

NATIONAL, (SUB)REGIONAL AND YOUTH IGF INITIATIVES
- Virtual Meeting I, 26 January 2021, 15:00 p.m. UTC -

SUMMARY REPORT

About

1. The 1st virtual meeting of the National, Sub-regional, Regional and Youth IGF Initiatives (NRIs) of the IGF 2021 preparatory cycle, took place on 26 January 2021 at 15:00 p.m. UTC.
2. The meeting was hosted by the IGF Secretariat's NRIs Focal Point. The final, adopted version of the Agenda is attached to this document as Annex A1 and a list of meeting participants as Annex A2.

Summary of key points

1. The Host welcomed participants to the first planning meeting of the 16th IGF preparatory cycle. It was reminded that the purpose of this meeting is to agree on the annual NRIs workplan.
2. The discussion began with discussing forms of the NRIs collective participation at the 16th annual IGF meeting, to be hosted from 6-10 December 2021 in Katowice, Poland. It was agreed that the NRIs will work on preparing and hosting the following set of activities: **(1) main session; (2) up to six collaborative sessions; (3) coordination session; and (4) booth at IGF Village**. For the collaborative sessions, the Italian IGF coordinator noted that the NRIs could work more toward a meaningful integration into the other sessions and creating synergies with other participating stakeholders. In addition, the coordinator of the Bolivia IGF remarked that the NRIs would need to carefully deliver their planning, including the number of the NRIs collaborative sessions, according to the format of the IGF 2021 annual meeting, as well as to factor in if the NRIs representatives will be able to attend in person or to participate online.
3. The MAG Chair said that the IGF's Best Practice Forums (BPF) consider hosting a mid-year get-together as a half day event, to reflect on the work done so far. The Chair further shared a suggestion for this practice to be considered by the NRIs. It was agreed that this proposal will be communicated to the NRIs in writing.
4. The NRIs agreed on the following timeline of the above-named activities: a) NRIs workplan to be approved around 15th of February; b) Call for issues to define NRIs sessions focus to be opened in March with up to ten weeks allocated for collecting responses.
5. Participants then discussed the concept of the NRIs Observatory. The Italian IGF reminded of the ideas shared on this concept in past. It was said that the observatory would serve to bring up good practices and issues of priorities among the NRIs and could support strengthening linkages among stakeholders on the NRIs levels, but also internationally. Also, it was added that the observatory could help streamline the thematic focus among the NRIs.

There was one comment that remarked on the importance of the observatory’s availability in other languages. Some NRIs offered to lead the work on further developing this idea, such as the Kenya IGF and Chad IGF. It was agreed that this concept will be added to the workplan for further consultations on its possible implementation, depending on the NRIs bottom-up consensus and the IGF Secretariat’s capacity. In the meantime, the Secretariat was asked to collect good practices of the existing observatories for the NRIs visualization of a possible design of the observatory that might be built.

6. The Secretariat reminded the NRIs of the last year’s outlined cooperating mechanisms (image below) between the intersessional work and the NRIs, expressing its commitment to continue working with the NRIs, as well as the intersessional work focal points, to advance this matter. It was suggested that a dedicated call is hosted between the NRIs and the IGF 2021 intersessional workstreams, to assess the last’s years possible cooperative mechanisms and this year’s methodology of the intersessional workstreams.

| NRIs supporting BPFs | BPFs supporting NRIs |
|--|--|
| NRIs annual outputs shared with BPFs as a possible contribution | BPF promote NRI outputs on subject matter of relevance within their networks |
| Additional sources of information from the NRIs communities shared with BPFs (e.g. participating research institute of your NRI develops a study on a subject matter of relevance to the BPF etc.) | Upon request from the NRIs, BPFs identify experts as resource persons to contribute to NRI meetings/other activities |
| NRIs connect their community experts with the BPF facilitator (e.g. representative of local CERT etc.) | BPFs share additional sources of information with NRIs (e.g. an NRI needs more comparative analyses on national digital strategies) |
| NRIs help to inform local communities of opportunities to participate in the BPF work (e.g. by inviting them to respond to BPF surveys and calls for contributions; sharing information on how to participate in the BPF open online meetings) | Upon request from the NRIs, BPFs and NRIs explore the possibility of an interactive session module on its discussions and activities as part of the NRIs pre-event, or discuss how a BPF can contribute to a planned NRI session or discussion |
| NRIs disseminate BPF outputs to their respected communities | Possibly discuss how a BPF can contribute to a planned NRIs sessions/discussion. |

7. For the sake of supporting the engagement of governments and parliamentarians in the NRIs processes, it was agreed that the IGF Secretariat, in cooperating with the NRIs, develops briefing materials that could help to inform these groups and attract their attention. On the proposal to jointly build a contact database of these groups’ representatives, to have them invited to the NRIs and the IGF’s annual meeting, some participants advised to wait until the Secretariat devotes enough capacity to a sustainable engagement of these groups. The Secretariat said it will inform the group on relevant updates on the engagement with governments and parliamentarians, related strategy and cooperative mechanisms.
8. The Secretariat confirmed that the internal planning on the possibility of allocating financial grants to the eligible NRIs, is underway. The NRIs were asked to continue informing the Secretariat about the dates and formats of their annual meetings, as it would help internal planning on the matter.
9. The Secretariat also informed about the its exchanges with the Microsoft’s office in Geneva on possible cooperative capacity development workshops on digital transformation and

cybersecurity, which could also extend to the NRIs and invite the NRIs coordinators to cooperate. Further updates were said to be shared.

