

LACIGF 12 Report

Title of the session: Closing Ceremony

Session summary:

The closing ceremony was focused on **Iván Zambrana (Viceministro de Telecomunicaciones, Bolivia)**, representative of the local authority and **María Paz Canales (Derechos Digitales, Chile)**, representative of the organization committee. The host, also responsible for moderating the closure of the LACIGF, began by thanking everyone present and then inviting them to take a collective photo. Zambrana was asked, as the government representative, to talk about his impressions on LACIGF12 importance. The moderator added that the three-day discussion allowed the construction towards a regional agenda, focused on developing projects to improve the lives of citizens through Internet governance.

Iván Zambrana thanked the community for the engagement in the event, as the dialogue was once again the best way to advance the issues discussed. Zambrana considered that the regional forums are a fundamental tool to develop a technology as powerful and innovative as the Internet, in the search also for a path without discrimination and inclusion. The shared knowledge was highlighted in Zambrana's speech, since he believes that Bolivians learned a lot about possible solutions to their problems, as also happened to visitors. Zambrana spoke about the generosity involved in sharing knowledge and dialogue until identifying challenges, challenges and paths in common, and wished that, for the next forum, there is much progress. The vice minister ended by inviting everyone to LACIGF 13.

The representative of the committee, **María Paz Canales**, thanked the honor and privilege of participating in the organizing committee of the 12th LACIGF, as well as took the opportunity to thank the Latin American community, which remains linked year after year to the Internet Governance Forum of Latin America and the Caribbean, making it grow and strengthen with each edition. She also asked the participants to return in the next editions and invite new people to join this ecosystem. She argued for strengthening multisectoralism and work at the local level, always renewing the commitments to the local agenda.

She then presented the statistics obtained during the Forum, indicating that around 313 people attended the 12th LACIGF in La Paz, Bolivia, and 1300 people watched the remote transmission in more than 25 countries, such as Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras, and Colombia. María also reported, in relation to the face-to-face participants, that 43% of those present were women and that 31% of those enrolled were people under 30.

In one of the greatest efforts also to strengthen participation and firmly establish the forum as a community, in 2019 scholarships were distributed to 18 participants from 9 countries, 65% of them women and 35% minors from 30 years

With regard to the panelists, she enthusiastically stated that 52% of the panelists were women and thanked them for this achievement, emphasizing the generosity of the members and the progress that this milestone represents.

Finally, she affirmed that it is a common effort to maintain the high level of discussions and announced that Chile was chosen to organize the next edition of the event.

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The closing ceremony took place with the presence of **Iván Zambrana (Viceministro de Telecomunicaciones, Bolivia)**, representative of the local authority and **María Paz Canales (Derechos Digitales, Chile)**, representative of the organization committee. The master of ceremonies, also responsible for moderating the closure of the LACIGF, began by thanking everyone present and then inviting them to take a collective photo. The first question put for Zambrana was for the government representative to talk about his impressions about the importance of LACIGF 12. After Zambrana, the moderator added that the three-day discussion allowed the construction towards a regional agenda, focused on developing projects for improve the lives of citizens through Internet governance.

Iván Zambrana began by thanking everyone for the execution and realization of the event, on which occasion the dialogue was once again the best way to advance the issues discussed. Zambrana considered that the regional forums are a fundamental tool to develop a technology as powerful and innovative as the Internet, in the search also for a path without discrimination and inclusion. The shared knowledge was highlighted in Zambrana's speech, since he believes that Bolivians learned a lot about possible solutions to their problems, as also happened with visitors. Zambrana spoke about the generosity involved in sharing knowledge and dialogue until identifying challenges, challenges and paths in common, and wished that, for the next forum, there is much progress. The vice minister ended by inviting everyone to LACIGF 13.

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