

Organization Member Advisory Council Report

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OMAC Activities

Nominations and Elections Committee Volunteers Submitted

Following the Board's request to identify volunteers from the organization members community for the 2024-2025 Nominations and Elections committees, the OMAC co-chairs issued a call for volunteers. They provided the Charters and outlined the requirements and time commitments for each role, encouraging members to take part in this important process. After reviewing the applications received, the OMAC co-chairs submitted the information for the two volunteers: **Benno Overeinder** from NLnet Labs (Elections Committee) and **Hendrik Ike** from GÉANT (Nomination Committee).

Three OMAC Roundtables Delivered

OMAC Roundtable #20 – A Look at the Encryption Landscape, Including Legislative Update and Trends

Encryption is a critical issue within the Internet community, and to address its significance, the 20th OMAC Roundtable focused on the Internet Society's priority efforts to defend encryption. The session further highlighted how the Global Encryption Coalition is mobilizing industry leaders, including OMAC members, to confront key challenges that will shape the future of the Internet. Twelve (12) OMAC members attended. 80% of OMAC members who provided feedback rated the meeting Excellent or Very Good.

OMAC Roundtable #21- WTSA-24: Key Issues to Look Out For

As the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) has become more involved in a range of policy and substantive matters related to the ICTs and the Internet, following its sector work programs has become increasingly relevant. The 21st OMAC roundtable provided members with some background about the ITU working modalities and discussed the key topics leading to the WTSA24, including their potential impact on the open, globally-connected, secure, and trustworthy Internet. Ten (10) OMAC members



attended. The meeting was rated Excellent or Very Good by 55% of OMAC members who provided feedback.

The Internet Society's WTSA-24 Issues Matrix has been shared with OMAC members. To further explore key takeaways and implications, a follow-up Roundtable on the post-WTSA overview is scheduled for 21 November 2024.

OMAC Roundtable # 22: Highlighting Local Peering Potential

A number of OMAC members recognize that Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) play a crucial role in strengthening Internet resilience and efficiency by enabling local content exchange. The 21st OMAC Roundtable provided an overview of the Internet Society's IXP Tracker, offering insights into the benefits of peering, such as cost savings and improved network performance. The session also introduced the Popular Content Locality tracker, which helps organizations align their strategies with evolving content hosting trends by identifying where a country's most popular content is hosted. Seven (7) OMAC members and guest IXPs attended. The meeting was rated Excellent or Very Good by 66.6% of the participants who provided feedback.

Key Learnings

- For many OMAC members, legislation is not a core focus. Therefore, it would be helpful if the Internet Society staff could provide support by:
 - Guiding members in navigating the landscape of legislation and guidelines by providing brief overviews.
 - Advising members on which legislation to focus on and take action where needed to support or counter proposed legislation.
- It's important to widely promote the Internet Society Pulse IXP Tracker and the Popular Content Locality Tracker within the community, as these tools offer significant benefits to organizations' network strategies and global connectivity efforts.

