

## **Report on IGF2017 Participation**

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### **Introduction**

The 12<sup>th</sup> Internet Governance Forum (IGF) took place on December 18 - 21, 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland at the United Nations Office with the overarching theme '**Shaping your digital future**'. Over 2,200 delegates participated in the meeting and it was an opportunity to be supported by the BC to participate in the discussions at the Forum. Please review more information on the Forum @ [www.intgovforum.org](http://www.intgovforum.org).

In preparation for the meeting, I printed 100 copies of the BC Factsheets which Marilyn & I distributed appropriately.

### **Brief description of purpose of attending and overall engagement at the IGF2017**

I participated as a speaker in 1 Main session, 2 workshops and 1 Annual General Assembly. I also attended 11 other sessions and workshops at the epoch event. More details on actual speaking roles are provided below:

Sn	Title of Session/Workshop	Category	When	Message delivered	Reference/s
1	Internet of Things: Supportive Role of Smart Solutions in the Decision Making Process	Workshop #202	Dec 19 @ 11.30 - 12.30pm	I gave a presentation on the security risks that arise with the uptake of connected devices. IoT devices have become important for decision makers in many areas. However these devices are not reliable. Current vectors of cyber-attacks are often exercised through compromised IoT devices that serve as botnets. I informed the audience about various cases of attacks and security vulnerabilities, and the absence of well-defined regulations to tackle these issues. In conclusion, I mentioned some positive examples of how problems are being addressed by some organisations. For example, the US Department of Homeland Security released guidelines for security in the IoT, and the Industrial Internet Consortium rolled out a framework which provides best practices to assist developers, and to identify risks.	<a href="https://dig.watch/sessions/internet-things-supportive-role-smart-solutions-decision-making-process">https://dig.watch/sessions/internet-things-supportive-role-smart-solutions-decision-making-process</a>  <a href="https://goo.gl/V5ggb8">https://goo.gl/V5ggb8</a>
2	Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA) Annual General Assembly	General Assembly	Dec 19 @ 1.30-3pm	As a board member of the Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA), I provided important balanced representation on behalf of African region for IGFSA laudable role as champion of the National and Regional IGFs (NRIs). Please recall that IGFSA was an outcome of the CSTD WG on IGF Improvement 2011 where participants expressed need to evolve a platform for the public to contribute small sums to support the proliferation of NRIs around the world. BC member Marilyn Cade has been a major catalyst for the phenomenon expansion of NRIs around the world.	<a href="https://dig.watch/sessions/igf-sa-annual-general-assembly">https://dig.watch/sessions/igf-sa-annual-general-assembly</a>
3	Empowering Global Cooperation on	Main Session	Dec 19 @ 3 -	In my intervention, I put an emphasis on the need for developing countries to sustain their economic	<a href="https://dig.watch/sessions/empowering-">https://dig.watch/sessions/empowering-</a>

	<u>Cybersecurity for Sustainable Development and Peace</u>		6pm	development by being proactive in any dialogue that foster cooperation on the issue of deepening enterprise cybersecurity. I further said that developing countries would be taking the issue of cybersecurity seriously and enhancing global cooperation by developing their cybersecurity strategy, policy and law; ratifying the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity and Data Protection; raising awareness among citizens, and encouraging sub-regional and regional co-operation. I cited 'One Network' programme in Africa, as a good example of co-operation.	<u>global-cooperation-cybersecurity-sustainable-development-and-peace</u>  <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxQ6mTINZ1E</u>  <u>https://goo.gl/Y1N4wo</u>
4	<u>Digital Inclusion for Africa (OF55)</u>	Workshop OF55	Dec 20 @ 16.15 - 5.15pm	In my intervention, I gave a business view of digital inclusion. I said that government should create the enabling environment for inclusion by connecting villages and schools, and boosting business and entrepreneurship and supporting innovation with an established budget.	<u>https://dig.watch/sessions/digital-inclusion-africa-of55</u>  <u>https://goo.gl/B62H7A</u>

## **Conclusion**

As BC supported Business participation in the IGF 2017, it indirectly fulfils its objective and commitment to a stable, secure and resilient Internet which underlines the IGF. The distribution of BC Factsheets provided an important interface for the works of the BC in this regard to be communicated to some delegates..