

Global Digital Compact

Internet Society's Contribution to the GDC Informal Consultation (II)

1 March 2024



Your excellencies,

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.

With our partners, 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.

We thank you, co-facilitators, for circulating the possible elements for the GDC zero draft and reaffirming our commitment to contributing to the draft.

In view of the follow-up mechanism for the GDC, we reaffirm that an evolved Internet Governance Forum (IGF) should be the place within the UN system to coordinate digital transformation issues to maintain an open, global, secure, trustworthy, and unfragmented Internet.

The Internet Society recognizes the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, which calls for a multistakeholder approach. Over the last two decades, the multistakeholder community participating in Internet governance discussions has been able to advance both technical and public policy issues through the IGF.

Decentralized open solutions are the cornerstone for digital transformation and digital governance should reflect that.

As a result, an evolved IGF should remain multistakeholder driven to address the GDC commitments to closing the digital divides and accelerating progress across the SDGs, fostering an inclusive, open, safe, and secure digital space, advancing data governance, and governing emerging technologies for humanity.



The Internet Society believes that the IGF is best suited to monitor implementation and review the progress on these commitments. The IGF is an inclusive and transparent forum proven to advance knowledge sharing and best practices; and promote coordination and partnerships among stakeholders.

We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the zero draft through our written submission and look forward to our continued cooperation in shaping its elements.

The Internet Society remains committed to supporting the work ahead and hopes to see an opportunity for enhanced multistakeholder coordination throughout the negotiations of the Global Digital Compact zero draft.

I thank you, co-facilitators.