



Freedom Online Coalition - Friends of the Chair Call #18

Wednesday 25 July 2018

Attending: Argentina, Canada, Estonia, Germany, The Netherlands, US; Support Unit (SU);

Apologies: Costa Rica, Finland, Norway, UK

MINUTES

- Housekeeping
 - SU invited Members to raise any upcoming events for the FOC newsletter.
- Updates on FOC Chairmanship
 - Annual Conference
 - Germany updated Members on the preparations for the Annual Conference.
 - Germany thanked Members for their suggestions for government invitations and invited Members to provide further suggestions.
 - Germany requested Members to recommend high level invitations who would be potential speakers at the Conference.
 - Invitations to government and non-government representatives will be sent within the next week.

Action > Friends to provide SU and/or Germany with suggestions for government invitations.

- Implementation of the San Jose Work Plan
 - Operationalising the Stockholm TOR
 - SU gave an update on the Evaluation Framework for Member Review and Termination (EF)
 - The final EF draft, incorporating US comments, was circulated to the Friends of the Chair for sign off.

Action > Friends to raise any objections to the final EF draft by Friday 3 August.

- Update on Advisory Network [Canada]
 - Canada introduced the Advisory Network's [FOC-AN] proactive advice on the ITU
 - Members thanked the AN for their advice.
 - Members supported Canada's proposition of submitting the statement as a first draft for a joint statement.
 - The first draft will be considered by the Friends of the Chair, while Members confer with other departments

on including non-governmental actors in their delegations at the ITU Plenipotentiary.

- Members noted that proactive advice presented in a more general form could aid the FOC in using the advice in multiple forums. Members additionally noted that proactive advice in the form of statements would be most useful when relating to existing FOC objectives in the Program of Action.
- The SU noted that the next quarterly meeting between the FOC and the AN is scheduled to take place in August, and will be open to all FOC and AN members. Time and date for the call will be shared by the SU once confirmed.

Action> Canada to circulate FOC-AN's proactive advice on ITU as first draft for joint statement.

Action> Friends to confer with departments on the inclusion of non-governmental actors in their delegations by mid September.

- Program of Action 2018
 - Update on Program of Action 2018 [Germany, Canada]
 - Objective 1:
 - Canada is in the process of finalising the first draft of the Shrinking Spaces statement, due to be shared with the FOC and the FOC-AN shortly.
 - Objective 2:
 - An update on the Digital Divides statement will be provided by Germany at the next Friends of the Chair Call.
 - Objective 3
 - FOC engagement at the ITU Plenipotentiary.
 - During the ITU Learning Call on 3 July, Members expressed interest in the creation of an online group to facilitate FOC coordination on the ITU Plenipotentiary.
 - Germany will provide an update on arranging an FOC meeting of Geneva experts in September on the next Friends of the Chair Call.

Action > SU to look into setting up a Google Group for ITU Plenipotentiary coordination.

- Diplomatic Networks
 - n/a
- Outreach
 - The SU raised the topic of Chairmanship for 2019 and invited Members to provide updates.
- AOB
 - n/a