10TH KIGF

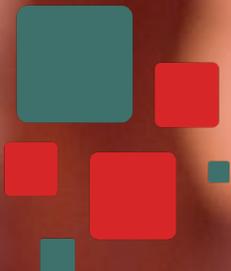# THE KENYA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

Report of the 10th Kenyan IGF held on 10th July 2017 at Laico regency hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.

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EDITORIAL TEAM

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Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
BVR	Biometric Voter Registration
CA	Communications Authority of Kenya
EVID	Electronic Voter Identification System
FinTech	Financial Technology
IEBC	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
IOT	Internet of Things
IGF	Internet Governance Forum
KEIGF	Kenyan Internet Governance Forum
MAG	Multi Advisory – Stakeholder Group
MOICT	Ministry of ICT
National KE – CIRT – Kenya Computer Incidences Response Team	
NCIC	National Cohesion and Integration Commission

Acknowledgement

Executive Summary

The 10th Kenya IGF was held on 6th July 2017 in Nairobi. It took place weeks to the country's August General Elections. There had been focus on how political actors and processes had used the Internet and communication platforms for electioneering activities. The elections themselves would make use of technology for voter identification and results transmission while the Internet was the main media for access for electoral information. The KIGF discussion topics therefore delved into different aspects of the elections. For instance, there was a topic on technology and elections that was dedicated to understanding the role of technology in the polls. Another topic was safeguarding free speech and privacy that considered the balance between access to information and privacy as well as the effects of harmful speech online. In a later session, the discourse moved to information controls and Internet shutdowns were deliberated.

Aside from the election topics, there was a fireside chat in the evening where panellists considered how the Internet will be in the next five years. This discussion was from the perspectives of innovation and preparing the next generations for the Internet economy through education and training, the role of government in creating a conducive environment for innovators and human rights and innovation.

Prior to KIGF, there had been online discussions where those who could not attend the face to face meeting contributed. For the first time, there was also a Kenya Youth IGF convened by Watoto Watch Network.

The meeting benefitted from participation of over 300 people from different stakeholder groups. Discussions were also amplified on social media with in situ and remote participants taking advantage of social media to contribute and ask questions to panelists. A golden thread that ran through the discussions was the need to constantly engage among stakeholders as there were always emerging issues. For instance on the use of access to election information, issues of privacy and data protection had come up when IEBC opened its database of voters online for public inspection. Without open avenues for consultation, it would not be possible to raise the issue and propose solutions.

During the session Tech use in upcoming elections, Mr. Chris Msando was a panelist representing the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). He spoke about the Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS) and described how it would be used for voter identification and results transmission. There were many questions posed to him and many admired how well he understood technology. The community therefore received news of his demise days later with shock. They called for investigations into his death and sent messages of condolence to his bereaved family.

KIGF AT A GLANCE

PARTICIPATION

The tenth national Internet Governance Forum (IGF) attracted more than 300 participants. The forum brought together government, the private sector, academia, the media, civil society, technical community and individual users to deliberate on existing and emerging Internet-related matters.

