



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAIOI Newsletter

May- June 2022

Highlights of May- June

May and June have been busy months. There were several high-level meetings (BRICS, G7, Davos, Quad, ICANN74, etc.) where digital issues were also discussed. Some of the other digital policy developments are related to proposed amendments to the IT Rules 2021, partial extension on the CERT-In directive, unified charger for EU, Apple's passwordless login, updates related to cybersecurity, antitrust measures, privacy and data protection, new technologies, content regulation, Ukraine crisis and more.

Proposed Amendment to the IT Rules 2021: Shrinking Safe Harbour of Intermediaries?

Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) released its [proposed version of amendments to the IT Rules 2021](#) for public comments till 7 July. The proposed amendments require intermediaries to set up a Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC) to hear on cases where user disagrees to the decision of grievance officer, acknowledge user complaints within 24 hours and act on content take down with 72 hours of receiving the complaint, ensure that users comply with the intermediary's rules and regulations, privacy policy, and user agreement, protect the rights guaranteed to users under India's constitution, etc.

Concerns have been expressed that the proposed amendments are vague and ambiguous, negated the safe harbour provided to Intermediaries by the IT act, may lead to pre censorship, may affect free speech online, etc.

A stakeholder consultation was subsequently held by MeitY clarifying on various aspects of the proposed amendments and hearing the concerns expressed by stakeholders.

CCAIOI held a stakeholder consultation on the amendments, and a report on the same is shared in a separate section in this newsletter.

We hope MeitY would conduct more stakeholder discussions based on the inputs received from the public consultation before the amendments are finalized.

CERT-In Directive: Partial Extension

Computer Emergency Response Team- India (CERT-In) on 27 June issued a [notification announcing a partial extension](#) on the deadline for complying with its cybersecurity directive. Now Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have time till 25 September to comply with the directions. Cloud Services Providers (CSP), Virtual Network Providers (VPN) have been given time till 25 September to comply with the directions for maintaining validated details of their customers.

We had discussed in our last edition the CERT-In's [directive](#) which place significant compliance requirements on companies working in India such as reporting cybersecurity incidents within 6 hours, maintenance of systems logs for 180 days, crypto and VPN companies to store logs of all transactions, etc. Subsequently [FAQs](#) on the directive were released by CERT-In. Concerns have been raised by [experts](#) and industry over the directives and there have been requests for extension of the deadline from 28 June.

Digital Issues now mainstream in global discussions

Digital issues are now mainstream in global discussions. Sharing key highlights from digital policy perspective of four meetings.

BRICS Summit

At the BRICS Summit 2022 held in Beijing on 23–24 June, several digital issues were discussed and mentioned in the [declaration](#). The countries reiterated their commitment to promote an open, secure, stable, accessible, and peaceful ICT environment; expressed support for the UN to lead in promoting constructive dialogues on ensuring ICT security, and for the development of a universal legal framework. The importance of establishing legal frameworks of cooperation among BRICS countries on ensuring security on the use of ICTs was highlighted. The countries agreed to promote consumer protection in e-commerce, foster cooperation on promoting trade and investment flows and enhancing the interconnectivity of supply chains.

G7 Summit

Digitalisation was one of the topics discussed during the [G7 summit](#) hosted in Germany on the 26- 28 June. Leaders of the Group of Seven expressed their commitment to work in creating an inclusive and global digital ecosystem; combat any forms of online harm and protect people online; enhance digital cooperation by building upon the Christchurch Call, the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, the outcomes of the Future Tech Forum, and the Declaration for the Future of the Internet; increase cyber resilience of digital infrastructure, endorsing the Joint Declaration on Cyber Resilience of Digital Infrastructure; continue to develop and implement robust international cyber norms; support the development of standards for digital and green transformations, and building upon the Trade and Technology Council (TTC), the Quad, the Future Tech Forum, the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), and acknowledging the EU Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles; facilitate data free flow with trust across borders, and endorsing the Action Plan for Promoting Data Free Flow with Trust, and advancing the e-commerce Joint Statement Initiative and continue the discussion on competition in digital markets.

