

GDC Stakeholder Consultation 22 August

Statement by Mark Carvell

EuroDIG is one of 13 regional multistakeholder IGFs across the world which are recognised by the UN IGF.

Updates on the GDC process for developing the text of the GDC have been provided on the EuroDIG website. We commend the progress so far in reaching consensus on objectives, principles and commitments to action by governments and other stakeholders.

A session was held on the draft GDC at EuroDIG's annual meeting in June in Vilnius. The agreed outcomes of that session are as follows:

EuroDIG strongly supports the commitment in the draft text of the GDC to strengthen the multistakeholder model of governance and advises against any watering down of this commitment in the finalisation of the text.

Instead of creating new mechanisms and parallel tracks in the implementation phase, EuroDIG believes that the GDC process should prioritise building on the strong foundations and accomplishments of the WSIS process during the last 20 years.

EuroDIG supports enhancing the role of the Internet Governance Forum in global digital cooperation - and ensuring it has sufficient financial resources.

EuroDIG recommends simplifying the process of GDC follow up and the review of the implementation of the GDC commitments. This should

include substantive roles for the IGF supported by its global network of national and regional IGFs such as EuroDIG, and for the WSIS Forum. This will ensure that non-governmental stakeholders worldwide are able to contribute fully to the process of GDC follow up.

In the spirit of fully inclusive digital cooperation it will be important for the GDC process of implementation, monitoring and reporting to be open to the involvement of all stakeholders.

EuroDIG and the other regional and national IGFs provide a crucially important global network for amplifying the Compact's purpose, objectives and commitments following its launch at the Summit next month.

EuroDIG's stakeholder community looks forward to remaining engaged in the GDC process accordingly and EuroDIG offers to play its part in monitoring progress in the implementation of GDC commitments.

Thank you.