There also was remote participation and live video streaming via online platforms through which more people could engage. Additionally, there was a lot of activity and engagement of live proceedings on the day's discussions on social media platforms such as Twitter. The discussion hashtag #KIGF2017 was on the Country's trending topics.
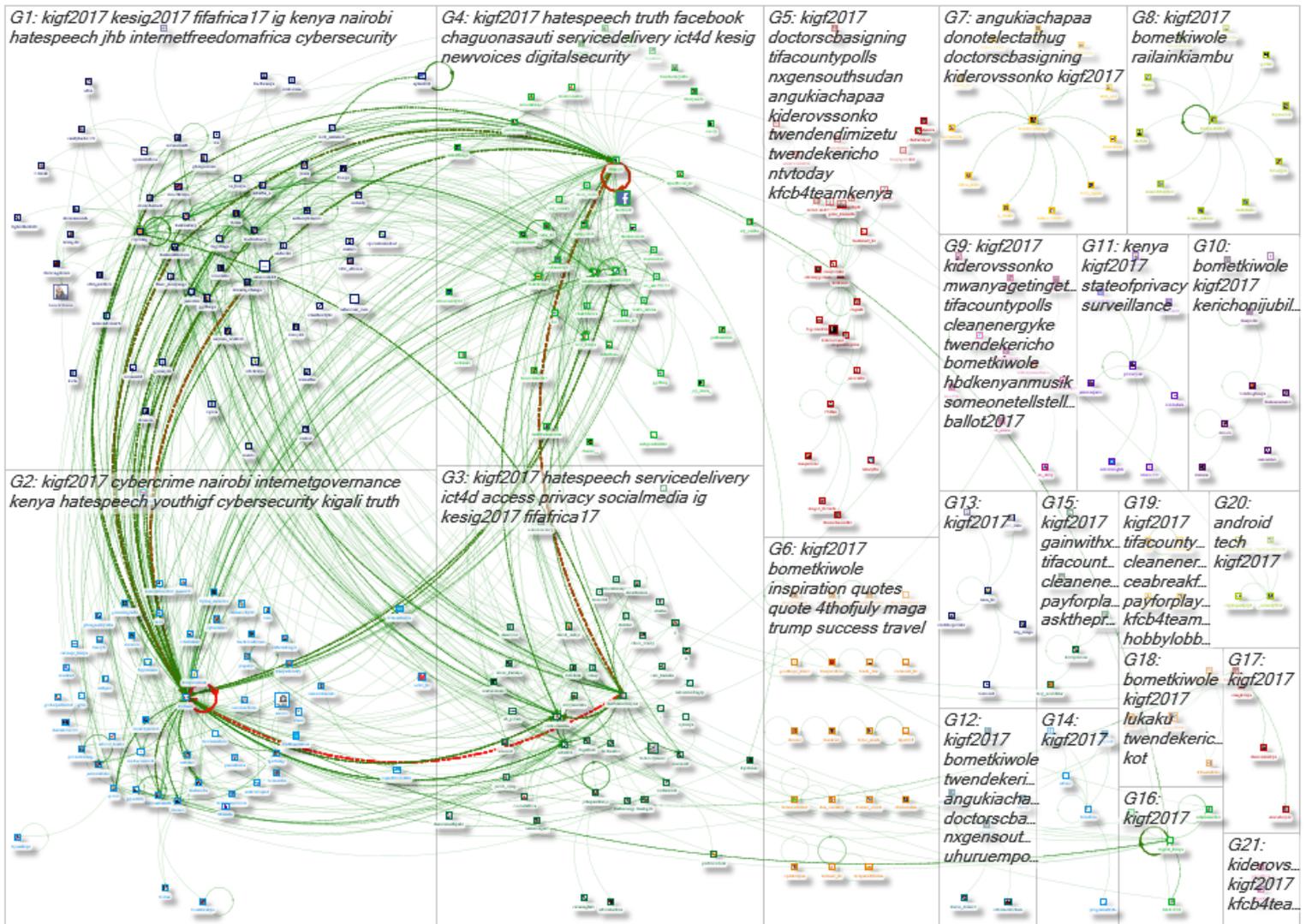
The graph represents a network of 333 Twitter users whose recent tweets contained "#KIGF2017", or who were replied to or mentioned in those tweets, taken from a data set limited to a maximum of 18,000 tweets. The network was obtained from Twitter on Thursday, 06 July 2017 at 15:51 UTC. The tweets in the network were tweeted over the 5-hour, 55-minute period from Thursday, 06 July 2017 at 09:51 UTC to Thursday, 06 July 2017 at 15:47 UTC.

Source: < https://nodexlgraphgallery.org/Pages/Graph.aspx?graphID=115422>

PANELLISTS

In line with the topical interest areas of discussion and true to KICTANet's multistakeholder nature, the panellists on the issues were representative of different stakeholders involved in the industry. The meeting was also addressed by a youth, master Jamie Buyasi, a student at St. Mary's School, who gave youth perspectives. He spoke on cyber bullying and access to the Internet.

1. Grace Githaiga- Co-convenor, KICTANet
2. Fadzai Madzingira- Facebook
3. Jaco Du Toit- Adviser for Communication & Information UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa
4. Dr.Kate Getao- ICT Secretary at Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC)
5. Christopher Musando- ICT Manager at Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC)
6. Lillian Kariuki- Executive Director Watoto Watch Network
7. Churchill Otieno- Digital Editor at Nation Media Group (NMG)
8. Joseph Nzano - National Cyber Incident Response Team (KE-CIRT) and Communications Authority(CA)
9. Dr. Joseph W. Nasongo-Commissioner at National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC)
10. James Ratemo- Head of Communications at Media Council of Kenya (MCK)
11. Wakabi Wairagala-Executive Director, Collaboration on International ICT Policy in East and Southern Africa (CIPESA), (Uganda)
12. Riva Jalipa- Centre for IP and IT Law (CIPIT) at Strathmore University
13. Grace Mutung'u- Berkman Klein Centre for Internet and Society Fellow
14. Ezekiel Mutua- CEO, Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB)
15. Andrew Alston- Liquid Telecom
16. Rosemary Kimwatu- Head of Legal at Wayawaya,
17. Gbenga Sesan- Paradigm Initiative (Nigeria)
18. Prof. Bitange Ndemo- Lecturer, University of Nairobi,
19. Alberto Cerda- Program Officer Internet Freedom, Ford Foundation (USA)
20. Mwende Njiraini- Manager, Type Approval at Communications Authority(CA) amongst others.

