CHARTER FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON IGF STRENGTHENING AND STRATEGY
January 2024

PURPOSE AND APPROACH

The Internet Governance Forum Multistakeholder Advisory Group (IGF MAG) has established a Working Group on IGF strengthening and strategy (hereafter referred to as the WG-Strategy).

Its purpose is to support the MAG in developing actions, implementable in the short and medium term, to strengthen the IGF and position it strategically in the evolving digital cooperation landscape.

The WG-Strategy's starting point is two-fold:

1) The mandate outlined for the IGF in the Tunis Agenda (2005) and how the IGF can best fulfil that mandate, taking into account improvements and evolutionary developments since its inception, and with a forward-looking perspective.

2) Broader discussions on digital cooperation, including inter alia the UN Secretary General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation (2020) and Our Common Agenda (2021), which identified priority issues of digital cooperation and Internet governance, and the need to evolve the multistakeholder Internet governance approach to meet new and emerging challenges and requirements.

The Working Group will serve as a space to discuss, strategise and develop materials to support the MAG in its advocacy for the IGF ecosystem and approach. This includes pro-actively identifying opportunities to position and strengthen the IGF, responding to identified gaps in the functioning of the IGF, focusing on those improvements which can be implemented by the MAG/IGF itself, while, at the same time analysing and responding to suggestions from stakeholders in the UN and beyond, and ensuring effective liaison between such processes and the IGF MAG and Secretariat.

SCOPE OF WORK

This WG-Strategy's scope of work will be primarily concerned with the following aspects of IGF strategy and strengthening:

1. Effective follow-up on proposed actions and recommendations emerging from IGF-based discussions
2. Broad recognition, visibility, and awareness of the IGF, including its intersessional work
3. IGF outreach to and cooperation with institutional partners in digital cooperation, including the ecosystem of national and regional Internet governance initiatives (NRIs)
4. Increased IGF participation from governments, parliamentarians, and leadership from other stakeholder groups
5. IGF accessibility and inclusiveness, in particular to actors from developing countries

6. Capacity development
7. Long-term financial sustainability of the IGF

Please refer to the Annual Work Plan for more detail on the specific issues being discussed and considered by the WG-Strategy.

MEMBERSHIP
Membership in the WG-Strategy is open to members of the IGF MAG and other interested members of the IGF community. Participation in the meetings (both virtual and in-person), task/project teams, and any other internal structures or processes is open and unrestricted.

Anyone may join the WG-Strategy mailing list [here](#).

The WG-Strategy will be co-facilitated by a team of up to four people, including at least two current members of the MAG.

WORKING METHODOLOGY
The WG-Strategy will endeavour to meet virtually once a fortnight, with details shared ahead of time to the mailing list. Additional hybrid meetings of the working group may be organised adjacent to IGF events and MAG meetings.

Specific tasks may be undertaken by sub-groups, which will be coordinated by the co-facilitators.

Relevant documents, including meeting minutes, will be stored [here](#).

REFERENCES
The set of background documents and inputs for this Working Group includes:

1) [CSTD Working Group on Improvements to the IGF Report](#) (2012)
2) [IGF Retreat: Advancing the 10-Year Mandate of the Internet Governance Forum](#) (2016)
3) [IGF Expert Group Meeting](#) (2022)
4) [MAG Multi-year Strategic Work Programme Working Group](#)
5) [MAG Working Group on IGF Improvements](#)
6) [UN General Assembly "WSIS+10" Resolution](#) (2015)
7) [UN SG's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation](#) (2020)
8) [UN HLPDC Report: The Age of Digital Interdependence](#) (2019)
9) [UN HLPDC: Options Paper](#) (2020)
10) [UN HLPDC: Following up on Recommendation 5 A/B (Contributions)](#) (2020)
11) [UN SG's Report: Our Common Agenda](#) (2021)
12) [Our Common Agenda - Policy Brief 5: A Global Digital Compact](#) (2023)