



APrIGF Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group (MSG) Meeting

28 Jul 2017 (Wednesday)

Chulalongkorn University, APrIGF Bangkok 2017

12:30 – 14:00 (UTC+7)

Attendees (43):

MSG Members On-Site (33)

Aris Ignacio, Southville International School and Colleges (Academia)
Babu Ram Aryal, Internet Society Nepal (Civil Society)
Bikram Shrestha, Internet Society Nepal (Civil Society)
Chat Garcio Ramilio, Association of Progressive Communications (Civil Society)
Chester Soong, Internet Society Hong Kong (Civil Society) – **Vice Chair**
Duangthip Chrompang, GITEC (Civil Society)
Edmon Chung, DotAsia Organisation (Technical)
Hiro Hotta, JPRS (Technical)
Hong Xue, Beijing Normal University (Academia)
Izumi Okutani, JPNIC (Technical)
Irene Poetranto, University of Toronto (Academia)
Jia-Rong Low, ICANN APAC Hub (Technical)
Jianne Soriano, NetMission.Asia (Civil Society)
Joyce Chen, ICANN APAC Hub (Technical)
Kenta Mochizuki, Yahoo Japan Corporation (Private Sector)
Kelvin Wong, ICANN APAC Hub (Technical)
Kuo Wei Wu, Taiwan (Technical)
Maureen Hilyard, Member of At-Large of ICANN (Civil Society)
Maheeswara Kirindigoda, Uva Province Governor's Office, Sri Lanka (Government)
Mohit Sawasrat, Pepsi- Dubai Refreshments (PepsiCo Bottler) (Private Sector)
Md. Adbul Awal, Internet Society Bangladesh Dhaka Chapter (Civil Society)
Noelle de Guzman, Internet Society (Technical)
Pablo Hinojosa, APNIC (Technical)
PENGHWA ANG, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (Academia)
Phet Sayo, Internet Development Research Centre (IDRC) (Technical)
Satish Babu, Computer Society of India (Civil Society)
Sherly Haristya, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (Academia)
Shibendu Debbarma, Tripura University (Academia)

Shreedeeep Rayamajhi, RayzNews (Civil Society)
Scrivas Chendi, APNIC (Technical)
Sze Ming Tan, Youth 4 Rights (Civil Society)
TH Schee, Open Knowledge Taiwan (Civil Society)
Waltrut Ritter, Knowledge Dialogues (Civil Society)

MSG Members Remote (4)

Cheryl Langdon-Orr, At-Large Member ICANN (Civil Society)
Kenny Huang, TWNIC (Technical)
Paul Wilson, APNIC (Technical) - **Chair**
Sylvia Cadena, APNIC (Technical)

Non-MSG Members (3)

David Ng, DotAsia Organisation
Sam Kong, DotAsia Organisation
Mili Semlani, India

APrIGF Secretariat:

Jennifer Chung, DotAsia Organisation

Local Host of 2017:

Arhit Suriyawongkul, Netizen, Thailand
Pirongrong Ramasoota, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

Apologies for absence sent in advance (0):

Agenda:

1. Quick Review of APrIGF Bangkok 2017 (Chair)
 - Local Host/Secretariat Updates (Arhit)
 - Fellowship Committee Updates (Maureen)
 - Program Committee Updates (Chester)
 - Drafting Committee Updates (Secretariat)
 - YIGF Updates (Jianne)
 - Discussion (Closing Plenary)
2. 2018 Preparations
3. IGF Geneva Workshop
4. AOB

Proceedings:

1. Quick Review of APriGF Bangkok 2017

Local Host Updates

- Around 700 registrations in total now including walk-in. There are 274 badges remain uncollected.
- According to statistics, around 200+ people attending sessions at each specific time which shows that many of the people are outside the sessions to network.
- Some of the topics receive lots of attention and are too crowded with not enough spaces for chairs. e.g. Merger 2 with 75 participants including speakers
- Closing Social registration is full now.
- Quite a number of leftover food due to the over preparation of number of 700 headcount.