Meeting of Quad Leaders

During the Quad Leaders' Summit in Japan, digital issues were discussed. The [quad leaders](#) committed to coordinate capacity building programs under the [Quad Cybersecurity Partnership \(PDF\)](#), initiate a Quad Cybersecurity Day; improve the defense of their critical infrastructure by sharing threat information, identifying and evaluating potential risks in supply chains for digitally enabled products and services, and aligning baseline software security standards for government procurement; work together to harness critical and emerging technologies, advance interoperability and security in 5G and beyond 5G, by signing the Memorandum of Cooperation on 5G Supplier Diversification and Open RAN; advance cooperation on semiconductors and other critical technologies and enhance resilience against various risks, for which a [Common Statement of Principles on Critical Technology Supply Chains](#) was issued, Further the countries agreed to cooperate on issues related to biotechnology and quantum technologies, strengthen cooperation in international standardization organisations and collaborate to pursue complementary actions in digital connectivity.

Davos

Digital issues were much discussed in [Davos during the World Economic Forum's \(WEF\)'s annual meeting](#). These include discussions on digital economy, cyber security, digital inclusion, AI, data governance, digital cooperation. Some of the initiatives launched during Davos include the Digital Foreign Direct Investment an initiative to offer unique insights on how to create a digital ecosystem that brings prosperity to people to help

government to better serve their citizens and also encourage businesses to grow; the Digital Inclusion Navigator to aid policymakers find the best practices and resources to further digital inclusion; Lighthouse Countries Network, a network of Lighthouse Countries including Bahrain, Bangladesh, and Rwanda, is being launched to accelerate digital inclusion in the health, education, and finance sectors on a national level; the Cyber Resilience Pledge that outlines a commitment towards strengthening cyber resilience across the industry through actions such as the adoption of actionable frameworks and guidelines, collaboration on common industry and supply chain challenges, and sharing lessons learned. ; and a Global Dialogue on Digital Cooperation.

Issue based updates:

Cybersecurity

The European Council and the European Parliament agreed on a [provisional agreement on the NIS2](#) directive for improving the resilience and incident response capacities of both the public and private sector in the EU.

NATO member countries adopted a new [Strategic Concept](#) whereby cyber-attacks could trigger invoke Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty' and also decided to build and exercise a virtual rapid response cyber capability to response to cyber attacks.

In terms of cyber attacks, the Costa Rica's public health service "Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS)" was [hit by Hive ransomware attack](#) that forced the services to go offline. CCSS has reported that the ransomware affected atleast 30 out of 1,500 government servers. Cybersecurity experts suggested that Hive might be working with Conti to help Conti rebrand. It is believed that Conti ransomware gang is shutting down operations and reorganising into smaller units as [per researchers at Advintel](#).

India's SpiceJet airline [faced an "attempted ransomware attack"](#) which delayed flights and left many stranded at airports.

A joint advisory of the FBI, NSA, and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in the USA has [alleged that China-backed hackers exploited publicly known vulnerabilities to compromise major US telecommunications companies](#)

Cloudflare reported to have detected and [mitigated a 26 million request per second DDoS attack](#).

The Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF) has [written to the MeitY secretary](#) expressing concerns of the growing cyber frauds related to Fraudulent ads on Google search and urged to implement measures to protect online users.

Anti-Trust

UKs Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has launched investigations on Google in two cases. First whether Google has broken the law by [restricting competition in the digital advertising technology market](#) and second on [Google's distribution of apps](#) on Android devices in the UK, in particular Google's Play Store rules which oblige certain app developers to use Google's own payment system (Google Play Billing) for in-app purchases.

The EU General Court of the Court of Justice has [annulled a 2018 decision by the European Commission to fine Qualcomm nearly €1 billion](#) for abuse of dominance in the LTE global chipsets market.

Danish online job search [Rival Jobindex has filed an antitrust complaint against Google](#) alleging that the company unfairly favoured its own job search service.

Privacy and Data Protection

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRC) adopted a resolution on [Safeguarding Humanitarian Data](#) and called on state and non-state actors to refrain from cyber operations against humanitarian organisations

European consumer groups led by [BEUC has lodged complaint against Google](#) for using deceptive design, unclear language and misleading choices when consumers sign up to a Google account that encourages more extensive and invasive data processing by the company, pushing users towards its surveillance system.

The Spanish Data Protection Agency (APED) [imposed a penalty of €10 million on Google](#) for GDPR breaches related to transferring EU citizens' data to a third party (Lumen Project) without a legal basis, and hindering users' right to have their personal data erased.

Meta has rewritten its [Privacy policy](#) to make it easier to understand.

