

First IGF 2024 Open Consultations

27 February 2024

Statement from Marielza Oliveira, UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO

Thank you very much. I appreciate the opportunity provided by the Secretariat, Chair Carol, and our hosts. I'd like to give an update on four key developments in the digital ecosystems area.

Firstly, you may remember that in 2022 we initiated consultations on guidelines for the regulation of Internet platforms through an initiative called Internet for Trust. We received approximately 10,000 comments from 132 countries over a year of consultation. By the end of last year, we launched these guidelines at a press conference and began the implementation process. UNESCO has been named a knowledge partner on information integrity based on these guidelines, supported by a group of think tanks to advance the guidelines' implementation globally.

Additionally, we've started reviewing the Internet Universality Indicators within the ROAM-X framework, which embodies our four principles for Internet development: Human Rights-Based, Open to All, Accessible by All, and Multi-stakeholder Led. We're inviting everyone to contribute to this review process.

We're also expanding our work on civil servants' capacity development. Not only are we continuing to expand the MOOCs available for the judiciary, but we've also begun working with legislatures, in partnership with the IPU, to provide capacity development on artificial intelligence for these regulators.

Lastly, during UNESCO's 42nd General Conference, our Member States tasked us with conducting a forward-looking review of the WSIS process to propose a new vision. This consultation process will begin on the 6th of March, and we're inviting everyone to join. We aim to host a conference in February 2025 to further this process.

Let me conclude here, and thank you for your time.