

Internet Governance Forum

Twelfth Annual Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland, 18-21 December 2017

Guidelines for Participation

A) Purpose of the IGF

- 1) The purpose of the IGF is to maximize the opportunity for open and inclusive dialogue and the exchange of ideas on Internet governance (IG) related issues; create opportunities to share best practices and experiences; identify emerging issues and bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public; contributing to capacity building for Internet governance related issues.
- 2) The main aim of the IGF is to facilitate open and inclusive multi-stakeholder discussions on Internet governance related issues that inform and contribute towards decision making processes elsewhere.

B) Conduct

- 3) All participants of the IGF must commit themselves to respecting all human rights as they are reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 4) All participants of the IGF must refrain from any conduct going against the fundamental rights of any person or group of persons.
- 5) All IGF participants are expected to ensure a harassment -free experience for everyone, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, or religion (or lack thereof). Any form of harassment will not be tolerated. Offensive language and imagery shall not be approved within the venue or any of the Forum's activities. Conference participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference at the discretion of the conference organizers.
- 6) Adherence to the [IGF's Code of Conduct](#) and the terms stated here are mandatory.
- 7) All participants of the IGF must refrain from any kind of illegal activity.
- 8) Use and/or distribution of defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials are strictly prohibited.

C) Participation in the Twelfth Annual IGF Meeting

- 9) The Internet Governance Forum welcomes the participation of all stakeholders in the Internet governance ecosystem, including all entities accredited by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), as well as other institutions and individuals with proven expertise and experience in all matters related to Internet governance.
- 10) Participation in the Forum is free of charge, and participant status shall be provided to any individual who fulfills the requirements, and agrees to adhere to the terms of these Guidelines.

D) Security and Access to the Premises

- 11) Participants are required to present their confirmation letter to the Forum's Registration Desk, together with a picture ID issued by a national authority of a state recognised by the United Nations, in order to obtain an IGF badge.
- 12) Access to the official Forum premises will be strictly limited to persons wearing a Forum badge with photograph. Participants are advised that they will only be admitted to the premises upon presentation of this badge. This badge must be worn visibly at all times while inside the venue.
- 13) Participants are urged to practice personal safety and security awareness and exercise good judgment when moving around in public areas.
- 14) All participants will be security screened at the venue's access points. It is recommended that participants coming to the Forum limit their hand luggage to one small briefcase. Anything larger than cabin luggage will not be permitted inside the IGF's premises.
- 15) Participants are reminded to safeguard their personal belongings at all times while in the venue. All unattended luggage will be subjected to examination and removal by the Forum's security services and may be destroyed.
- 16) All lost and found inquiries can be addressed to the IGF Security Service at the Information Desk located at the Forum's premises.

E) Expulsion From the Conference

- 17) The Secretariat reserves the right to expel participants from both the session rooms and the IGF venue due to disruptive behavior or violation of these Guidelines. The Secretariat reserves the right to define appropriate conference behavior, in accordance with generally defined UN conference procedures, and is particularly sensitive to issues involving displays of disrespect to other participants, or the conference staff.

F) Food and Drink Policy

- 18) Eating and drinking is prohibited within the meeting rooms.

G) Smoking, and Illegal Substance Policy

- 19) Participants will not be permitted to smoke inside the conference venue.
- 20) Delegates found possessing or using illicit drugs, as defined by International law, during the conference or at social events will be required to leave immediately and may be held criminally liable.

H) Publicity

- 21) Commercial media, logos, flags, banners or printed publications are not allowed at the meeting venue

I) Material Distribution and Demonstrations

- 22) Written informational materials and documentation can be distributed at the designated areas at the IGF venue. The distributed materials should be related to Internet governance and of non-commercial nature. The documents should follow UN guidelines on suitability and should not be blatantly inflammatory or potentially libelous, and the actions and arguments should be criticized based on their merits and not their source. As the IGF adheres to the generally used UN principle of discouraging ad-hominem attacks, organizations should refrain from singling out individual persons, companies, countries or entities in the materials they distribute. Concrete examples can be highlighted in the overall coverage of IG issues as long as it is not done in a blatantly inflammatory or potentially libelous way.
- 23) Documentation related to the sessions subject matters can be distributed at the session rooms, and should be removed by the organizer at the end of the session.
- 24) Organizations that are holding a booth at the IGF Village are requested to display and distribute documents at their booth only. Publications that are clearly attributed to IGF participants which do not have a booth at the IGF Village may be distributed and displayed at the Document Distribution Point, after approval by the IGF Secretariat. For approval, please provide a sample.
- 25) Side-event advertisements and invitations can be posted on the notice boards located in the main entrance, upon prior approval of the IGF Secretariat. Flyer leaflets will not be authorized.
- 26) Participants are requested to refrain from distributing non-official material, such as information related to other meetings, future conferences or publicity material.
- 27) Materials that are not in compliance with the above, not attributed to IGF participants or found in non-designated areas will be removed.
- 28) Demonstrations are not authorized within UN event premises, for security reasons. Exceptions require approval from the IGF Secretariat at least one week in advance of the respective event.
- 29) Individuals involved in unauthorized demonstrations risk being banned from UN premises and events.