TOPICAL ISSUES

Discussion topics were crowd sourced from the community. These were informed by the current socio-political situation in Kenya, regionally as well as in Africa. For instance, Kenya's August elections were discussed from different scopes- use of technology in elections; political expression online; prevalence of fake news; and access to electoral information. Globally, there had been two major ransom ware attacks that affected several reputable institutions there was local discourse on Kenya's cybersecurity preparedness. The main issues of discussion included:

" Tech use in the upcoming election - role of the tech & online communities "

" Enhancing cyber security in Kenya: threats and opportunities "

" Safeguarding free speech & privacy online in an electoral context; "

" Information controls "

" The Internet in the next five years "

KEY OUTCOMES FROM THE MEETING

KIGF is a policy discussion forum where attendants get to know about emerging issues. They may also identify problems and make recommendations on their resolution. Each panel had key outcomes as follows:

1. Preliminary Session

The role of users in preserving the Internet as a safe open space was reiterated. Panellists commended and encouraged the multistakeholder model in policy decisions on the Internet.

2. Use of Technology in Elections

Participants learned that the Kenyan electoral system was not fully automated rather is semi – automated. Voter registration, identification and transmission would utilise tech but the actual voting process and announcements would be manual.

They also learned about the IEBC had reorganized what were previously known as streams into polling stations and a polling station would be the basic unit for application of technology. For example, the polling station voter register would be loaded on the electronic device and results from the polling station would be transmitted directly from there to the constituency, county and national tallying centres.

There were civil society organisations that would carry out parallel tallying. IEBC advised against announcing results of the tallying.

3. Cybersecurity in Kenya

There is an increase of insecurity online and this calls for more responsive action by cybersecurity structures such as the National Cyber Incident Response Team (KE-CIRT). Stakeholders agreed on the need for increased awareness, capacity building, and collaboration.

4. Free Speech and Privacy Online

Elections are a democratic process where civil and political rights such as freedom of expression are practised. However, there are limits to which these rights can be exercised more so online.

Media and bloggers played a big role in combating fake news if they provided reliable news.

5. Information Controls

Non-state actors were concerned about the rise in information controls in Kenya. This had led to an erosion of trust between the state and its citizens.

The state was called upon to be more transparent and inclusive in decision making so as to rebuild trust

6. Future of the Internet

In order to prepare Kenya's youth for the Internet economy, Kenya needed to take advantage of the new upcoming opportunities through policy interventions that were responsive to innovation. The need to review training curricula and equip youth relevant skills for the future was emphasised.

Participants were reminded that innovation and development go hand in hand with an environment of freedom. Policies must therefore be human rights promoting.

REPORT OF THE 10TH KENYA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (KIGF)

INTRODUCTION

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a multi-stakeholder forum for policy dialogue on issues of Internet governance. The forum is held in an informal setting, free from binding negotiations.
It brings together stakeholders from government, private sector, technical community, academia and civil society to discuss Internet governance issues on an equal footing through an open and inclusive process.

The IGF has been held annually since 2006 and Kenya hosted the global IGF in 2011. Locally, Kenyans in the ICT sector have come together since 2008 at the Kenya IGF (KIGF). The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) convenes the meeting in partnership with stakeholders.

This year's KIGF took place on 6 July 2017 in Nairobi. The outcomes will feed into regional meetings at East Africa and continental level. They will also be presented at the global IGF slated for December 2017 in Geneva Switzerland.

Elections were an important issue for the country in light of the upcoming August General Election, and the fact that technology would be deployed massively to improve the efficiency processes such as voter identification and results transmission. The theme for this year's IGF "Shape your Digital Future!" was localised in the Kenyan situation to "Internet and Elections: Shaping our Digital Future".

Discussions therefore revolved around technology, Internet and elections. There was also focus on cybersecurity in light of major ransomware attacks that had earlier affected the country and globe. Finally, there was also future looking discourse on the role of society in preparing the next generation for the Internet economy.

OPENING SESSION

The meeting began with introductory and welcome remarks by Barrack Otieno, KICTANet Associate. All present were invited to introduce themselves and it was noted that there was representation from different stakeholders- academia, private sector, the technical community, the legal fraternity, government, industry regulators, the independent commissions, the civil society, public interest organizations, research and education networks, users, students, industry member organizations and other non-state actors.

Grace Githaiga-Co-convenor KICTANet, welcomed all to the 10th KIGF. She reminded those present that Kenya was the first African country to host a national Internet governance forum and that the country has continued to on the path of multistakeholderism in the ICT sector. She gave the example of KICTANet mailing list where over 35,000 email exchanges have taken place with over 25,000 of the email exchanges being on ICT policy. Speaking on the theme "Shaping our Digital Future", she invited all present to take advantage of the experts present to share their ideas on catalysing ICT reform in Kenya.

