	The African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF 2015 http://afigf.org/ **06 – 08 September 2015** **Africa Union Commission HQ** **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

OUTCOME DOCUMENT

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1.0 Background of AfIGF

The African Internet Governance Forum is Africa's multi stakeholder forum of Internet actors. With other Af* (Af stars: AFRINIC, AFTLD, AFNOG, AFREN, African Internet Summit and Africa CERT), AfIGF carries the voices and efforts of the African continent to the global agenda, while ensuring that the benefits of a viable information society accrue to every African. It was formally launched in Nairobi, during the global Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in 2011.

The AfIGF Secretariat is jointly hosted by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Forum's website is www.afigf.org. It currently runs social media outlets on Twitter and Facebook.

2.0 Objectives of AFIGF

AfIGF aims to be a platform for an inclusive multilateral, multi-stakeholder and multilingual discussion on issues pertinent to the Internet in Africa in general and Internet Governance issues in particular. Specific objectives include:

- To increase awareness and build capacity on Internet Governance for African users to ensure that all stakeholders are well prepared for contribution and interaction.
- To ensure that the concerns of Africa are taken into account in the IGF process.
- To put in place a coordinated African process for dealing with Internet governance issues on the continent.
- To strengthen the multi-stakeholder dialogue model for Internet Governance in Africa through regional and national forums.
- To ensure a multi-stakeholder representation of all parts of the continent
- To ensure that all the countries are part of the regional processes and launch/strengthen their national processes.
- To facilitate national and regional exchanges and interactions between countries and regions in the continent.
- To facilitate the participation of African stakeholders in AfIGF and other appropriate regional and national Internet Governance Forums.
- To promote use of African languages in the cyberspace.

3.0 Participation

Over 150 participants drawn from government, private sector, academia, research institutions, technical community , civil society organizations, media, and other stakeholders from over 41 countries attended the 4th African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF2015) held from 06 to 08 September 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

AfIGF 2015 was officially opened by Hon. Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize, Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services of the Republic of South Africa. Welcome statements were delivered by Dr. Jimmy Ocitti, Director of the Public Information and Knowledge Management Division of ECA and Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Head of the Information Society Division of the AU. The opening statements are attached as annex 1.

The Masters of Ceremony of AfIGF 2015 were Mr. Adil Sulieman from AUC and Mr. Makane Faye from ECA.

4.0 Remote Participation

AfIGF 2015 enabled remote participation from several parts of the world and used social media extensively during the meeting as follows:

a. Livestream platform, with the support of Internet Society Africa Regional Office

b. The NEPAD Agency sponsored three remote hubs at the University of Jos (Nigeria), ICTAG (The Gambia) and ISOC Uganda. . In addition there were about 30 remote participants.

c. Twitter platform with support from AfIGF volunteers.

d. Facebook run by the secretariat.

e. Use of Skype for a remote panelist.

5.0 Partners

The fourth African IGF was co-organized by the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa in cooperation with the NEPAD Agency and with support from:

- ZA Central Registry
- The Association for Progressive Communications (APC)
- The Internet Society
- ICANN
- UNESCO
- The Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA)
- AfriNIC

6.0 Pre-Conference Workshops

Pre-conference workshops including an orientation session for all participants were organized on 06 September as follows:

a. Orientation session organized by the secretariat with resource persons from APC, AUC, ECA, Kenya and Tunisia.

b. WSIS + 10 organized by APC in cooperation with the Ministry of ICT of Egypt, AUC and KICTANET

c. Access to Information and Knowledge – The African Virtual Library & Information Network (AVLIN) organized by ECA

d. The Internet and Human Rights: Access to the Internet in Africa as a fundamental human right organized by the NEPAD Agency

e. Capacity building needs for IG and Internet public policy dialogues organized by the NEPAD Agency

f. UNESCO's Internet Study – Relevance to Human Rights online organized by UNESCO in cooperation with APC

Some of the conclusions and reports of the pre-conferences are attached in annex 2.

