DCDF2021
منتدى التعاون الرقمي والتنمية
Digital Cooperation and Development Forum
Shaping our digital future | رسم مستقبلنا الرقمي

Date: Wednesday 15 December, 10:00 - 11:15 am

UNITED NATIONS ESCWA | Shared Prosperity Dignified Life

ARAB IGF
ARAB INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

Internet Society

Moderator

Mr. Michael Kende | Senior Advisor at Analysis Mason; Digital Development Specialist, IFC.

Michael Kende is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Trade and Economic Integration and Visiting Lecturer at the Graduate Institute of Geneva, teaching a course on Internet Economics and Governance. Senior Advisor at Analysys Mason, a telecommunications and media consultancy. Member of Municipal Council in Collex-Bossy, Switzerland.

Former Chief Economist at the Internet Society. Previously partner in Analysys Mason and head of US office. Specialization in the economics of the Internet, with a particular focus on providing strategic advice on a wide variety of issues, including promoting Internet development and policy issues relating to the convergence of media and telecommunications. Ph.D. in Economics from MIT; Assistant Professor of Economics at INSEAD; and Senior Economist at the Federal Communications Commission.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Walid Mathlouthi | Head of Future Network & Spectrum Management Division at International Telecommunication Union, ITU

Dr. Walid Mathlouthi received a PhD in Optics, Photonics and Lasers. He spent his early career at Optical Research Laboratories in France, Italy, Canada and the US with Intel Corp where he worked, among other things, on the first Raman silicon laser. In 2010, he joined AT&T Labs in California as a Senior Member of Technical Staff. He worked mainly on data mining for complex Analysis/problem solving, Laboratory and field experimentation, 3G, 4G and LTE service quality and optimization, RF optimizations, Self-organizing Networks, Large scale UE data collection and analysis for actionable analytics and IP migrations such as VOLTE services.

In 2015, Dr. Walid joined Google Headquarters in Mountain View as Networks Architect. He worked on building high quality networks to provide broadband connectivity in emergent markets and connect the under-connected. During the past few years, he focused on Google Global network transport and Google Global Data centre design to support cloud services deployments (compute, storage, ML Pods etc...).

Dr. Walid Mathlouthi freshly joined the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as Head of Future Network & Spectrum Management (FNS) Division.

Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny | Chief of ICT Policies and Digital Development, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA

Ayman El-Sherbiny has more than 30 years of experience in the Telecom and IT domain; a senior International Development Strategist in the United Nations, and a former senior executive in a number of major multinational Technlogy companies, as well as in the Telecom and Internet Sector in Egypt and the Arab Region during the nineties till 2002. By the mid-nineties, he became a serial entrepreneur. He co-founded and led, as President & CEO, several renowned ICT companies, including establishing two of the five licensed Internet Operators, and acquired more than 40% of internet market share in a record time, in addition to one of the leading systems integrators and one of the pioneering e-commerce companies as well as the first WAP partner to the main GSM operator by then. In 1999, he participated in co-drafting the first Telecom Law of Egypt that triggered the liberalization of the sector, instigated the National TRA of Egypt, and fueled competition in the sector. By late 2002, he joined the United Nations, and participated in establishing the ICT Division of ESCWA, spearheading Arab efforts pertaining to the WSIS in 2003 and 2005. By 2011, and till now, he assumed the leadership role for information society, digital economy and digital development as the Chief of Information and Communication Technology Policies at the UN – ESCWA. During 18 years of tenure in the UN, he authored tens of publications on the Information Society issues including on Advancing ICT Infrastructure, Broadband for Development, Internet Governance, Competitiveness of the ICT Sector, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Investment and Venture Capital in ICTs, e-Government Strategy, and on Digital Economy; and has co-founded the Arab Internet Governance Forum (AIGF) and the Arab High-Level Forum on WSIS and 2030 Agenda.

He led several international and regional initiatives including Arabic Names across several geographical groups. He is a regular speaker at international conferences on digital oriented issues. His current work focuses on global and regional Digital Cooperation and Development, Fintech and e-Commerce post-COVID-19; and on the establishment of a Unified Arab Digital Agenda and Strategy for the Arab region jointly with League of Arab States, and on National Digital Development Reviews and Agendas for a number of Arab countries, with close nexus to the SDGs and to the 2030 Agenda.

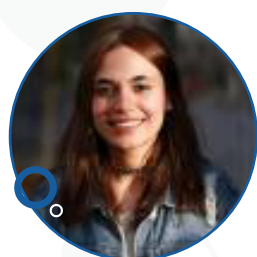## Mr. Juan Peirano | Senior Policy Advisor, Internet Society

Juan Peirano is a Senior Policy Advisor at the Internet Society, where he is focused on issues related to Internet infrastructure and access. In his role as subject matter expert, Juan contributes to the development of Internet Society's projects on Internet Growth, access and sustainability.

Prior to joining the Internet Society, Juan was involved in the Internet community, working for LACNIC as a Policy Officer and Internet Resource Analyst, before moving to engineering roles in Telefonica. He was an active participant in various technical fora, including participation in RIR activities, ICANN and IGFs, holding the position of co-chair for the Public Development Process in the LACNIC region, between 2016 and 2018.

Juan is a Telecommunications Engineer from ORT University in Montevideo, Uruguay, and has a Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom.

He speaks English, Spanish and German.

Juan is currently based in the United Kingdom.

Ms. Marwa Azelmat | Women's rights policy advocacy coordinator, APC

Marwa offers extensive experience in policy advocacy work related to cyber policy issues, gendered policy making and good governance. Marwa's journey has been captured in the UN-AU Commemorative Book on UNSCR 1325, titled "20 Years 20 Stories", as one of 20 African women who have made an outstanding contribution in their fields to the broader Women, Peace, and Security agenda. Her story among others echoes outspoken activism challenging the way it has always been done and positioning internet rights as accelerators of the SDG 16. Throughout her work, Marwa has been rethinking social justice in a digital age wherein institutional development needs to unleash gendered technology for effective policy measures and accountability practices. Marwa holds a Masters of Laws-LLM in International Human Rights Law and Democratization, an IT engineering degree and a professional certificate on Conflict Prevention and Resolution through Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) at Vienna. Marwa loves journaling, running by the sea and meditating to break free of life's mundane shackles.

Mr. Sharaf Azzain | Entrepreneur and Founder of Ultimate STC - President of Internet society Yemen chapter

I am an accomplished Project Manager strategist and solution-oriented person who thrives in challenging, fast paced environments where my performance directly impacts the bottom line. In addition, I have solid organizational leadership and decision-making skills that can make an immediate contribution to your operations and business development.

I have an outstanding analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills which help me solve complex problems with efficient solutions.