Content Policy

The [EU updated its Code of Practice on Disinformation](#) first released in 2018. The [strengthened Code of Practice on Disinformation](#) was jointly endorsed by 34 signatories that include platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Google, Microsoft and TikTok.

The Cybersecurity Administration of China (CAC) has released more stringent rules for app providers, distributors and creators in the [updated version](#) of the Provisions on the Administration of Mobile Internet Applications Information Services which is expected to come into effect from 1 August.

In Nigeria, the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) has issued a draft [Code of Practice for Interactive Computer Service Platforms/Internet Intermediaries](#) (Online Platforms).

China has published [rules for influencers](#). These include the expected qualification to discuss topics, expected behaviour, what all behaviour is banned while livestreaming transparency in income declaration etc.

The [US Supreme court blocked a Texas Social Media Law](#) that prohibits social media platforms having 50 million active users from blocking, removing content based on user views. The emergency request to block the law came from social media platforms after the shooting in Buffalo.

New Jersey has launched an investigation into the social media platforms [Discord and Twitch in connection](#) to the Buffalo mass shooting.

Google has banned [developers using Google's Colaboratory platform \(Colab\) to generate deepfakes](#).

Meta has [informed](#) its Oversight Board that the company would be withdrawing an earlier request for policy guidance concerning content moderation issues related to Russia's ongoing war with Ukraine for "ongoing security and safety concerns".

In India the tussle between Twitter and Government of India continues. The [Indian government issued "one last chance"](#) to Twitter India to comply to the IT Rules by 4 July, failing which it would lose its immunity as an Intermediary. MeitY also pointed that the company has repeatedly failed to act on take down request sent under Sec 69A of the IT Act. Twitter is believed to have [complied with the IT Rules](#) before the deadline. Twitter has now [challenged the blocking orders or some parts of the 39 blocking orders](#) issued by Government of India in the Karnataka High Court.

Artificial Intelligence

Singapore launched an [AI testing framework and toolkit](#) to promote transparency

Microsoft released its updated [Responsible AI Standard framework](#) which comes with Microsoft's new [Limited Access policy](#), which either removes or limits customers' access to certain AI tools developed by the company

Spain and the European Commission has [launched a pilot regulatory sandbox for artificial intelligence](#) (AI).

Advanced Tech

The Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the US has announced that their [Frontier supercomputer at is the world's fastest](#) on the 59th [TOP500](#) list, with 1.1 exaflops of performance. The next month, the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU) [announced](#) that the [Jülich Supercomputing Centre](#) in Germany will host the first European exascale supercomputer.

The government of Singapore has launched [two national platforms](#), the [National Quantum Computing Hub](#) and the [National Quantum Fables Foundry](#) to further strengthen its quantum computing capabilities.

Crypto currency

Crypto currency platforms continue to face issues. Cryptocurrency lending platform [Celsius Network had to pause](#) all withdrawals and transfers due to 'extreme market conditions'. This resulted in the crypto market to crash.

Japan passed a landmark law clarifying the [legal status of stablecoins as a digital currency](#). This move is an effort to protect consumers investing in cryptocurrencies

UK released a consultation on [Managing the failure of systemic digital settlement asset](#) (including stablecoin) firms.

Singapore initiated a [project to investigate potential uses of asset tokenization](#) since the country is looking to establish itself as a hub for decentralized finance after several key crypto players left.

EU reached a [provisional agreement on transparency of crypto asset transfers](#) in an attempt to stop money laundering, terrorist financing, and other crimes.

During the G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governor's meeting in Petersberg, Germany, the Finance Ministries of the G7 states agreed for a 'close coordination with international standard-setters, to advance the swift development and implementation of [consistent and comprehensive regulation of crypto-assets](#)'.

Other Updates:

- The European Parliament and the Member States agreed to [adopt a universal charger](#). The USB-C charging port will become the standard for all smartphones and other small devices in the EU from 2024 and laptops will have to be equipped with a USB-C charging port 2026.
- Apple will launch [passwordless logins](#) across Macs, iPhones, iPads, and Apple TVs using iOS 16 and macOS Ventura from September 2022.
- To promote the development of interoperable open standards for the metaverse, the [Metaverse Standards Forum](#) has been launched by over 35 tech companies, industry consortiums, and standards developing organisations (SDOs).