She thanked all the mailing listers for their input to the list and also gave special mention to all partners who had contributed to the success of the event. These were: UNESCO, Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA), Safaricom, the Internet Society, Kenya Network Information Centre (KENIC), Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), Facebook and Ford Foundation.

Fadzai Mazingira, Facebook indicated that the theme which was timely and vital was in line with Facebook's new mission on making the world open and connected. She reiterated Facebook's commitment to partnering with the Kenyan Internet governance community in upholding an open Internet. She also commended Kenya's multistakeholder model.

Jaco Du Toit of UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa spoke of UNESCO's work in fostering knowledge societies. He noted that with the upcoming elections in Kenya had shown the need for access to the Internet for all as technology was going to be deployed countrywide. He highlighted the need to protect human rights through openness, accessibility and taking into account people's opinion through multistakeholderism. He also identified media and information literacy to the end users at the grassroots level as key to informing them of their rights and how to be responsible about them.

Dr. Kate Getao, ICT Secretary at Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) demonstrated how the Internet had become the first port of call when looking for information. She shared several programmes that the government was implementing, including the development of constituency innovation hubs in a bid to spur digital economy growth. The Ajira digital work platform would also be available at these local levels to give more Kenyan youth access job opportunities on and through the Internet. She lauded the community for constantly engaging on Internet governance thereby ensuring development of the Internet in Kenya.

The Keynote Address by **Mr. Francis Wangusi the Director-General, Communications Authority (CA)** was delivered by **Mr Joseph Nzano**. He noted that the Government of Kenya viewed the Internet as a tool for socio – economic transformation and therefore supported Internet freedoms as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010. He also highlighted some government programmes that were relevant to the day's discussions, notably the national cybersecurity framework which was aimed at enabling the use of the Internet for innovation and socio – economic transformation. and to develop a national culture of cybersecurity.

Reports from KIGF related meetings

In 2017, KIGF was enriched by online discussions that had taken place on KICTANet mailing list prior to the 5 July meeting. In addition, Kenya had for the first time held a Youth IGF that was convened by Watoto Watch Network.

Lillian Kariuki, Executive Director of the Watoto Watch Network described the first Kenya Youth IGF which sought to realise active and informed youth involvement in the ICT Policy making.

Jamie Bunyasi of St Mary's School was nominated as the youth representative Kenya IGF from the Youth IGF. He appreciated the increasing youth representation in the ICT Policy making process and called a curriculum that not only gave youth digital literacy but also encouraged them to participate in policy making. He reported that the youth had discussed cybersecurity and access to the Internet in all parts of Kenya. On cybersecurity, they sought more involvement of youth in designing solutions to problems such as cyberbullying. Many of the youth who are exposed to the Internet view it as their future. They therefore wanted more efforts towards making it present everywhere in Kenya.

Ronald Ojino-University of Dar es Salaam gave a brief report on the online discussions which had been going on the previous week on the KICTANet mailing list.

Daily themes

The discussions had daily themes as follows:

Day 1: Internet shutdowns
There was concern over a shutdown in the country during the political season and listers assessed the possible implications of the shutdown. This included effects on electoral processes such results transmission.

Day 2. Fake news during electioneering
Listers attempted to define fake news in the local context and agreed that it was false information for consumption by the masses. They raised concern over the rise of fake news and viewed traditional media as an opportunity to counter fake news if they invested in quality content over quantity.

Day 3: Online Bullying: How safe is the space?
Listers identified the new trends in cyberbullying including those that had resulted in deaths. They noted the challenge in proper identification of perpetrators. They proposed establishment of a toll-free number for the public to report emergencies as well as establishment of a specialised division of the police to deal with cyberbullying.

Day 4: Fintech
On this thread, it was found that the business environment in Kenya was suitable for the adoption of fintech solutions. However, the country lacked an enabling policy framework.

Day 5: ICT in the counties
On the final day of discussions, it was acknowledged that most sub national entities (counties) in the country were implementing ICT initiatives for service delivery. Challenges faced by the counties included lack of funding, unreliable access to the Internet, poor or non – existent statistics on ICT uptake in the counties and use of ICT, lack of capacity, procurement issues as well as poor inter departmental coordination.

