March 5th, 2020.

Dear Champions of the Roundtable on recommendations 5A/B - Digital Cooperation Architecture:

On behalf of the Uruguayan Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC-UY), I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to submit further comments with regard to recommendations 5 A/B of the High Level Panel on Digital cooperation.

In addition to the comments already submitted to the IGF open consultation (https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/index.php?q=filedepot_download/8763/1747) , and considering the discussions held during the 2 meetings of the Roundtable, I would like to put under your consideration the following concrete proposals:

1. Changes in the format of the IGF annual meeting.

1.1 – To avoid overlaps between workshops and main sessions.

Workshops and main sessions should be organized at different times of the meeting in order to maximize the participation of different stakeholders in the discussions of the main sessions.

1.2 – Increase focus on few thematic tracks.

The IGF MAG has already made significant progresses on focusing the discussion of IGF around few themes. This effort should be continued and strengthened increasing the focus of the discussions.
Workshops and Main Sessions should both be closely associated to the priority thematic areas (tracks).

1.3 - To produce outcomes as the conclusion of each track (ws + main sessions)

Outcomes of each track should be produced during the discussions. The way Eurodig produces its outcomes is a model that could be used.

1.4 – High level session at the end of the meeting.

A High Level Session could be organized together by the Host, UN and the MAG, the last day of the meeting. This meeting would be held on a Netmundial style to discuss the results of each track in a Multistakeholder fashion. The output of this High Level Session would be one of the most valuable outcomes of IGF.

In summary, the schedule of the meeting could be, in general terms:

Day 1 and morning of Day 2, – Workshops
Day 2 (afternoon) and Day 3 – Main sessions
Day 4 – High Level Session

2 – Improving the interaction between different forums and organizations.

It's important to understand that the IGF is one important piece of the digital cooperation ecosystem, but not the central one, as it used to be when it was created 14 years ago.

We should see the discussion and cooperation on different topics as "Value Chains". Therefore, it's crucial that each forum/organization understands clearly what is their role in the respective value chain, what is the value they are adding to that chain, what are their stakeholders, what are the other forums/organizations they have to relate with, from whom they need inputs and who should be aware of their outcomes.

Most of policy making happens at the local/national level. The measure of success of an invigorated Digital Cooperation ecosystem should be that policies, at the national level, are developed in a well informed manner. To achieve that is important that all different pieces of the ecosystem are well interconnected and the information flows dynamically.

The concrete proposal is to run a pilot project to map all the participants in those "value chains" at least on 3 thematic areas.

Those 3 areas could be

- Cybersecurity
- Privacy, Personal data protection and big data
- Access and Inclusion.

The project would:
- draw the value chains,
- identify the actors involved in each thematic area, (forums and organizations)
- work with those organizations to elaborate the answers to the questions listed above,
- help them to be in touch with the other organizations they should be connected with.

The project could be run by the IGF secretariat and, of course, the needed resources should be secured.

3 – Funding.

It's very important to secure the mid term funding of IGF.
Improving digital cooperation is imperative and the role of the IGF is very important. The IGF is not longer just a meeting important for the so-called Internet community, but very relevant for almost every global policy area.
The IGF could not depend, therefore, only on volunteer contributions. The UN should allocate a significant budget for Digital Cooperation activities in general and to the IGF specifically.

Best regards,

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