

Denmark reiterates its support for the follow-up process of the recommendations from the UN High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation. Technology's impact on society will only increase in the coming years – locally as well as globally. It is therefore paramount and urgent that the international community finds ways to strengthen cooperation in the digital 21st century. Denmark therefore welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the SG Roadmap on Digital Cooperation.

Denmark strongly supports strengthening the IGF. The mandate and structures of the IGF already exist. Focus should be on establishing effective and globally accountable digital cooperation mechanisms building on the IGF plus model. Effective cooperation among all stakeholders is key in addressing the challenges and reaping the benefits of the digital age.

Going forward, we believe transparency is key in ensuring effectiveness, inclusion, and accountability. It is essential to avoid duplication and complexity as there is a risk of creating an overly complex set-up.

The following two areas (specified below) should be of priority: 1) Strengthened coordination and focus of the IGF and 2) Strengthened High Level participation by governments and the private sector.

1. *Strengthened coordination and focus of the IGF will ensure better continuity and follow up on discussions and will lead to more actionable outcomes. To this end, the following initiatives should be implemented:*

- **Focusing on a more limited number of strategic policy issues** with priority to the most urgent/important policy issues/topics to which global focus should be directed. These issues/topics should guide the discussions through the entire IGF program – from the opening speeches through to the closing remarks and Messages, and further into the follow-up process.
- **Reducing the number of workshops** and focusing on quality and more evidence-based discussions.
- **Establishing a more effective coordination and planning cycle, including a multiannual work program** with focus on clearly defined overarching policy issues to ensure continuity of the discussions throughout the program and links to improved outcomes and to the intersessional work.
- **Strengthening cooperation between the different parts of the internet governance ecosystem.** Mechanisms, such as further integrated NRI's, could play a constructive part to this end.

5. marts 2020

**DANISH BUSINESS
AUTHORITY**

Dahlerups Pakhus
Langelinie Allé 17
DK-2100 København Ø
Denmark

Tel +45 35 29 10 00
VAT no. 10 15 08 17
erst@erst.dk
www.erst.dk

**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY,
BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS**

- **Strengthening the role and visibility of the MAG and IGF Secretariat** in relation to the planning processes as well as more strategic issues.
- 2. *Strengthened High Level participation by governments and the private sector will heighten status of the IGF globally. To this end, the following initiatives should be implemented:*
 - **Establishing a permanent High-Level segment** of the program, for example, High Level Leaders Sessions, Ministerial Roundtables, Parliamentarian Track as well as opening speeches from the UN Secretary General and Host Country Head of State. This segment should be integrated with other parts of the program, including by addressing the strategic policy issues/topics and linking to the follow-up process and intersessional work.
 - Moreover, a **Tech Envoy under the UNSG together with a strengthened MAG and IGF Secretariat, would raise the status of the IGF on the global political agenda** and encourage participation from all parts of the world, specifically the Global South, and all stakeholder groups, including governments and the tech industry. With regard to the Tech Envoy, Denmark stands ready to share lessons learned from the TechPlomacy-initiative and the mandate of Denmark's Tech Ambassador.