INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM 2024
NATIONAL, (SUB)REGIONAL AND YOUTH IGF INITIATIVES
- Virtual Meeting VII | 29 July 2024 at 14:00 UTC -

SUMMARY REPORT

Action Items:

- The draft title for the session is: Evolving Role of NRIs in Multistakeholder Digital Governance

- Consultations on the title continue over NRIs mailing list until 13 August

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- The seventh virtual meeting of the National, Sub-regional, Regional and Youth IGF Initiatives (NRIs) of the IGF 2024 preparatory cycle was hosted on 29 July 2024 at 14:00 UTC.

- The IGF Secretariat's NRIs Focal Point hosted the meeting. The final, adopted version of the Agenda is attached to this document as Annex A1 and a list of meeting participants as Annex A2. The list of meeting inputs is attached as Annex A3.

- The Host opened the meeting by noting that the objective was to advance the preparations for the NRIs main session to be held at the 19th annual IGF meeting in Riyadh from 15 to 19 December 2024.

- The discussion resulted in several action points summarised below.

Summary of points

1. A vibrant discussion exceeded the allocated time, focusing primarily on finalizing the title for the NRIs main session.

2. Participants reviewed over twenty proposals for the title received during the consultation period, all available in the joint shared document. Several participants advocated for including the terms "NRIs" and "multistakeholder" in the title, to ensure everyone can understand from the title what is the key session's focus.

3. Most of the discussion focused on whether to use the terms "Internet governance," "Digital governance," or "Internet governance and digital policy processes", the latter being suggested as a compromise between the first two terms. Two ad-hoc polls were conducted during the call to gauge the group's preference for these terms. The consensus leaned towards using "digital governance" as it is more self-explanatory, particularly for some stakeholder groups such as Governments. It was also noted that "digital" translates more easily into some languages and helps avoid the misconception that ''Internet governance'' is solely about technical issues.

4. However, there were strong arguments in favour of retaining "Internet governance," as it is a well-established term within the existing normative framework and enjoys robust institutional and community support. Ultimately, it was agreed to use "digital" in the title for simplicity, while both terms will be referenced in the session proposal and agenda.

5. To support the meeting's deliberations, an [article]¹ written by a well-known Internet governance expert was referenced as it explains the nature of the two terms.

6. Participants proposed a draft title: "Evolving Role of NRIs in Multistakeholder Digital Governance" for further final consultations.

7. The term "bottom-up" was suggested for inclusion, but due to the title's maximum length of 60 characters, it could not be accommodated. However, "bottom-up" and, as noted above, "Internet governance" will be prominently featured in the session proposal.

8. The NRIs will continue consultations over the next two weeks (until 13 August) regarding the draft title. The Host confirmed that the proposed title, as a working draft, will be included in the draft IGF schedule.

9. Since the meeting ran out of time to cover the remaining agenda items, it was agreed that the planning will continue through the NRIs mailing list.

Next Steps

10. The IGF Secretariat will send the action points to the mailing list after the meeting for a final endorsement, followed by a summary report.

11. NRIs coordinators are invited to share their feedback on the proposed draft title until 13 August.

12. A doodle poll for the next NRIs call will be sent, offering earlier UTC hours for the second half of August 2024. The meeting will focus on discussing the format for the NRIs main session and further planning of the NRIs coordination session.

13. For any suggestions or questions regarding the report, kindly contact the IGF Secretariat, NRIs Focal Point at: anja.gengo@un.org.

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ANNEX A1
AGENDA: Virtual Meeting VII

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Planning NRIs main session
   a. Endorsing final title
   b. Process and timeline to suggest speakers and endorse the final list
   c. Process to endorse online and onsite moderators and rapporteurs
3. Next steps
4. AoB

ANNEX A2
MEETING PARTICIPANTS *(in alphabetical order²):*

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¹ https://circleid.com/posts/20240214-digital-governance-discussion-group-dgdg-one-world-one-internet-many-voices

1. Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong, Chad IGF
2. Ahmed Farag, North African IGF
3. Alexei Marciuc, Moldova IGF
4. Amrita Choudhury, India IGF and APrIGF
5. Ana Neves, Portugal IGF, Lusophone IGF
6. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
7. Athanase Bahizire, Youth DR Congo IGF
8. Concettina Cassa, Italy IGF
9. Denise Leal, Youth LACIGF
10. Dorijn Boogaard, The Netheralands IGF
11. Fanny Salyou, Ivory Coast IGF
12. Georgia Evans, Canada IGF
13. Jenna Manhau Fung, Youth APrIGF, Hong Kong IGF
14. Julian Casasbuenas G, Colombia IGF and LACIGF
15. Junko KAWAUCHI, Japan IGF
16. Katarina Gevorgyan, Armenia IGF
17. Katrina Van Laan, IGF Secretariat
18. Lito Ibarra, El Salvador IGF
19. Lucien Castex, France IGF
20. Mare Vahtre, Estonia IGF
21. Marko Paloski, North Macedonia IGF
22. Martha Negedu, Nigeria IGF
23. Mary Uduma, West African IGF
24. Michel T. Linze, Cameroon IGF
25. Mohammad Abdul Haque, Bangladesh IGF
26. Muriel Alapini, Benin IGF
27. Nazar Nicholas, Tanzania IGF
28. Susana Chaves, Costa Rica IGF
29. Nigel Cassimire, Caribbean IGF
30. Peter Koch, German IGF
31. Peterking Quaye, Liberia IGF and Mano River Union IGF
32. Poncelet Ileleji, The Gambia IGF
33. Priyatosh Jana, India IGF
34. Purnima Tiwari, Youth Malaysia IGF
35. Saba Tiku, Youth Ethiopia IGF
36. Salieu Mansaray, Sierra Leone IGF
37. Sandra Hoferichter, EuroDIG
38. Shin Yamasaki, Japan IGF
39. Socheata Sokhachan
40. Tijani BEN JEMAA, North African IGF
41. Trang Lê, Youth Vietnam IGF
42. Vinicius W. O. Santos, Brazil IGF
43. Wisdom Donkor, Ghana IGF

ANNEX A3
INPUTS

- IGF 2024 NRIs Workplan https://www.intgovforum.org/en/filedepot_download/21/26977
- NRIs main session proposal (available upon request)

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[2] Names indicated as participants identified in the Zoom online participation tool.

- Article by Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Professor Emeritus at the University of Aarhus: Digital Governance Discussion Group (DGDG): One World, One Internet, Many Voices https://circleid.com/posts/20240214-digital-governance-discussion-group-dgdg-one-world-one-internet-many-voices