International Institute of Communications

Latin America & Caribbean Digital Communications and Media Forum 2026

Date: 23rd - 25th June 2026

Location: Montevideo, Uruguay

Agenda: Tuesday 23 June 2026: Regional Regulators Roundtable (Regulators Only)

14:00: Welcome

Co-chairs:

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Gonzalo Balseiro Giglio, President, Regulatory Unit of Communications Services (URSEC), Uruguay

Sharing best practice policy and regulation for the digital era: comparing structural and strategic approaches to support digital transformation in the era of AI.

Moving from legacy telecommunications/media regulation to digital regulation – how do we manage the migration/transition to new models, structures opportunities and challenges?

14:15: Stimulus speakers - Telecommunications authorities

Juan Martín Ozores, President, National Agency of Communications (ENACOM), Argentina

Javier Gutiérrez Afanador, Communications Commissioner, Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC), Colombia

Alex Gallardo, Head of the Regulatory Policy and Studies Division, Undersecretariat of Telecommunications (SUBTEL), Chile

Fernando Machuca Manevy, Member of the Board of Directors, National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL), Paraguay

Ryan Biran, Manager Policy and Research, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT)

15:15: Networking break

15:45: Stimulus speakers – Media, competition and digital government authorities

The Hon. Dr. Allyson Leacock, Chairman, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Director, National Transformation Initiative, Government of Barbados; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

Tawfic Awwad Júnior, Director of the Department of Innovation, Regulation and Supervision, Acting Secretary of Broadcasting, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil
Sadi Alfonso Contreras Fuset, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)
Pedro Miguel Figueroa Domínguez, Head of the Department of Digital Governance Studies and Research, OGTIC, Dominican Republic
Gonzalo Sosa, Secretary General and Legal Counsel, Agency for Electronic Government and Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC), Uruguay
Paulo Henrique de Oliveira,Chief of Staff for the President, Administrative Council for Economic Defense (Conselho Administrativo de Defesa Econômica, CADE, Brazil

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Agenda: Wednesday 24 June 2026

08:00: Registration and networking

09:00: Welcomes

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Janet Rea Mansilla, Chief Operating Officer, CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
Rafael Cavazzoni Lima, Chief of Operations, Uruguay — Southern Cone Department, Inter-American Development Bank

09:15: Keynotes

Rodrigo Goñi Reyes, President of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Uruguay
In conversation with
Mercedes Aramendía, Executive Director, DIG.IA-LAC

09:45: Closing the digital divide: where to focus? Accessibility? Affordability? Skills?

- What's really working, what isn't, and how to make measurable, sustainable progress
- Push and pull factors which can most influence the usage gap
- Policy levers, economic incentives, infrastructure alternatives
- Novel approaches to drive digital inclusion
- What are the critical elements needed in infrastructure, talent, and capital to support a thriving digital ecosystem?

Moderator:
Carolina Inés Aguerre Regusci, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities and Communication, Catholic University of Uruguay (UCU)
Speakers:
Pablo Siris Seade, National Director of Telecommunications and Audiovisual Communication Services, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM), Uruguay
Ryan Biran, Manager Policy and Research, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT)
Javier Gutiérrez Afanador, Communications Commissioner, Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC), Colombia

Leticia Lago, Legal and Corporate Affairs Director, Tigo Uruguay

11:00: Networking break

11:30: Closing the funding gap: quantifying the investment required and potential sources of finance / business models to drive digital transformation for all

• Debating the effectiveness of coverage obligations, universal service funds, wholesale access schemes in generating new, sustainable investment
• Novel mechanisms – blended finance, co-investment funds, or minimum revenue guarantees established by regulation
• Case studies – investments in fiber-optic cables, submarine cables networks, 5G networks,
• How can policy and regulation balance affordability ex ante and sustainability of investment ex post?
• What tools can be used to minimise administrative barriers to network deployment such as permits and licenses?

Moderator:
Solana de Aspiazu, Head of Connectivity and Access, Latin American Internet Association (ALAI)
Speakers:
Tiago S. Prado, Telecom and Connectivity Lead Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank
Petros Mavromichalis, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Uruguay
Javier Morales Fhon, Senior Analyst, Global Trends and Americas, Cullen International
Yveth Romero, Vice President Legal & Regulatory Affairs, Gilat Peru

12:30: Showcase: Digital TV and broadcasting evolution in Latin America & the Caribbean – Brazil as a case study

• Digital switchover and standardisation
• TV for digital inclusion and digital public services

Tawfic Awwad Júnior, Director of the Department of Innovation, Regulation and Supervision and Acting Secretary of Broadcasting, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil
Dr. Paulo Eduardo dos Reis Cardoso, Coordinator of Innovation and Broadcasting Systems, National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel), Brazil

13:00: Networking lunch

14:00: Fostering resilient and future-proof digital infrastructure in Latin America & the Caribbean

• Which emerging technologies—such as satellite, device-to-device communication, and community networks—are most viable for connecting remote areas?
• What lessons can be drawn from case studies across Latin America & the Caribbean?
• What financing frameworks are needed to incentivize new investments in connectivity infrastructure in Latin America & the Caribbean?

• What flexible regulatory frameworks can support innovative pilots in remote territories?