- The European Commission has adopted the [2022 Strategic Foresight Report – “Twinning the green and digital transitions in the new geopolitical context”](#).
- Argentina's Supreme Court has ruled [that Right to be forgotten can infringe on freedom of information](#). The court ruled that Google does not have to remove the content involving Natalia Denegri, as the former socialite trapped in the orbit of football superstar Diego Maradona, fell within the public interest.
- India's Amandeep Singh Gill has been appointed the [Envoy of Technology](#).

Ukraine Crisis: The Digital War continues

The cyber war between Russia and Ukraine and allies continues with each party alleging the other of cyber offensive operations.

The US Department of Justice (DoJ) announced that a joint operation between the USA, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, have [dismantled the infrastructure of a Russian botnet known as RSOCKS](#) which allegedly hacked millions of computers and other electronic devices around the world. The State Service of Special Communications and Information Protection (SSSCIP) of Ukraine [published statistics](#) about the number, targets, and type of cyberattacks since the crisis began. A new report by [Microsoft alleges](#) Russian state-backed hackers targeted 128 businesses in 42 countries that are allied with Ukraine. Russian backed hackers were accused of launching attacks against several public and private sector websites in [Lithuania](#) and attack in [Norway](#).

The Commander of the US Cyber Command General Paul Nakasone has [confirmed that US military hackers have been conducting offensive operations in support of Ukraine](#)

Russia on the other hand has [warned](#) the West that cyber-attacks against its infrastructure could lead to direct military confrontation and met and that attempts to challenge Moscow in the cyber sphere would be met with targeted countermeasures. Russia has shared that it has an [internet traffic backup plan](#) if exchange points in Europe get cutoff

The tussle between Big Tech and Russia, the Wikimedia Foundation, owner of [Wikipedia has filed an appeal against](#) a Moscow court decision asking Wikipedia to remove content related to the Ukraine war. [Meta lost an appeal in a Moscow court](#) after being found guilty of 'extremist activity' in Russia in March.

To restrict access of chipsets to Russia, Taiwan announced [restricting exports of strategic high-tech commodities to Russia and Belarus](#), United States and Taiwan Announce the Launch of the [U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade](#) and Taiwan assured EU of being a "[trusted chip partner](#)"

Russia on its part has limited exports of [noble gases such as neon, which is a key ingredient for making chips](#).

As this crisis shows no indication of ending soon, we will be hearing more news of this digital war.

Updates from India

DoT launches centralised RoW portal [Sugam Sanchar](#). The portal will be the single interface for [tracking the status of right of way applications](#).

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) plans to [develop a framework to address fake reviews on E-Commerce website](#).

At a stakeholder meeting organized by the consumer affairs ministry along with Advertising Standards Council of India [fake reviews on e-commerce sites](#) was discussed along with suggestions on the proposed way ahead.

The [Ministry of Information and Broadcasting \(MIB\)](#) invited suggestions on the regulatory framework for [platform services](#).

A six member panel has been [set up by the RBI to review and suggest measures to improve customer service](#) in the regulated entities such as banks, finance companies, payment companies, credit card issued and bond houses.

MeitY issued a [clarification press release](#), and withdrew an earlier press release made on 29 May by the Bengaluru Regional Office, UIDAI on 27 May urging people not to share photocopy of their Aadhaar with any organization because it can be misused. MeitY stated that Aadhaar Identity Authentication ecosystem has provided adequate features to safe guard privacy and security of Aadhaar card holders and it is advised that Aadhaar card holders exercise normal prudence in using and sharing their UIDAI Aadhaar numbers.

CCAOI Stakeholder Discussion on proposed Amendment to IT Rules 2022

On 1 July, CCAOI carried out an online interactive stakeholder discussion on the [proposed Amendment](#) to the New IT Rules 2021. It was a 120 mins session, which was attended by over 90 people. Moderated by Amrita Choudhury, CCAOI, the expert speakers at the session were Puneeth Nagaraj, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas; Aman Taneja, Ikigai Law, Aishwarya Giridhar, CCG- NLU and Nikhil Pahwa, MediaNama, Sijo Kuruvilla George, Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF). Several other members of the audience (from different stakeholder communities) shared their views during the discussion. The event was supported by Internet Society and sponsored by Meta.

Concerns were raised that the proposed amendment goes beyond the scope of IT Act, 2000 and negates the safe harbour that is provided to intermediaries. It has the potential to impinge on freedom of speech, may lead pre-censorship. It would increase obligations of intermediaries especially smaller ones and startups. Further the powers and functions of the GAC are not clearly defined, and the amendments do not establish or provide any procedure for the functioning of the GAC. The amendments do not suggest procedural safeguards of takedown requests.