10. The Secretariat also shared a proposal for an advanced communication strategy to raise visibility of the NRIs and support the community in receiving concrete information on the NRIs pertinent information. Because of the lack of time during this meeting, participants were invited to communicate their feedback on the communication strategy through the NRIs mailing list. The following activities were briefly presented:

- *Announcing NRIs annual meetings via IGF Twitter and Facebook accounts on the day of the meeting's start date. A reminder of the NRIs annual meeting on the day of its start, would also be sent to the NRIs mailing list by the IGF Secretariat or by the NRIs coordinator.*
- *Monthly update (newsletter-like) to be sent to the NRIs mailing list announcing NRIs annual meetings and other relevant updates, including monthly updates on the IGF 2021. The update would be during the first week of each month, at earliest convenience.*
- *The NRs section will be part of the IGF's monthly newsletter.*
- *NRIs would be presented at the IGF's Instagram¹ account through visual & textual post, agreed between the IGF Secretariat and NRIs focal point. Through a weekly Instagram category "#IGF2021 Present: Name of the NRI", essential information would be shared about that particular NRI. Between one and five NRIs could be presented during one week.*
- *IGF Secretariat is at the NRIs coordinators' disposal should there be interest to conduct an interview related to announcing the NRIs annual meetings or announcing their major outputs and outcomes. The interviews would be published on the IGF's YouTube account and widely disseminated through the IGF's social media accounts. With a same purpose, blogs could be drafted by the IGF Secretariat and NRIs coordinator and published on the IGF website, promoted over the IGF's social media.*
- *NRIs annual meetings will be included in the IGF's calendar and reflected on the NRIs pages on the IGF website, as announced by the NRIs coordinators. It is possible to add an indication of a month when the annual meeting is expected to take place with confirming the date on a later stage. NRIs are advised to share any pertinent information, including the date/venue and agenda of the annual meetings, as well as website and social media URLs, to be included in the calendar.*

Next Steps

3. A full summary report will be sent to the NRIs mailing list along with a workplan outline for the NRIs feedback and approval during February.
4. *Next meeting:* Next meeting will be hosted during the last week of February. A doodle poll will be sent one week before the proposed meeting options.
5. For any suggestions or questions regarding the Report, kindly contact the IGF Secretariat, NRIs Focal Point at: anja.gengo@un.org.

¹ <https://www.instagram.com/intgovforum/>, @intgovforum

ANNEX A1

AGENDA: Virtual Meeting I

1. NRIs at IGF 2021: work plan
2. NRIs observatory
3. NRIs <--> intersessional work collaboration
4. NRIs <--> engagement with parliamentarians and other specific stakeholders
5. Capacity development workshops (cooperation with Microsoft)
6. NRIs grants
7. Communication strategy for NRIs
8. AOB

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

1. Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong, Chad IGF
2. Abdias Zambrano, Panama IGF
3. Makane Faye, African IGF
4. Alexei Marciuc, Moldova IGF
5. Amir Mokabberi, Iran
6. Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
7. Anna Krupnik, Youth IGF Movement
8. Anriette Esterhuysen, MAG Chair
9. Barrack Otieno, Kenya IGF
10. Carlos Alberto Afonso, Brazil IGF
11. Carlos Vera Quintana, Ecuador IGF
12. Cristina Morales, Honduras IGF
13. Eileen Cejas, Argentina Youth IGF
14. Elizabeth Yisa
15. Emanuela Girardi, Italy IGF
16. Sandra Hoferichter, EuroDIG Secretariat
17. Everton T Rodrigues, Brazil IGF
18. Juuso Moisander, Finnish IGF
19. Fotjon Kosta, Albania IGF
20. Hamza Salami
21. Herman Ramos
22. Isabel De Ávila, Colombai IGF
23. Jennifer Chung, APriGF
24. Josaphat Tjiho
25. José Félix Hernandez, Spain IGF
26. Juan Pajaro
27. Judith Hellerstein, IGF-USA
28. June Parris, Barbados IGF
29. Konstantina Nathanaid, Greece IGF
30. Luis Bobo Garcia, IGF Secretariat
31. Luisa Paez
32. Mahen Busgopaul, Mauritius IGF
33. Marcel Krummenauer, YOUthDIG
34. Markus Kummer, IGfSA
35. Melinda Clem, IGfSA
36. Michel TCHONANG LINZE, Central African IGF
37. Mohammad Abdul Haque Anu, Bangladesh IGF
38. Muriel ALAPINI, Benin IGF
39. Nazar Nicholas, Tanzania IGF
40. Nigel Cassimire, Caribbean IGF
41. Nigeria Internet Governance Forum Secretariat
42. Obed Sindy, Haiti IGF

² Names indicates as participants have identified in the Zoom online participation tool.

43. Olatokunboh Oyeleye, Nigeria IGF
44. Olévié Kouami,
45. Olga Cavalli, Argentina IGF
46. Patience Luyeye
47. Peter Koch, German IGF
48. Poncelet Ileleji, The Gambia IGF
49. Rakotondrainibe Harimino Lalatiana, Madagascar IGF
50. Raquel Gatto, LACIGF
51. Rita Wehbé
52. Roberto Zambrana, Bolivia IGF
53. Salyou Fanny, Ivory Coast
54. Saratu Yisa
55. Shin Yamasaki
56. Sorina Teleanu, SEEDIG
57. Stela Rugongo
58. Stephen Dakyi
59. Taylor Bentley
60. Titti Cassa, Italy IGF
61. Vinicius W. O. Santos, Brazil IGF
62. Vrikson Acosta
63. YingChu Chen
64. Zeina Bou Harb, Lebanon IGF and Arab IGF