Moderator:
Sonia Agnese, Senior Principal Analyst Latin America, OMDIA
Speakers:
Tiago S. Prado, Telecom and Connectivity Lead Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank
Alex Gallardo, Head of the Regulatory Policy and Studies Division, Undersecretariat of Telecommunications (SUBTEL), Chile
Paola Marquez Mantilla, Head of Regulation, Entel Peru
Paula Cordoba, Senior Lead, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Americas, Amazon Leo
Gonzalo Balseiro Giglio, President, Regulatory Unit of Communications Services (URSEC), Uruguay

15:30: Networking break

16:00: Digital transformation, data centres and Artificial Intelligence: pipes, power, policy and trust

• AI as a driver of unprecedented demand for connectivity, power and data flows; ensuring networks can handle rapidly expanding AI workloads
• AI as a driver of network efficient, enhanced quality of service, and new revenue streams for network operators
• How can strict oversight be balanced with the need for innovation and competitiveness in emerging AI ecosystems?
• Unlocking investments in critical AI infrastructure such as data centres, cloud, and high-performance computing

Moderator:
Marieke Goettsch, Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank
Speakers:
Cristina Zubillaga, Executive Director, Agency for Electronic Government and Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC), Uruguay
Juan Martín Ozores, President, National Agency of Communications (ENACOM), Argentina
Pablo Emiliano Álvarez López, Vice President, Antel
Jacqueline Lopes, Director of Institutional Relations LATAM South, Ericsson
Celedonio von Wuthenau, Director, Government Relations – Latin America, Nokia

17:30: Close of day one

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

17:45: Networking Reception

Bus departs promptly from CAF at 17:45 for Networking Reception at La Casa.
On arrival there will be a group photo in the facade of La Casa de Internet.
Welcome address: LACNIC CEO
An optional tour in small groups through the offices
Networking over drinks and refreshments
Bus will depart at 21:00 back to CAF

Agenda: Thursday 25 June 2026

08:00: Registration and networking

09:00: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:15: Keynotes

Bruno Gili, Executive Director, Uruguay Innova (U+I), Presidency of the Republic
In conversation with
Mercedes Aramendía, Executive Director, DIG.IA-LAC

09:45: Economic impact of the creative economy – sustainable financing and policy/regulatory building blocks

- Supporting local and national skills and storytelling
- Aligning cultural goals with economic opportunity
- How is AI impacting the creative economy?

Moderator:
Alejandro Forero, Specialist of the Directorate of Sustainable Digital Infrastructure, CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
Speakers:
Gisella Previtali, President, ACAU (Uruguay Agency for Audiovisual & Cinema)
Juanjo Mendez, Public Policy Lead, Spanish Speaking South America Global Affairs, Netflix
Eliana Prada, Sector Specialist – Creative Economy, Productivity, Trade & Innovation Sector, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

10:30: Digital markets, competition regulation and platform governance in the Global South – the evolving picture

- Brazil as a case study
- Comparing the effectiveness of ex ante and ex post initiatives to address the global nature of large digital platforms whilst fostering innovation and the development of digital services

Moderator:
Sonia Agnese, Senior Principal Analyst Latin America, OMDIA
Keynote:
Paulo Henrique de Oliveira, Chief of Staff for the President, Administrative Council for Economic Defense (Conselho Administrativo de Defesa Econômica, CADE, Brazil
Speakers include:
Fernando Machuca Manevy, Member of the Board of Directors, National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL), Paraguay
Sebastián M Cabello,CEO, SmC+

11:30: Networking break

12:00: Online safety: how are policy makers, regulators and industry

working to arm and protect consumers – especially minors - from online harms?

• Comparisons: national and regional initiatives to protect citizens whilst enabling innovation and competitiveness
• Highlighting specific issues and initiatives concerning the protection of children and adolescents online

Moderator:
María José Franco, Advisor to the Director, National Directorate of Telecommunications and Audiovisual Communication Services, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM) Uruguay
Speakers include:
Alejandro Forero, Specialist of the Directorate of Sustainable Digital Infrastructure, CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
Gustavo Gómez, Executive Director, OBSERVACOM (Latin American Observatory on Regulation, Media, and Convergence)
Sadi Alfonso Contreras Fuset, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)
Jaime Estrada, Government Affairs Director, Apple
Luizio Felipe Rocha, Executive Director, STRIMA — the Brazilian streaming industry association

13:15: Networking lunch

14:00: Debate on Internet governance decisions and processes impacting internet critical properties

• Policy, regulatory, and commercial decisions to prioritize user safety and privacy
• Debate on policies and legal decisions that weaken global network infrastructure and introduce Internet fragmentation
• Connectivity solutions in underserved regions for affordable and reliable access

Moderator:
Gonzalo Sosa, Secretary General and Legal Counsel, Agency for Electronic Government and Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC), Uruguay
Speakers:
Christian O'Flaherty, Regional Vice-President for Latin America and The Caribbean, The Internet Society (ISOC)
Daniel Fink, Stakeholder Engagement Senior Director – South America, ICANN
Miguel Ignacio Estrada, Chief Strategic Relations Officer, LACNIC
Mercedes Aramendía, Executive Director, DIG.IA-LAC

15:15: Tackling the rapidly expanding cyberthreat landscape: building alertness and resilience

• Updates national and regional cybersecurity strategies and Critical Infrastructure Protection priorities
• As hyperconnectivity increases the surface area to be protected and the sophistication of cyberthreats, how do we respond?
• Establishing trust – roles for vendors, enterprises and governments
• Examples of collaboration across supply chains and across borders to counter the cyberthreat landscape

Moderator:
Laura Margolis, President, Internet Society Uruguay Chapter
Speakers include:
Paulina Hernández, Acting Head, Community Engagement Division, Chilean National Cybersecurity Agency (ANCI)
Marina Izaguirre, Government Affairs Leader for the South Cone, Cisco

16:30: Closing remarks

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications