Process ([WG-WREP](#)); Multiyear Strategic Work Programme ([WG-WMP](#)); and Funding ([WG-FUN](#)). Specifically, it was said that WG-WMP was discussing the potential for more concrete outputs or recommendations coming out of the IGF, their possible implications and status, while WG-FUN, noting that the IGF Trust Fund remains significantly underfunded versus the approved Project Document, is in the process of identifying a small number of potential donors as part of a targeted fundraising strategy.

10. Related to fundraising, a short briefing on the IGF’s Trust Fund was given by UNDESA, the [presentation](#) for which can be viewed online.

11. At the close of the first day of open consultations, participants heard updates from a number of Internet-governance related entities on their work and its relevance to the IGF. Short statements were made by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the European Commission, the Internet Society (ISOC), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), UNESCO and the Association for Progressive

Communications (APC). Further, an update was given by the Secretariat and the Chair on various activities with the World Economic Forum (WEF).

12. The second day of the meeting, which marked the first formal day of MAG discussions, opened with remarks from Mr. David Martinon, Ambassador of France for Digital Affairs, and IGF 2018 Host Country Co-Chair. Mr. Martinon reflected on the opportunities that might present themselves through the IGF's coincidental timing with the Paris Peace Forum, a meeting dedicated to the concept of good governance in a number of policy areas. Beyond synergies in terms of content, Mr. Martinon underlined the French Government's intention to maximize high-level participation across both meetings, and mentioned that Heads of State and Government were already being invited for the Paris Peace Forum. A TechGov Summit, also happening in the same period as the IGF in Paris, might represent a further opportunity for engaging the private sector, which has been underrepresented in recent IGFs.

13. Together with Host Country representatives, the MAG was invited to brainstorm a title for the meeting. Several suggestions were made, many of which revolved around concepts of trust and accountability in the digital world, the future of digital societies, and the future of the Internet. There was much support for the broad ideas expressed in the suggestions, with members agreeing to arrive at a final title using the Host Country's formulation of 'Digital Revolution Requires Trust'.

14. Members then took up the issue of workshops, reviewing a [presentation on their evaluations](#) by the Secretariat. The presentation focused on isolating the top-40-ranked proposals, proposing them as tentatively 'accepted' into the programme based on their high scores, as well as examining, as a priority, their thematic distribution, and as a further consideration, the diversity of speakers (regions, stakeholder group and gender) within them. The analysis found some thematic under-representation with respect to 'Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy', which had been the most popular theme in both the overall pool of workshop proposals, and in 'Human Rights, Gender & Youth'. The analysis further found excellent internal diversity among the proposals, in that submitters had successfully diversified the regions, stakeholder groups and gender of their speakers, as well as good gender balance across the proposals; nevertheless, there remained an over-representation of speakers from the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) overall. Members discussed potential approaches to redressing these imbalances. For thematic balance, some suggested a process to collect the top-ranked proposals by theme, although most were in favour of retaining the group of 40 as a preliminarily approved list of workshops. It was agreed a re-balancing would be done to arrive at a final number of approximately 60 workshops – the proportion of workshops the [2018 schedule](#) would be able to accommodate, according to Secretariat calculations.

15. Based on discussions from the previous day and the Secretariat's findings on the top 40 proposals, during the second and final day of MAG deliberations, the Secretariat submitted a rebalanced list of proposals. Without eliminating any from the list of core 40, additions were made to the most under-subscribed themes, bringing the final number of workshops to roughly 70. This list found much support and was agreed on as tentatively approved, with the understanding that some consolidation would take place to bring it in line with the schedule requirements and also recognizing that this process meant some themes were oversubscribed relative to their respective balance in the workshop submissions. Suggestions for mergers and additions where speakers were under-represented would also be taken into consideration, including suggestions from Host Country representatives. It was decided the list of eligible open forums, available online, would also be examined for potential areas of consolidation. Eligible and tentatively approved requests for DC sessions would be included and featured as intersessional or community work.