Discussions:

- Food Management
 - Chung suggested that the secretariat will further follow up to learn from the statistics and reference to other similar conferences such as ICANN and IGF to prepare better for future conferences.
 - Wu added that Taipei 2016 meeting faced the same challenges due to the nature of free conference. Wu showed appreciation on the wonderful job of the 2017 local host.
 - Cadena enquired if something there is problem with the online system since there is a large discrepancy of the on-site numbers. Low responded that the large discrepancy could be due to the local registrations.
 - Cadena suggested that confirmation mechanisms could be developed to allow better estimation of actual turn-up rate.
- Conference Registration Fee
 - Ang suggested to publish the no-show list as punishment.
 - Wu shared that TWIGF had considered similar ideas but discarded at the end since the community hopes to remain open and inclusive.
 - Chung responded that it would be difficult to keep that as a blacklist and against the approach of punishment.
 - Huang echoed that Taiwan had similar situations and suggested to consider impose a minimum charge to participants.
 - Cadena and Langdon-Orr clarified that the NRIs under the UN framework cannot charge any conference fee.
 - Langdon-Orr suggested that lunch could be offered at cost recovering price as an option. Secretariat echoed that if cost is an issue, MSG could consider not to provide lunch for participants but keep the

registration free of charge and double confirm participation with registered people before conference.

Fellowship Committee Updates

- **Statistics:** 45 out of 50 selected fellows attended on-site. Among them 3 withdraw due to personal reasons and 2 fellows from Afghanistan due to VISA issues.
- **Program:** Introductory session on Day 0 morning for everyone to introduce themselves. Buddy program were assigned during the session.
- **Buddy Program:**
 - 2016 fellows feedback that the communication among buddies group were difficult last year. The intended improvement this year is yet to be evaluated.
 - The spread of coffee stations lowered the chance to get-together.
 - Effectiveness of buddies need to be reviewed.
- **Requirement for Fellows:** Hilyard suggested to add attendance and contributions to the Synthesis Document.
- **Closing Debriefing:** A 30-minute wrap-up and debriefing session right after the closing plenary

Discussions:

- **Buddy Program**
 - Semlani commented that buddy program needs to be strengthened and match the buddies with the fellows 3 weeks before the conference to allow bonding to be developed. That will also allow more time for preparation of topics considering that many fellows are newcomers who are feeling lost on the first day of the conference.
 - Semlani also suggested to organize daily debriefing session among buddy groups to prepare for the town hall sessions so as to enhance and facilitate the participation of fellows. Cadena echoed the suggestion but raised the concern on the tight agenda.
- **Prep Day - Capacity Building Day**
 - Wong gave an overview of the Newcomers Capacity Building Day on the Prep Day (26 July) which about a 100 people attended and close to 10 speakers.
 - Wong raised if there is a survey to fellows and YIGF participants and suggested to add questions about the capacity building sessions
 - Chung confirmed that there will be survey
- **Expansion of Prep Day**
 - Considering the comments from Semlani, Chung suggested to build on the prep day and fellowship program which to expand the capacity building day to longer than 1 day or even to a week.

- **Internet Connectivity**
 - Wu complained that the WiFi dropped off often after a certain idle time which made it inconvenient.
 - Local Host confirmed that the Secretariat has reported the issue on Day 1 already and the technical team was informed to adjust the timeout duration.
- **Fellows Selection**
 - Chendi congratulated the secretariat for the success in bringing in the 45 fellows and mentioned that it is important to manage the budget in order to keep including new faces during fellows selection while maintaining a balance at supporting speakers.
 - Chendi also suggested that we should keep track of the fellows post-conference and updates on their Internet governance engagement which would be beneficial for us.
 - Chung echoed on the fellows tracking suggestion and proposed that the Secretariat to create an alumni network of the fellows via mailing lists, facebook group or whatsapp group. Chendi agreed with the alumni network and suggested to create an Asia Pacific for all initiatives.