SESSION 1: TECH USE IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS
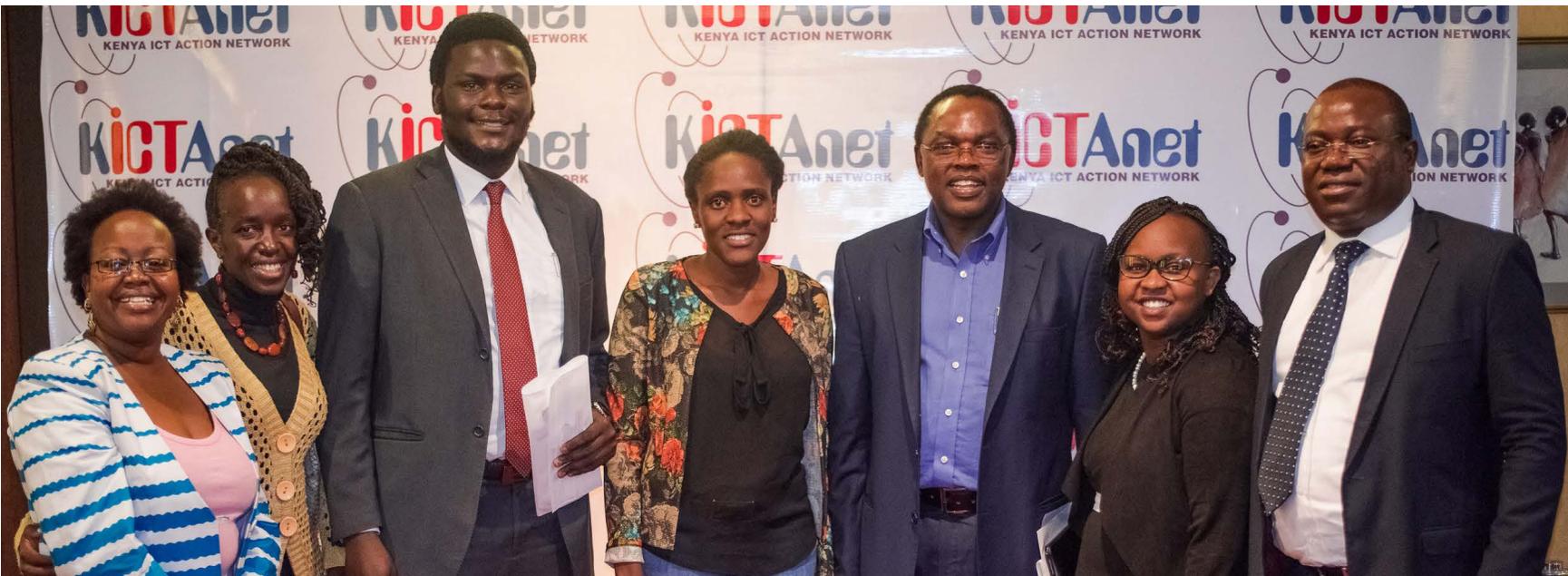
From left : Grace Githaiga, Jessica Musila, Emmanuel Chebukati, Liz Orembo, Matunda Nyanchama, Rosemary Koech and Chris Musando

The panel was moderated by Matunda Nyanchama -Agano Consulting. He framed the discussion by giving some questions: How can tech contribute to free and fair elections; How central is technology for the IEBC; How has the Internet and social media expanded space in encouraging political participation; How do we treat fake news; and what role the technical and online community can play to ensure free and fair elections.

Christopher Musando, ICT Manager at IEBC noted that technology is an enabler in electoral processes and the Commission had adopted technology in order to enhance trust in the democratic process. He described the biometric voter registration system, candidate registration system, electronic voter identification system and electronic results transmission system that comprised the Kenya Integrated Elections Management System (KIEMS). He also explained that IEBC would primarily identify voters through biometrics and in case of failure, a complimentary alphanumeric mechanism.

Musembi Mutisya, Elections Observation Group (ELOG) explained the role of the observers in the process. He indicated that ELOG

would have parallel voter tallying to compare with IEBC official tally. He acknowledged the role of technology in resolving election related problems.

Emmanuel Chebukati, Information Security Consultant noted that fake news was a source of income for the content creators and there was need for law to counter effects of fake news. He also provided insights on the security of the IEBC systems and lauded listers who had pointed out problems with IEBC database of voters that was posted online without adequate security features.

James Wamathai - Bloggers Association of Kenya agreed that fake news was rampant due more availability of the Internet and a high number of online users. He proposed consumer education on consumption of news and quick response by entities affected by fake news, stating that the media, bloggers and influencers could be used to counter fake news.

Jessica Musila- Mzalendo highlighted the importance of availing credible information particularly during elections. She opined that in Kenya politics are high stakes because it is tied to basics of life.
Audience questions revolved around the potential failure of technology during the elections. Mr. Msando explained the measures in place including use of alphanumeric where biometrics could not be read and backup power for the KIEMs gadgets. He urged Kenyans to trust their institutions as they were staffed with competent people.

In response to other questions, participants were encouraged to use open data to understand electoral information. The Commission was urged to keep building trust with citizens while all Kenyans were called upon to counter negative narratives, report observed incidences and abide by the law during the election season.

