

IGF 2019

BPF Cybersecurity 2019 – note of meeting 2

The meeting took place on 21 May 2019 at 15:00 UTC and focused on progress made on supporting workstreams on agreements supporting cybersecurity and on legal frameworks related to cybersecurity. The recording can be found here – ([recording link](#)).

Item 1. Announcement of BPF Cybersecurity consultant

Wim Degezelle has been confirmed as the consultant supporting BPF Cybersecurity 2019, and has previously supported the BPF in 2017 and 2018. Wim explained that, while the BPF is heavily dependent on the work and expertise of volunteers from the community, the IGF Secretariat also provides a consultant to support the work of the BPF. This includes supporting drafting of, and editing, the BPF outputs, as well as supporting the outreach to the wider community.

Item 2. Update on the draft paper covering agreement similarities

In 2019, the BPF will identify best practices related to implementation of the different elements (e.g. principles, policy approaches) contained within various international agreements and initiatives on cybersecurity. The first phase of the work is being undertaken by a volunteer group working on a background paper which identifies and analyses relevant initiatives and agreements, and seeks to find horizontal / overlapping elements (those appearing in more than one agreement). The paper splits the agreements into three buckets – agreements made within an individual stakeholder group (list below), agreements struck across multiple stakeholder groups ([Paris Call](#), [Charter of Trust](#), and GCSC [Six Critical Norms](#)), and UN initiatives (GGE and OEWG).

The volunteer group is still open and anyone wishing to join and contribute can sign up by writing to bpf-cybersecurity-info@intgovforum.org.

Agreements from within single stakeholder groups under review by the volunteer group:

- [Tech Accord](#)
- Freedom Online Coalition's [Recommendations for Human Rights Based Approaches to Cyber security](#)
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization's [Agreement on cooperation in the field of ensuring the international information security](#)
- [African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection](#)
- Council to Secure the Digital Economy [International Anti-Botnet guide](#)
- League of Arab States [Convention on Combating Information Technology Offences](#)
- Council of Europe [Convention on Cybercrime](#) (the Budapest Convention)
- The East African Community (EAC) [Draft Framework for Cyberlaws](#)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) [Declaration of Brazzaville](#)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) [Directive on Fighting Cyber Crime](#)
- European Union [Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems](#)
- European Union [Cybersecurity Act](#)
- NATO Cyber Defence Pledge

- EU Council [Joint Communication: Resilience, Deterrence and Defence: Building strong cybersecurity for the EU](#)
- [Mutually Agreed Norms for Routing Security \(MANRS\)](#)

Work continues on this background paper and there was discussion about how it should be related to the Call for Contributions, recalling that a background paper was provided as part of the 2018 Call for Contributions and helped in stimulating ideas within the responses. In order not to delay the Call for Contributions, it was decided that a draft version of the background paper on agreements should be included when the Call for Contributions is circulated in mid-June, and that comments on the draft background paper could be included, e.g. to possibly surface other relevant agreements which are not in the paper. The final version of the background paper will then be circulated to the BPF and more widely in July, partly to serve as a reminder to respond to the Call for Contributions.

Item 3. Follow-up on a proposal regarding legal frameworks

A separate volunteer group has been established to identify regional initiatives, or national approaches within regions lacking a regional approach. It is looking to understand how legal frameworks support or underpin agreements and initiatives, and the extent to which national or regional cybersecurity strategies mention the applicability of international law to cyberspace. It has had a positive initial exchange of ideas but is not as advanced as the workstream on agreements.

One participant suggested it would be helpful to distinguish between legal agreements which are legally binding to its signatories and international legal norms which apply universally.

There was a separate discussion about the extent to which the two workstreams (on agreements and on legal frameworks) overlap, noting that the list of agreements includes some which are primarily legal in nature. Maarten van Horenbeeck will bring the two groups together in the coming weeks to see what the workstreams can learn from each other and to avoid duplication, and will then share meeting notes with the BPF.

Item 4. Call for Contributions

A Call for Contributions will be put out to the community around the middle of June. The idea for 2019 is to target the Call primarily to the organisations behind, and signatories to, the agreements and initiatives that the BPF is looking at this year.

Questions need to be drawn up for the Call. Suggested questions:

- The BPF will identify certain horizontal elements which cut across several of the agreements - what best practices exist related to achieving these elements?
- Do organizations responsible for agreements have mechanisms in place to keep track of actions taken by signatories to fulfill commitments?
- What benefits / challenges do you see from participating in these agreements?

Maarten van Horenbeeck will write to the BPF inviting questions to be included in the Call as well as suggestions for which organizations should be directly targeted to respond to the Call.

Item 5. Next steps and timeline

The timeline from the previous meeting was updated to take account of the status of work in the two volunteer groups and the decision to launch the Call for Contributions with a draft (rather than final) background paper.

- By 23 May – Maarten van Horenbeeck to send email to BPF inviting views on the Call for Contributions
- By 3 June – Drafts to be sent to the BPF list of the Call for Contributions and the Draft Background paper on Agreements and Initiatives
- By mid-June – publication of the Call for Contributions with the Draft Background paper on Agreements and Initiatives
- By mid-July – publication of the final Background paper on Agreements and Initiatives and reminder of Call for Contributions
- Drafting of BPF report by consultant and engagement where needed to broaden input – mid-July – late August
- Meeting 3 to discuss draft BPF report and planning BPF session at IGF 2019
- Publish draft report ahead of IGF 2019 – by 8th October (6 weeks before IGF 2019)