Program Committee Updates

- Soong updated that there were a few additional mergers happened a week before the conference due to the incoming requests and withdrawal of some original sessions. The program sessions are in good qualities.
- Soong reminded that more considerations could be give on the room setting or allocations from the local host observations of hot topics.
- In addition to the main program, there are a few side events organized this year. Yet the side event attendance was not noted so it could be one of the reasons to

Discussions:

- **Side Event**
 - Wu commented that side event should not be closed if using APriGF resources.
 - Chung responded that the issue was discussed during previous MSG meeting that there were concerns on the diversion of participant crowd.
 - Chung suggested a process of side events shall be developed and considered a track for side events or even tutorials proposals for the capacity building day.
 - Cadena disagreed to mandate all side-events to be opened and commented that it is good that APriGF could support other groups to

meet as a platform. She agreed with Chung's suggestion to create a mechanism.

- Singh suggested another option is to push them to Day 0.

- **Opening Speaker**

- Wu questioned about the selection of opening speakers and wondered about the selection of Dr. Patrick Ho
- Chung responded that traditionally the choice of opening speakers depends on the local host with suggestions from MSG, UNIGF, etc. Chung noted that a balance have to be made which the MSG shall have some ways to intervene on the selection.
- Ramilio agreed that it is a prestige opportunities to speak at the opening and that is important to clarify the relations of MSG with the local host in determining the speakers.
- Ramilio also suggested to keep the thematic roundtable for next year.
- Okutani is supportive of the thematic roundtable and added that on top of gender balance, stakeholder balance shall also be considered for the speakers.

- **Session Interaction**

- Wu commented that some of the sessions lack interactions with the audiences and left only 5 minutes for Q&A.
- Wu suggested to limit the presenters with a maximum number of slides that can be used and set some rules on the time limits.
- Chung clarified that workshop organizers had to identify the format of their sessions.
- Soong suggested the Program Committee could review the process for 2018 and yet noting that the implementation of Wu's suggestion would be difficult.
- Xue agreed it is difficult to mandate no slides and commented that openness is an very important principle in NRI according to the IGF toolkit.
- Cadena added new formats have been introduced this year and asked the MSG to provide more support to the Program Committee on developing more detailed and strict guidelines to encourage interactivity.
- Cadena suggested to assign buddies/fellows or members of the Program Committee to be curator and help enforce the guideline.
- Singh agreed with Cadena and shall put the responsibility on the workshop organizers.

- **Workshop Submission**

- Xue suggested that a grace period shall be included apart from the deadline or extended deadline just in case there is technical issue of the online submission system.

- Soong disagreed to have grace period that in consideration of the fairness and ample time has been given for the submission period already.
- Secretariat added that there were suggestions on a merit scheme to include the late submissions which might be implemented for 2018 round.

Drafting Committees Updates

The updates were skipped due to the time constraint.

YIGF Updates

- Participants from 13 economies
- Gender Balance of Participants: 31 males, 24 females, 3 LGBTQ
- Suggested to do role play discussions before Day 3 so that participants could still get feedback while they are here.
- Soriano raised the difficulties to track the fellows after leaving the forum so a Future Initiatives Session has been introduced on the last day of the program.
- Suriyawongkul shared the comments from some YIGF participants that they think the role play sessions are helpful for them to understand the topics and engage in other conference sessions. It is suggested to make the role play sessions as pre-event followed by the APriGF instead.

Closing Plenary Format

- Secretariat reported that Wilson suggested on the mailing list to make the closing plenary in roundtable format.
- Secretariat asked for volunteers from the MSG to be the moderator. Wilson agreed to volunteer.

Action items:

- Secretariat to work with Wilson on the detailed format of the closing plenary.

2. 2018 Preparations

- Secretariat updated that there has not been any confirmation yet so far from the 2018 local host on the exact dates.

3. IGF Geneva Workshop

The updates were skipped due to time constraint.

4. A.O.B

- None.

Summary of Actions Items

- Secretariat to work with Wilson on the detailed format of the closing plenary.

The next meeting will be held on 9 Aug (Wed) 2017 at 4:00 - 5:00 (UTC).