SESSION 2: ENHANCING CYBER SECURITY IN KENYA: THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES

"Countries result to mutual legal assistance to counter cybersecurity threats which are expensive & inefficient in a continent with scare resources"

~Juliet Maina

From left : Moderator Harry Hare - CIO East Africa, Joseph Nzano - National Cyber Incident Response Team (KE-CIRT) and Communications Authority(CA), Mercy Ndegwa, Safaricom Juliet Maina, Advocate at TripleOK Law,

The second session was moderated by Harry Hare - CIO East Africa. He recalled the massive cyber attacks that had taken place earlier in the year and invited the panellists and audience to weigh in on local threats and possible solutions.

Kevin Kimani- Serianu Ltd explained that the increase in incidences of cyberattacks were due to: low level of training and awareness among employees; low budget allocation for preventing cyber-attacks among organizations; and

increased insider – led fraud - compromise of networks and employees within organizations. This was captured in the 2016 Serianu State of Cybersecurity Report.

Joseph Nzano- KE-CIRT/Communications Authority indicated that the Government had put in place systems to secure its websites. They had also created awareness on incidences of cybercrime among government departments. He pointed out the need for a point of contact in government agency or department so as to easily manage incidences as well as relevant policy implementation.

Mercy Ndegwa -Safaricom explained the frameworks in the company to safeguard the vast amount of sensitive data they held. This included enhancement of the systems, customer education campaigns, a service to report suspicious activities and upcoming hackathons where the tech community would be invited to identify bugs in the Safaricom systems. She advocated for appropriate laws and empowerment of users to mitigate the attacks.

Lilian Kariuki Executive Director, Watoto Watch Network pointed out new trends on cyber threats that affected children including cyber bullying, dangerous online games and online betting. Attacks targeted at youth were different from those encountered by businesses. She therefore called for policies that were all encompassing.

Chris Adem- Computer Society of Kenya described several initiatives by the society to increase awareness of cybersecurity among business in Kenya. They were training IT professionals to advocate for cybersecurity policies within organisations.

Juliet Maina, Technology, Media and Telecommunications Advocate at TripleOK Law, discussed how lack of a harmonised legal framework in Africa to counter cybercrime made compounded cybersecurity problems as individual African states have varied legal approaches to cybercrime. In cross-border attacks, countries had to resort to mutual legal assistance which was expensive and inefficient in a continent with scares resources.

During the question and answer session, it was reiterated that the level of preparation among companies was still low as companies were apathetic to the need for cybersecurity. It was also discovered that hackers were targeting the users directly through phishing or SMS phishing attacks as opposed to attacking organisational systems.

Some of the proposed solutions to deal with cybercrime discussed include: collaboration among various sectors like private, government, academia and financial institutions; increased information sharing; enhanced creation of awareness among users; more investment in capacity building for the technical staff and development of resilient networks.

Communications Authority reminded participants that they could report cybersecurity issues through various platforms including the email address chukuahatua@ca.go.ke. Safaricom also gave the SMS number 333 through which customers could report fraud.

SESSION 3: SAFEGUARDING FREE SPEECH AND PRIVACY ONLINE IN AN ELECTORAL CONTEXT

From Left : Churchill Otieno- Digital Editor at Nation Media Group (NMG), Dr. Joseph W. Nasongo-Commissioner at National Cohesion and Integration Commission(NCIC), Moderator Racheal Nakitare Kenya Broadcasting Corporation, James Ratemo Head of Communication, Media Council of Kenya,Wakabi Wairagala-Executive Director, Collaboration on International ICT Policy in East and Southern Africa (CIPESA), (Uganda)

The session was moderated by Racheal Nakitare from the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation. She highlighted the fact that Hate speech has not been properly defined because in Kenya. There was a lot of focus on spoken content while ignoring written blogs and even music that carry heavy political and ethnic undertones that amount to hate speech.

Churchill Otieno, Digital Editor at Nation Media Group described speech as an expression of societal issues. He was therefore of the view that we needed to address injustices in society as a first step in curtailing expression that results in hate speech. He also stressed the need for strengthening institutions in the justice system and enhancing their capacity to combat hate speech online and protect freedom of expression. He was of the view that drastic measures such as an Internet shutdown were a wrong remedy as they did not address the root problems.

Wakabi Wairagala- Executive Director of Collaboration on International ICT Policy in East and Southern Africa (CIPESA), Uganda lauded Kenya for recently decriminalising hate speech and noted this as a good practice. He proposed educating the public on their rights and responsibilities as well as giving counter narratives to hate speech to combat hate speech online. He was of the view that the law as an intervention could be a double-edged sword criminalizing

speech could be used to stifle human rights and called for unequivocal legislation.

