

ICC Global Digital Economy Commission

ANNUAL REPORT: 2022

On behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce we would like to thank you for your continued support and active participation throughout 2022 in the ICC Global Digital Economy Commission and the ICC Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS) initiative. We are delighted to share the highlights and achievements of our joint work in 2022 and look forward to new successes together in 2023 and beyond!

Leadership Changes

We wish to thank once again the outgoing leadership of the Commission for their commitment and stewardship over the last few years: **Carlos López Blanco**, fmr. Chair, **Christoph Steck**, fmr. Vice-Chair, and **Christiaan van der Valk**, fmr. Vice-Chair. A new leadership Team has been appointed as of 10 November 2022 for a three-year term:

- **Chair: Rene Summer**, Director of Government and Policy Advocacy, Ericsson Group
- **Vice-Chairs: Ellen Blackler, Peter Farrell, Deena Magnall, François-Xavier de Rezende Martins, Carolyn Nguyen, Juan Luis Redondo, Juntao Song, Chris Wilson**

The leadership team continues to be supported by **Regional Ambassadors: Hossam Elgamal** for Africa, **Diego Molano** for South America, **Makoto Yokozawa** for Asia

Cybersecurity

Publications

The Commission's Working Group on Cybersecurity continued work on the ICC Cybersecurity Issue Brief series, following up from the [Policy Primer on Cybersecurity](#) and [Issue Brief 1: Call for Government Action](#), published in 2021. The WG published [Issue Brief 2: Implementing Norms and Rules for responsible state behavior and in cyberspace and enhancing cooperation to counter cybercrime](#) in March 2022 and focused on further developing projects related to the paper:

- A. ICC proposes to convene a global multistakeholder coalition to develop **Cyber Development Goals (CDGs)** to help mainstream cybersecurity into the development agenda by defining a set of global benchmarks and practical activities to support countries in implementing and complying with universally endorsed UN norms for responsible state behaviour in cyberspace.
- B. **Annex to IB2 on Cybercrime: Substantive considerations on an international instrument on cybercrime** aims to establish detailed positions by ICC's global membership on the key

elements for consideration for the development of an International Convention on cybercrime. The paper has been finalized for its publication in early January 2023.

Advocacy engagements and events

The WG focused on two main avenues for engagement in the international policy arena, benefitting from ICC's unique Observer status to the UN General Assembly:

At the [UN Open Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of ICTs](#) ICC actively participated in the group's second (28 March - 1 April) and third (25 - 29 July) substantive sessions of the informal intersessional meetings (5-9 December) to deliver global business views and make the case for the Cyber Development Goals. The [ICC Roundtable on Responsible Behaviour in Cyberspace](#) on the side of the OEWG's second session marked the launch of Issue Brief #2.

At the [UN Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of ICTs for Criminal Purposes](#) ICC actively participated in the group's three substantive sessions (28 February - 11 March; 30 May - 10 June; 29 August - 9 September) and three intersessional consultations (24-25 March; 13-14 June; 3-4 November), to deliver global business evidence and guidance as the Committee considered elements of the convention.

In addition, the workshop entitled [Towards Cyber Development Goals: implementing global norms](#) organized through ICC BASIS at the [17th Internet Governance Forum](#) (28 November – 2 December, Addis Ababa) marked the soft launch of the Cyber Development Goals concept.

In 2023 the WG on Cybersecurity will focus on:

- Running a **global campaign to develop the Cyber Development Goals**.
- Continued **advocacy engagements at the OEWG on Cybersecurity** and **AHC on Cybercrime**, especially as the latter moves to negotiating the text of the Convention.
- Developing **policy recommendations on enhancing the security of critical infrastructures** (Issue Brief #3).

Data Governance

Publications

The Commission's Working Group on Data Governance developed the [ICC White Paper on Trusted Government Access to Personal Data Held by the Private Sector](#) (TGA). The main aim of the paper is to contribute to achieving consensus on common principles for TGA to support the transfer of data between jurisdictions and result in positive economic and social impacts.

Advocacy engagements and events

Launched in April at a workshop on "Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Cross-Border Data Flows" during the [UNCTAD eCommerce Week](#), the paper became ICC's main advocacy instrument in calling for shared principles for TGA. In particular, we supported the work of the OECD Committee on Digital Economy Policy on the topic that culminated with the adoption of the [OECD Declaration on TGA](#) at the OECD [Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting](#) on 14 December, reflecting the extensive input received from business through ICC and our continued partnership with Business at OECD. See our statement welcoming the declaration [here](#).