It was suggested that a graded approach to classify intermediaries based on their functions be adopted. The timeframe for grievance redressal should be based on the severity of the issue being discussed. While there is a need to create a fairer playing field and make platforms accountable, removing their safe harbour may not be the right approach. A more effective approach it was suggested, may be to make amendments in the IT Act.

For more details, please read the [event report](#) and hear the [recording](#) of the event.

ICANN Updates

ICANN74

ICANN organised the [ICANN74 Prep week](#) from 31 May-2 June and [ICANN74 Policy Forum Meeting](#) was organized from 13-16 June in Hague. This hybrid meeting was attended by 1,817 attendees from 101 countries and territories—917 in person and 900 remotely. During the meeting the [ICANN Community Excellence Award 2022 was awarded to Vanda Scartezini](#). Read more on ICANN 74 [Policy Outcomes](#), [GAC Communiqué](#).

Other updates

ICANN announced partnership with [EURid to promote a multilingual and inclusive Internet, Washington, D.C. and Seattle would host ICANN Meetings in 2023 and 2025](#), the [ICANN75 Fellowship list](#); published the [FY22 Q3 Unaudited Financial Results](#) and the [Proposed for Adoption FY23-27 Operating and Financial Plan and ICANN FY23 Operating Plan and Budget](#) documents; released an advisory on

[Chinese Privacy Law's Impact on Data Disclosure Complaints](#); applications were invited for the [Pandemic Internet Access Reimbursement Program](#). Besides ICANN, completed the [annual audits confirming](#) proper controls in place for the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions.

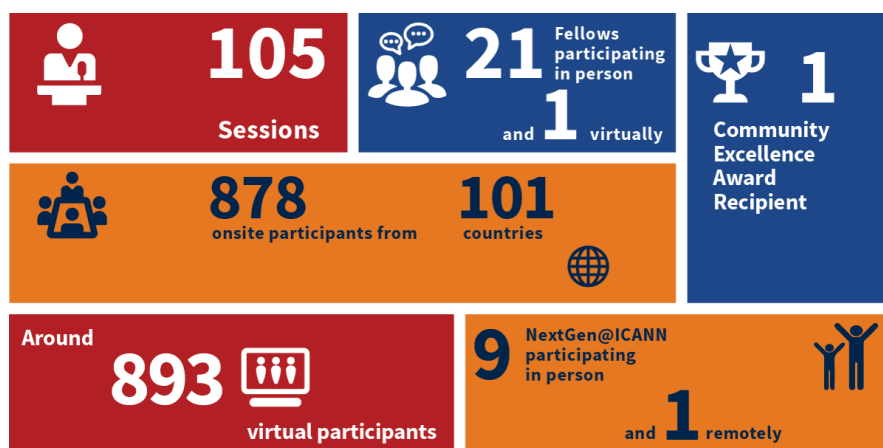


Fig: ICANN74 by the numbers

The ICANN Board adopted ICANN's [FY23–27 Operating and Financial Plan and FY23 Operating Plan and Budget](#). The ICANN [Chair released a blog on the April–May 2022 Board Workshop Recap](#).

ICANN is seeking [request for proposal \(RFP\) for conducting an Africa Domain Name System Study 2022](#) by 25 July

Nominations are now open [Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building](#) till 25 July.

ISOC Updates

ISOC released the [Internet Impact report 2021](#), launched an advocacy effort to raise awareness about the splinternet and the profound impact it could have on how we live. The ISOC Board of Trustees organised Open Forums on Structures of Consultation. ISOC sought feedback from the community on the 2025 strategy

Internet Society Foundation announced [expanding the Strengthening Communities, Improving Lives and Livelihoods \(SCILLS\) program to three new countries](#): Brazil, Ghana, and Indonesia.

The ISOC Community Week will take place on 6-7 September. For more updates read the [ISOC Blog](#).

APNIC Updates

[APNIC54 will be a hybrid conference](#) from 8-15 September in Singapore. APNIC will also be co-hosting AprIGF and APSIG meetings during that time. [Registration is now open](#) for the events.