Dr. Joseph Nasongo, Commissioner - National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), explained the role of NCIC under the National Cohesion and Integration Act. He stated that the Commission has about 20 functions, one of which was combating hate speech. As there was still no universally agreed definition of hate speech, Kenyans and people outside the country were exploiting loopholes in the law to spread vitriol. He explained that nevertheless, this was a criminal offence in Kenya with a penalty of Ksh. 1 Million or 3 years imprisonment if one was found guilty. He called for more cooperation among upon government agencies in investigating and prosecuting hate speech cases in order to curtail ethnic animosity.

James Ratemo Head of Communication, Media Council of Kenya, called for training of the public and newsmakers so that they understand the difference between free speech and hate speech. This would enhance capacity of news makers to discern acceptable content. He concluded that hate speech, especially in the Kenyan context was not a big problem with the mainstream media, but more among bloggers and social media influencers.

In response to a question from the audience, the panel recommended personal digital security to avoid cases of impersonation for hate speech online through measures like logging out of a public computers and password management.

"There is need for training of the public & newsmakers to understand the difference between free speech & hate speech"

~James Ratemo

SESSION 4: INFORMATION CONTROLS

From far left : Ezekiel Mutua- CEO, Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB), Grace Mutung'u- Berkman Klein Centre for Internet and Society Fellow, Andrew Alston- Liquid Telecom, Moderator Wambui Wamunyu, Daystar University - Academia, Riva Jalipa- Centre for IP and IT Law (CIPIT) at Strathmore University, Eddie Kathenya, Kenya Network Information Center (KENIC)

The discussion sought to define information controls, if they are justifiable and the consequent effects on the economy and society. It was moderated by Wambui Wamunyu of Daystar University who framed the problem of increased information controls as a matter of trust between the state and citizens as well as among citizens.

Grace Mutung'u, Fellow at Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, gave a historical background of information controls, from criminalisation of speech, media control and more recently mass surveillance and Internet shutdowns. She highlighted that during the previous year 2016 there were Internet shutdowns prior, during or after elections in more than half of African countries. The rationale given by this governments included: to stop spreading of lies and propaganda (Uganda) to stop cheating in exams (Ethiopia) and national security in several cases. In Kenya, a working group had considered the policy and legal framework and concluded that there was no legal basis for an Internet shutdown. Instead, the state could build trust among its citizens by being more transparent in how it governed the Internet.

Andrew Alston, Liquid Telecom, pointed out that, among other effects, an Internet shutdown could have a negative impact on the economy. He also explained how difficult it was technically, to implement a shutdown. For instance, if ISPs started for instance selecting which traffic to allow through their networks, the same tools could be used to abrogate network neutrality. This would

dilute trust between customers and ISPs. . He therefore called for multistakeholder consultation not only on the issue of Internet shutdowns but other topical issues such as content control and regulation of over-the-top services OTTs.

Riva Jalipa, Strathmore University Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology law (CIPIT) discussed the principles for justifiable information controls. She explained the legality, necessity and proportionality principles in the Kenyan context and stated that they both online and offline. She was of the view that information controls needed to be viewed alongside societal issues such as the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) Report that explored historical injustices in Kenya.

On the level of control and purpose of information controls, Eddie Kathenya, Kenya Network Information Center (KENIC) explained that users have a responsibility on how they use the Internet. Regulators as they implement controls to ensure that individuals are not infringing on the rights of others. He however agreed that controls needed to be applied within the laws.

Dr. Ezekiel Mutua -Chief Executive Officer of Kenya Film Classification Board explained the role of the board in protecting children from adult - rated content. He stated that he had received strong support from Kenyan parents who saw him as a champion for child safety online. He spoke of the responsibility of users as they exercised their constitutional rights and freedoms and stated that everyone had a role in shaping the next generation. He emphasized that the Government of Kenya did not seek to curtail freedom rather sought to ensure that there was responsibility in enjoying Constitutional rights. He did not anticipate an Internet shutdown.

During open discussion, there was a general concern of diminishing trust between the government and citizens as well as among citizens. People thought that the mistrust was due to issues such as corruption, misuse of public resources and historical injustices. Most of the panellists agreed that drastic information controls were disproportionate to the issues they sought to address. For instance, Internet shutdowns that led to losses of approximately $2.4billion to African economies. This was in addition to loss of investor confidence, decline in economic productivity, reduced uptake of domains and shrinking of the informal economy as was the case in Anglophone Cameroon after three-month Internet shutdown.

In conclusion, it was suggested that the issue of accountability information controls be further discussed. There were still concerns from the panel on the need for the government to have an unqualified commitment to keep the Internet open during the election period.

"The problem of increased information controls is a matter of trust between the state & it's citizens".

~Wambui Wamuyu

FIRESIDE CHAT- INTERNET IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

The session was a tv style debate that was hosted by John Walubengo, lecturer at Multimedia University. He explored the topic of the Internet economy in the next five years and sought to hear from the panel their views on Africa and Kenya's role in preparing its youth to fit and benefit from the digital economy.

