

IGF Leadership Panel Virtual Meeting 21 January 2025 | 14:00-16:00 UTC

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Leadership Panel met virtually in plenary on 21 January 2025. The purpose of the call was to discuss key strategies and preparations related to the twenty-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes and the Internet We Want framework for 2025. Discussions also covered plans to engage stakeholders and address challenges to IGF's future mandate.

Decisions, Action Items & Next Steps

• Concerning the WSIS+20 Review taking place at the end of 2025 and related steps from the Panel:

- The Panel recognized it was critical to take a strategic approach to securing the renewal of the IGF mandate as part of the Review.
- o It was agreed that outreach efforts should include engaging Member States to demonstrate the value of IGF through capacity building, youth initiatives, and its global network of National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs).
- It was agreed a joint meeting with the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) and the MAG Strategy Group would be scheduled in February to discuss WSIS+20 and align strategic recommendations.
- Members Lise Fuhr, Maria Fernanda Garza and 'Gbenga Sesan committed to drafting a 2-page summary of WSIS+20 Panel recommendations by the end of the month, responding to the MAG Strategy Group's "Vision of the IGF Beyond 2025", and in preparation for the joint meeting.
- \circ $\;$ The summary paper will be reviewed by the Panel at its next meeting on 11 February.
- Also by the end of the month, the Chair committed to drafting a letter to major Internet ecosystem stakeholders (e.g., ISOC, ICANN) as well as business community leaders (e.g., ICC) seeking their input on IGF's value to Member States; the inputs will be used for an eventual communiqué from the Panel to Member States.

• On the "Internet We Want" (IWW) and its future as a framework for IGF reporting:

- The Panel proposed the development of an IGF index based on IWW to measure the effectiveness, impact and progress of Internet development across countries, including metrics such as accessibility, reliability, and openness.
- It was agreed that NRIs would play a key role in gathering data for this index, supported by technical guidance from Measurement Lab and similar organizations.
- While acknowledging that IWW already contains elements on digital trust, a proposal was made to host IGF sessions in Norway focused on testing ideas related to fostering greater accountability mechanisms within the digital ecosystem.

• As an additional note on the IGF Trust Fund:

• The Chair informed he had facilitated a \$500k donation from Google and would explore the transfer of the contribution through the UN Foundation.



Annex - Attendance

Panel Members

Mr. Vint Cerf, Chair

Ms. Lise Fuhr

Ms. Maria Fernanda Garza

Ms. Carol Roach

Mr. 'Gbenga Sesan

Panel Advisors, Representatives & Support Persons

Ms. Meni Anastasiadou

Ms. Lara Honrado

Mr. Yoichi Iida

Ms. Tu An Ngo

Mr. Filippo Pierozzi

Ms. Anna Strigl

Ms. Timea Suto

Mr. Yuchi Tsuji

Regrets

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mohammed

Alsuwaiyan

Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves

Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill

Mr. Belete Molla

Mr. Lan Xue

IGF Secretariat/ UN DESA

Ms. Céline Bal

Ms. Anja Gengo

Mr. Chengetai Masango

Ms. Eleonora Mazzucchi

Mr. Deniz Susar