Key events during 2022 around the **advocacy of the White Paper** included:

- **Pre-launch Webinar** for OECD delegations, organized with Business at OECD (10 March)
- **Launch of the Paper** at UNCTAD eCommerce Week (29 April)
- **Advocacy at APEC SOM3** where ICC was represented by Makoto Yokozawa, Regional Ambassador to Asia (August)
- **Consultation with OECD** Committee on Digital Economic Policy (7 September)
- **Joint Webinar on TGA** with Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry and ICC India (October)
- **Workshop** on [Trustworthy data flows: building towards common principles](#) organized through ICC BASIS at the [17th Internet Governance Forum](#) (30 November)
- **Business-government roundtable** on [Government Access to Personal Data held by Private Sector Entities](#) during the [OECD Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting](#) (13 December)

In 2023 the WG on Data Governance will focus on:

- Continued **advocacy for TGA principles**, building on the foundational work of the OECD, expanding **beyond the OECD member countries** and exploring its implications for non-personal data flows.
- Developing a **Policy Primer Non Personal Data Flows (NPD)**, for which a drafting group has been established and convene in January 2023.

Connectivity and Access

Publications

The Commission's Working Group on Connectivity and Access developed the [ICC White Paper on Delivering Universal Meaningful Connectivity](#) exploring barriers to meaningful connectivity, and showcases innovative approaches to overcome them, including recommendations to policymakers closing the connectivity gap in collaboration with businesses.

Advocacy engagements and events

The White Paper was released at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2022 (March) during a workshop on [Breaking barriers to universal meaningful connectivity](#) and formed the base for ICC's policy pledge to the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) [Partner2Connect \(P2C\) Digital Coalition](#). The paper's recommendation were further socialized at the ITU during the [World Telecommunication Development Conference](#) (June), the [Plenipotentiary Conference](#) (October-November) and meetings of Study Groups 1 and 2 of the ITU Telecommunications Development Sector. In addition

In 2023 the WG on Connectivity and Access will focus on:

- Continued **advocacy of the White Paper** in relevant intergovernmental and multistakeholder fora;
- Demonstrating business leadership in delivering universal **meaningful connectivity in the service of people, planet and prosperity**, as the international community assesses progress on the SDGs.

Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS)

As the leading voice of global business in international dialogues on internet governance, ICC's BASIS initiative focused mainly on the following workstreams in 2022:

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

For the 17th time in a row, ICC BASIS represented global business at the IGF, the only forum allowing for an open and inclusive multistakeholder discussion on Internet Governance and digital policy matters. IGF was held this year in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 28 November to 2 December 2022, and welcomed over 5,000 participants from 170 countries, that engaged in more than 300 sessions. Please see our activities and messages developed for the IGF [here](#), and key take-aways from the event [here](#), including:

- Engagement at the highest levels through the participation of ICC Chair, Maria Fernanda Garza, appointed earlier this year as member of the IGF [Leadership Panel](#);
- Input to policy discussions through tailored key messages and organization of workshops to amplify the work of the ICC Global Digital Economy Commission;
- meetings with key government delegations, international organisations and civil society partners, paving the way to close collaboration at a significant juncture in the global digital policy arena, as we look ahead to the SDG Summit in 2023, the deliberations on the Global Digital Compact at the Summit of the Future in 2024, and the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2025.

The **18th annual meeting of the IGF will be held in Kyoto, Japan on 8-12 October 2023** and ICC BASIS will continue to engage in preparatory activities throughout the year as well as to lead an in-person delegation at the meeting, to ensure effective representation on global business perspectives and priorities.

Global Digital Compact (GDC)

As called for by the UN Secretary-General in his report [Our Common Agenda](#), and in recognition of the importance of digital transformation, the GDC is intended to outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all. ICC, through BASIS, submitted input to the ongoing multistakeholder consultation on what the Compact should include, amplifying the messages developed by the ICC Global Digital Economy Commission, in particular on connectivity, Internet fragmentation, AI, cross-border data flows and multistakeholder Internet governance.

ICC BASIS co-organized a business roundtable with the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, Mr Amandeep Singh Gill, as well as follow-up bilateral conversations to ensure effective collaboration.

The GDC is expected to be negotiated ahead of and adopted at the Summit for the Future planned for 2024, preceded by a **Ministerial Meeting in September 2023**. ICC BASIS will continue to work closely with the Office of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology and the co-facilitators of the GDC (Rwanda and Sweden) to ensure effective representation of business views throughout the entire drafting process.