Professor Bitange Ndemo from University of Nairobi advocated for leveraging on new technologies such as big data, Internet of things and artificial intelligence in order to keep up with the dynamic change of technology. He explained that the technologies could be used to curate local content that would put Kenya on the Internet map. In addition, applications could be built on the content, leading to more creations, jobs and expansion of the local Internet economy.

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Rosemary Koech-Kimwatu from Wayawaya predicted that the FinTech environment would experience increased collaboration, innovation, adoption of user - focused financial technologies as well as further development of underlying technologies. She based her forecast on recent adoptions in the field such as mobile banking applications and called for more enabling policies to support fintech.

Mwende Njiraini, Communications Authority described the typical training that engineers receive in local universities and pointed out gaps between traditional Kenyan engineering pedagogy and local and global industry needs. She called for innovative training of engineers and identified updating of curriculum, apprenticeship, early interventions in science and technology courses at primary and secondary schools as well as more exposure to science and technology by children as some interventions that could rectify the current gaps with training of engineers.

On the concern of whether the government was prepared for the fourth industrial revolution which included the Internet of things, Dr. Kate Getao, ICT Secretary at Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) indicated that the draft Kenya ICT policy sufficiently covered new areas of technological development in the ecosystem. She also called for increased public and private collaboration, revamp of the educational curriculum. She also encouraged the youth to be innovative as innovation preceded policy.

Alberto Cerdo, Program Officer Internet Freedom at Ford Foundation indicated the need for domestication of international general

principles on human rights in developing countries. This would assist in getting innovation policies right if there was a human rights framework. He shared some examples from South America on how government data protection policies could create economic opportunities. For instance, Argentina had a more suitable policy framework that attracted investment in online work. He also called for increased and diversified engagement in the policy conversation to ensure that both businesses and innovators benefitted from government programmes.

Gbenga Sesan, Executive Director at Paradigm Initiative, Nigeria discussed some of the challenges that Africa including our education systems and perception of education, too much focus politics and the lack of visionary leadership in innovation policies. He identified viable opportunities for the continent to take advantage of such as cheaper price of devices, reducing cost of broadband and good uses of universal service funds.

Gbenga predicted that there would be an increase in intra Africa migration as countries actively compete for the best talent and due to easier entry requirements. He therefore forecasted countries that put in place good policies for innovation and upheld human rights as being more attractive to innovators and capital.

The panel also discussed the question of whether policy or lack of it hindered innovation; when government delays to chart a policy direction, innovation is allegedly stopped. Dr. Getao opined that true innovators would innovate in the presence or absence of policy. However, Rosemary shared experience of the fintech space where a negative directive from a regulator had limited the uptake of technologies. The need for businesses and civil society to engage in policy was emphasised.

From the floor, there was a discussion on privacy and innovation in big data, artificial intelligence and Internet of things. Dr Getao on the panel stated that in her opinion privacy was "dead" as it was difficult to limit what was available to large technology companies and the government. However, Gbenga stated that privacy was a right of an individual to choose who to give information to and who not to give it to. He therefore called for discussion on data protection and privacy.

ANNEXURES

PARTICIPATION

Direct

There were around 300 attendees in person ranging from industry stakeholders in government, civil society, academia, commercial and business users.

Remote Participation

There was remote participation and live video streaming via online platforms on the site; <https://livestream.com/Internetsociety/kigf2017/videos/159406169> supported by the Internet Society. There were more than 370 remote participants from different backgrounds.

Social Media

There was a lot of activity and engagement of live proceedings on the day's discussions on social media platforms such as Twitter. The discussion hashtag #KIGF2017 (Kenya Internet Governance Forum) was on the Country's trending topics.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Kenya: Role Of Internet During Elections Key At The This Year's Kenya Internet Governance Forum (All Africa and Afrika 54 News) <http://afrika54news.com/2017/07/06/kenya-role-of-Internet-during-elections-key-at-the-this-years-kenya-Internet-governance-forum/>
- Kenyan public urged to advance the Internet Governance policies through meaningful participation (Soko Directory) <http://sokodirectory.com/2017/07/kenyan-public-urged-to-advance-the-Internet-governance-policies-through-meaningful-participation/>
- Kenya Internet Governance Forum 2017 (KO Associates Advocates) <http://www.koassociates.co.ke/news/?id=26>
- New research shows why Kenya must #KeepitOn during 2017 election (Access Now) <https://www.accessnow.org/new-research-shows-kenya-must-keepiton-2017-election/>
- How State can block you from Internet during election period (The Standard Group) <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/article/2001247699/how-state-can-block-you-from-Internet-during-election-period>
- Kenya Internet Governance Forum provides a platform for engagement on policy issues during elections (UNESCO) <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/nairobi/about-this-office/single-view/news/kenya_Internet_governance_forum_provides_a_platform_for_enga/>

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