



FOC Friends of the Chair Call #12

Wednesday 31 January

Attending: Canada, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, US

Apologies: Argentina, Costa Rica, Norway, UK

MINUTES:

Housekeeping

- Germany gave an update on the FOC Chairmanship
 - The German Chairmanship team met with the FOC Support Unit last week to discuss planning for the FO Conference 2018
 - An early draft concept for the Conference has been developed, and a venue has been reserved for different options on dates in late November/early December 2018
 - Once the dates for the Internet Governance Forum are known, the date for the FO Conference will be confirmed
- Members reviewed dates for Friends of the Chair calls in 2018 *[please find suggested dates below]*
- In line with previous arrangements, the proposed Friends of the Chair calls will be held on the last Wednesday of every month at 14:00 UTC, apart from December.
- The date of the March call was revised to 21 March; Members agreed that overall the dates looked suitable.

Action Point >> Members to review and approve dates for Friends of the Chair conference calls for 2018 by COB February 9

Updates on implementation of the San Jose Work Plan (SJWP):

- Operationalising the Stockholm TOR:
 - SU and Germany to give update on Advisory Network
 - Germany reported that the Advisory Network Chartering Group (CG) was very happy with the number (60), range and quality of candidates that applied.
 - Selection process
 - Step 1 - Evaluation: The applications were evaluated by the two interim co-Chairs (non-governmental members of the CG) based on: motivation, relevance of experience, and previous engagement with the FOC. An additional score was given to candidates from developing countries.
 - Step 2 - Ranking: The scores were consolidated and ordered by rank. As specified in the ToR, the next step was then to identify up to 23 candidates, who, together with the two co-chairs, would constitute the AN.
 - Step 3 - Balancing: In order to ensure geographic, gender, and stakeholder balance of the AN, non-governmental members of the CG proposed an increase in the overall number of AN members to 30 (inclusive of the co-chairs). The result of this option extended the list of top 23 candidates to the top 28 and, consequently, allowed the final

selection to better reflect a diversity of regions, expertise and stakeholder groups. This would require an edit to the Advisory Network ToR, increasing its membership from "Up to 25", to "Up to 30".

- Members agreed that the list of selected candidates was excellent, and agreed to the edit of the ToR in the interests of inclusivity and diversity of AN members. *[please find updated ToR [here](#)]*
- Next steps:
 - The SU reported that the outcome of the selection process will be communicated to all applicants shortly.
 - Biographies of each member will be collated and uploaded to the FOC website.
 - Germany emphasised that in order to ensure effective engagement with the AN, Friends of the Chair members were encouraged to volunteer for the rotating position of AN liaison.
- SU updated Members on the development of the Evaluation Framework for Member Review and Termination (EF)
 - Rebecca Zausmer (independent consultant) presented the EF and addressed questions from Members regarding the framework
- SU updated Members on finance
 - The SU thanked the government of the Netherlands for their grant topping up SU resources, and confirmed the government of Australia's provision for 2018-19.
 - The SU encouraged Members to let the SU know if it can support SU costs

Action Point >> Interested Members to volunteer to be an Advisory Network Liaison by emailing the SU

Action Point >> Members to review the EF and provide written comments by COB 9 February

Coordination and Joint Activities

- Germany updated members on the Program of Action 2018
 - Germany presented a refined Program of Action 2018, taking into consideration comments made by members at the recent Strategy and Coordination Meeting at the IGF, and clarified that the document will be updated as new relevant information is obtained
 - Updates include more detail regarding resolutions at the Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly that the FOC aims to engage in.
 - The draft joint statement on Internet Censorship is now being reviewed by Germany.
- Germany will be organising a lunch reception of FOC Ambassadors adjacent to the expert workshop hosted by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age on 19 February.
 - This will act as a high level launch of the Geneva Diplomatic Network. Invitations will be sent out shortly.
- Members agreed to discuss the issue of alternatives to the joint statement mechanism at the next full Coalition Strategy and Coordination Meeting

Action Point >> Germany to send out high level invitations to the planned lunch reception of FOC Ambassadors adjacent to the expert workshop hosted by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age on 19 February

Action Point >> The SU to put the issue of alternatives to the Joint Statement mechanism on the agenda for the next Strategy and Coordination Meeting

AOB

- Estonia suggested reaching out to Georgia to host an FOC Open Forum session at EuroDIG in June. Members agreed this would be a good opportunity to engage.

Action Point >> Germany/SU to reach out to Georgia regarding the possibility of an FOC Open Forum at EuroDIG 2018