Input on IGF 2017

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Workshop (WS15): Multistakeholder Collaboration in Cybersecurity Response, co-organized by Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA) and Microsoft

Inputs

A. Taking stock of 2017 programming, preparatory process, community intersessional activities and the 12th annual IGF: What worked well? What worked not so well?

General:
- This was my first attendance in IGF conference. I was impressed by the scope of involvement by the civil society. In the past I have participated in various multilateral for a including UN, ITU, OECD, WTO, APEC, etc., and never have I seen so active involvement by the members of the civil society. Understandably, I sensed important allocation of attention on expanding the benefits of the Internet in the developing parts of the world.
- In many of the meetings I attended for four days, it was obvious that there was genuine concern/fear for the increasing threats in cyber space/cybersecurity and emphasis on the need for more information sharing among stakeholders, expansion of private-public partnership and enhanced collaboration to address cyberthreats. I also thought there was general sentiment for the need for a more formal inter-governmental regime (i.e., something similar to DGC), and anticipation for careful, cautious approach.
- One key takeaway is the importance of gender equality demonstrated by the UN and the IGF workshop evaluation committee. One of the topics of the Workshop we organized - (WS15) on Multistakeholder Collaboration in Cybersecurity Response - was capacity building.
- We were propelled into creating a new initiative to promote women in technology and cybersecurity with the support of Korean government agencies, industry association and media. We are working to organize Women@Security Conference on Mar 23 in Seoul in cooperation with Korean ICT Ministry, KISA, Center for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology, Korea Association of Chief Information Security Officers, Security News, etc. This conference is designed to be the first of a series of meetings to inspire students, career-interrupted women and other professionals to take interest in digital transformation and consider career opportunities in cybersecurity through presentations and TED-style talks.

Specific:

- I thought that the call for workshop proposal and selection process was handled well in a considerate manner. The secretariat provided clear instructions, timely announcements, results of review with reasonable explanations, and gave sufficient time for preparation, modification and re-submission.
- Also, there was sufficient time to work among workshop participants to be prepared and organized, share common understanding, set clear objectives so that we would better collaborate in making contributions to the attendees by sharing our practices, experiences and learnings in multistakeholder collaboration for cybersecurity response
- Opening ceremony and panel discussion were impressive, except that a couple of speakers dwelled only on gender issue and need for legislation, breaking the flow of the dialogues

B. Suggestions for improvements in 2018? (programming, preparatory processes, community intersessional activities and improvements for 13th annual meeting)

- The Webex training session on how to facilitate online participation was somewhat helpful. I would suggest modified agenda for the session, namely: (1) explanation of the meeting room logistics, e.g., there are two notebooks, one for the processing, another for projection; (2) what to expect from the technical assistant assigned to your workshop (in my case he was absolutely helpful); (3) targeted explanation for online moderator, online presenter, and online participants; and (4) role of the rapporteur and where to find the reporting forms.
- I hope there would be increased awareness in Korea about the IGF and encouragement for the relevant stakeholders to expand participation