The APNIC 54 [Program Committee](#) (PC) had [issued a call](#) for presentations, panel discussions, lightning talks, and tutorials. Nominations [open for NRO NC](#) elections till 8 August

Apart from routine activities, APNIC participated in several events including [INNOG](#), [AuSCERT2022](#); conducted [Network and Information Security Workshop](#) in Singapore., [Network Management and Monitoring \(NMM\) Workshop](#) in Bangkok, [RIPE84](#), [ICANN APNIC TWNIC Forum](#), [NZ NOG 2022](#), [Africa Internet Summit](#), ICANN73, etc. APNIC EC conducted the [2022 APNIC Survey](#).

For more updates visit the [APNIC Blog](#).

TRAI Updates

TRAI released the Telecom Subscription data report of [March 2022](#) (that indicates a slight increase in telecom subscribers from previous month (1166.05 million in February) to 1166.93 million and increase in broadband subscribers to 788.30 million from 783.37million in February) and [April 2022](#) (that indicates a slight increase in telecom subscribers from previous month (1166.93 million in March) to 1167.82 million and increase in broadband subscribers to 788.77 million from 788.30 million in March)

TRAI released the [Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report for the Quarter ending December 2021](#). Total telecom subscribers came down by 0.90% to 1,178.41 million and broadband subscribers by 0.60% to 829.30 million.

TRAI and TEC released [Test Guide Document for CAS & SMS for Broadcasting Sector](#).

Comments were invited on the consultation papers on [Issues related to New Regulatory Framework for Broadcasting and Cable services](#), [Issues Relating to Media Ownership](#) and [Spectrum Requirements of National Capital Region Transport Corporation \(NCRTC\) for Train Control System for RRTS Corridors](#).

TRAI responded to [DoT back reference dated 09.03.2022 on Recommendations on Licensing Framework for Satellite-based connectivity for Low Bit Rate Applications](#) and to [DoT's back-reference regarding TRAI's earlier Recommendations dated 11th April 2022 on 'Auction of Spectrum in frequency bands identified for IMT|5G'](#).

IGF Updates

The IGF2022 will be organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from [28 November to 2 December](#). It will be a hybrid meeting. For more details, read the IGF June [Newsletter here](#).

Other Updates

Articles & Reports:

- The Broadband India Forum has release a white paper [The State of IPv6 in India and Way Forward](#)
- Verizon has released the [Databreach Investigations Report \(DBIR\) 2022](#)

Events:

- The Dialogue and IAMAI organized a Focus Group Discussion on the IT Rules, 2021.
- 11th edition of RightsCon was held online from 6-10 June.
- [8th Middle East Domain Name System \(DNS\) Forum](#) took place virtually from 16-18 May 2022.
- MediaNama organised a member meeting on IT Rules, Crypto, RBI Tokenization, CERT-IN Rules on 30 June.
- The Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) organized an in-person meeting for the Women's Rights Online (WRO) Network at Dubai from 21 to 24 June, 2022. The meeting was attended by WRO network members from the Global South. Apart from strategizing about the WRO work ahead there were discussions on the Cost of Exclusion/ Gender research findings, and discussion on how to contribute to the Global Digital Compact Consultation. CCAOI participated in the meeting.



Pic: WRO 2022 Meeting

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Upcoming Events

- [APSIG2022](#) will be held in September in Singapore
- [AprIGF2022](#) will be held 12-14 September in Singapore.
- APNIC54 will be held 8-15 September in Singapore.
- ICANN75 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 17–22 September in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The 2022, edition of the India School on Internet Governance (inSIG) will be held in Hyderabad. The tentative dates are 25-27 Sep'22 with day 0 on 24 Sep. For more details visit: <https://insig.in>
- The IGF2022 will be organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from [28 November to 2 December](#).

Opportunities

- Call for local hubs for AprIGF2022 is now open till 1 August. For more details [visit this link](#).
- [Registration is now open](#) for AprIGF2022 and APNIC54.

Inputs sought on the Global Digital Compact

The UN Secretariat, through the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, has launched a [public consultation inviting views and suggestion](#) on the [Global Digital Compact](#) (GDC). Views should be focused on two specific aspects (a) core principles that governments, companies, civil society organisations, and other stakeholders should adhere to; and (b) key commitments, pledges, or actions that should be taken by stakeholders.

It may be mentioned that the UN Secretary-General in this report [Our Common Agenda](#) released in 2021 proposed a Global Digital Compact to be agreed at the Summit of the Future in September 2023 through a technology track that would involve all stakeholders. GDC is expected to “outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all” and would cover topics.

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