

Global Digital Compact

Internet Society's Contribution to the GDC

Informal Consultations (I)

13 February 2024



Thank you, Co-facilitators,

My name is Mona Gaballa and today I have the pleasure of representing the Internet Society in providing this intervention on the Global Digital Compact.

The Internet Society supports and promotes the development of the Internet as a global technical infrastructure, a resource to enrich people's lives, and a force for good in society. Our work aligns with our goals for the Internet to be open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy, and we seek collaboration with all who share these goals.

Together, we focus on building and supporting the communities that make the Internet work, advancing the development and application of Internet infrastructure, technologies, and open standards, as well as advocating for policy that supports the development of the global Internet for everyone.

Making informed policy and regulatory decisions is crucial in fostering an enabling policy environment that bridges current and emerging digital divides, considering a third of the world remains unconnected. The multistakeholder model is recognized as the optimal way of bringing relevant stakeholders together to find solutions to common challenges.

As endorsed in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, Internet Governance is the development and application of shared principles, norms, decision-making processes, and programs through a multistakeholder process.

We encourage policymakers to embrace this model to ensure that Internet public policies take account of diverse views and expertise to lead to positive results that do not harm the global Internet.

The Internet Society recognizes four significant attributes to a successful multistakeholder process; this includes (1) inclusiveness and transparency; (2) collective responsibility; (3) effective decision-making and implementation, and finally, collaboration through distributed and interoperable governance.

We believe that the Internet governance approach affirmed within the Tunis Agenda is one that will evolve and can serve as an example on how to approach digital cooperation and governance.



For over a decade, the Internet Society has supported multistakeholder Internet governance processes around the world, including the global Internet Governance Forum (IGF), as well as a number of National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs), and Schools of Internet Governance (SIGs).

We remain strongly committed to this important initiative and are proud of the partnerships we have formed to help ensure the success of IGFs worldwide.

We look forward to our continued participation through the GDC consultative process and hope for meaningful opportunities in holistically shaping the zero draft of the Global Digital Compact, as well as the way forward for its follow-up.

I thank you.