16. Members also discussed the composition and future organization of 'main' or thematic sessions. In keeping with the MAG's desire to shape the 2018 programme in a more thematic way, it was agreed that each of the eight themes originally identified in the Call for Issues earlier in the year would have a dedicated thematic session, namely on: 'Cybersecurity, Trust & Privacy'; 'Digital Inclusion & Accessibility'; 'Emerging Technologies'; 'Evolution of Internet Governance'; 'Human Rights, Gender & Youth'; 'Development, Innovation & Economic Issues'; 'Media & Content'; and 'Technical & Operational Topics'. It was further agreed that NRIs and DCs which had made requests for a thematic session space, respectively on 'Evolution of Internet Governance' and 'Development, Innovation & SDGs', would be granted this space and were asked to co-organize the sessions with interested MAG members as Thematic sessions are normally organized by the MAG.

17. Finally, on the closing day of the meeting, members were briefed by Mr. Amandeep Gill, Ambassador of India and newly appointed Executive Director of the Secretariat of the HLPDC. The HLPDC had been formally inaugurated the prior day by the Secretary-General. Mr. Gill explained that the one-year mandate of the panel was to issue recommendations on enhancing digital cooperation, based on a survey the secretariat and panel would conduct of current cooperation models and their treatment of cross-disciplinary digital policy issues. This would further consist in a multi-regional and multistakeholder consultative process, with the panel first scheduled to meet to discuss its findings on 24-25 September. Mr. Gill recognized the HLPDC's many areas of substantive commonality and complementarity with the IGF, and looked forward to inputs from the IGF community.

18. To further their discussions, and conclude on any pending items, the MAG agreed to continue discussions through its regular virtual meetings. The [calendar of MAG meetings](#) has been updated to include calls scheduled through the end of August/September.

## List of Participants

<b>MAG Chair</b>			
Ms.	St. Amour	Lynn	Internet Matters
<b>MAG Host Country Co-Chair</b>			
Mr.	Martinon	David	Ambassador of France for Digital Affairs
<b>MAG Members</b>			
Ms.	Abdulla	Rasha	The American University in Cairo
Ms.	Bou harb	Zeina	Ogero Telecom
Ms.	Cadena	Sylvia	APNIC Foundation
Mr.	Candia Ibarra	Miguel	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay
Mr.	Carvell	Mark	United Kingdom Government - Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Mr.	Casasbuenas	Julián	Colnodo/APC
Ms.	Cassa	Concettina	Agency for Digital Italy
Ms.	Chung	Jennifer	DotAsia Organisation
Ms.	Croll	Jutta	Digital Opportunities Foundation / Stiftung Digitale Chancen
Mr.	Donkor	Wisdom Kwasi	Ghana Open Data Initiative Project
Ms.	Erramuspe	Alejandra	Agencia de Gobierno Electrónico y Sociedad de la Información y el Conocimiento, Uruguay
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Ms.	Galstyan	Lianna	ISOC Armenia
Ms.	Gatto	Raquel	ISOC
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Mr.	Ilishebo	Michael	Zambia Police Service
Mr.	Jevtovic	Danko	Jugodata
Mr.	Lo	Mamadou	CNCAS
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Mr.	Sabir	Sumon Ahmed	Fiber@Home Limited
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Mr.	Fonseca	Rodrigo	Government of Brazil
Mr.	Utoyo	Donny	Government of Indonesia
Ms.	Walpen	Livia	Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), Switzerland



<b>Other Participants</b>			
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Mr.	Hernández Wocker	Juan Carlos	Government of Mexico
Mr.	Hickson	Nigel	ICANN
Mr.	Kummer	Markus	IGFSA
Mr.	Mazzone	Giacomo	European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
Mr.	Paruta	Frédéric	Mission permanente de la France à Genève
Mr.	Prendergast	Jim	The Galway Strategy Group
Ms.	Scialpi	Valentina	European Commission
Mr.	Vergne	Antoine	Missions Publiques
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Mr.	Badreddine	Kemmiti	FREE
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Ms.	Hoang	Minh Hang	Government of Viet Nam
Mr.	Islam	Mohammad Ariful	UN SDG Action Campaign
Mr.	Lopez-Barajas	Gonzalo	Telefónica
Mr.	Lucena	Claudio	Researcher, FCT Portugal, Professor, UEPB, Brazil
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Mr.	McKnight	Glenn	Foundation for Building Sustainable Community
Ms.	Modey	Uffa	Eko-Konnect Research and Education Network Initiative
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