6.1 Other relevant events

a. The first Specialized Technical Committee on Communications and ICT was held from 31 August to 4 September at the AUC. The documents and reports are available at: http://ie.au.int/en/CCICT

b. The 3rd edition of the African School on Internet Governance (AfriSIG) was organized prior to the African IGF from 02 to 05 September at the AUC together with a Gender and Internet Governance Exchange which ran parallel to AfriSIG.

7.0 Plenary sessions

AfIGF plenary sessions run from 07 to 08 September using panel format with a moderator and 2 to 3 panelists for each session. The agenda is attached in annex 5. The list of sessions is below in chronological order.

a. Report from the sub-regional IGFs and from the pre-conference workshops

The Forum received reports and feedback related to on-going Internet Governance processes from:
- The Central African IGF
- East African IGF
- West African IGF
- Southern Africa IGF

b. Conclusions and recommendations from pre-conference workshops were also presented as follows:

- WSIS issues, including the Future of IGF and the AU Declaration on IG
- Public Access to Information & Knowledge in the context of the SDGs
- Connecting the next billion
- Addressing cybersecurity issues, including SPAM
- Human Rights on the Internet
- IANA Stewardship Transition
- Net Neutrality and its implications for Africa
- Enhancing Multi-stakeholder Cooperation
- Sustainable Development and the Internet Economy
- The African IGF: The Way forward
- Presentation of the Recommendations and Conclusions of AfIGF2015

8.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussions that followed after the presentations allowed participants to arrive at a number of conclusions and key recommendations as follows. In addition full reports of some of the plenary sessions are attached in annex 3.

A. WSIS+10 Review including the Future of IGF and the AU Declaration on IG

On the WSIS+10 review, participants noted the absence of an African position on the matter and developed an African contribution to the WSIS+10 non-paper of 2 September 2015, which will be forwarded to the facilitators.

Comments / recommendations were prepared for chapters on digital divide, ICT for development, Internet Governance & follow up and review. The AfIGF contribution to the WSIS+10 Non-Paper is attached as annex 4. Specific recommendations from the session are below:

a. Encourage the African governments and all stakeholder to submit their comments on the UNGA non – paper before the mid of September.

b. Request AUC to circulate the AU declaration on Internet Governance to all member states so that they can reflect upon.

c. Support the Internet Governance Forum as a place for non-binding dialogue and discussions that help shape Internet public policy and support a renewed mandate of the IGF for at least 5 years beyond 2015.

d. Call upon the United Nations to renew the mandate of the IGF while increasing the resources of its Secretariat, and to allow its proceedings to evolve in order to   produce best practice documents that can be used as a referral for public policy decisions, in line with the recommendations of the report of the UN Commission for Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) Working Group on Improvements to the IGF.

e. Support the continuation of the CSTD and UN specialized agencies to follow up the WSIS reviews.

f. Suggest the renewal of the national WSIS committees by African governments to follow up implementation at the national level.

g. Encourage African governments to foster their participation in the African IGF and global IGF.

h. Encourage participation of the African civil society together with other African relevant stakeholders in the global IGF.

i. Mobilize participation of the African youth in African IGF and global IGF.

j. Put in place national IGFs as part of the global and continental processes.

B.   Public Access to Information & Knowledge in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The panel emphasized the need to address access to information as a key development issue. It noted that inequalities in access limit the effectiveness of ICTs in addressing social needs. The specific recommendations included the following:

a.   All countries should deal with access to information as a human right, in terms of: UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNUDHR) Article 19 and the Charter of African and Peoples Rights Article 9

b.   National, regional and continental Internet Governance Forums should include Librarians, documentalists, archivists and information/knowledge specialists as key stakeholders in the process.

c.   There should be significant investment in public libraries to equip them with relevant ICT tools to ensure that they play a key role in promoting public access to information and support their development as drivers of access to knowledge

d.   Strengthen partnerships among ICT-led instituions, Libraries/documentation centres/archives, media and other organizations in building local digital content

e.   Partner with local and international IGF in building a community of practice that advocates for eradication of all forms of barriers to information access.

f.   Launch specific programmes for:
   - "Open data" on all type of information and knowledge with specific consideration to intellectual property rights and protection of personal data and online civil rights.
   - Access to information and knowledge for people with disabilities

g.   Build awareness on the need for digital inclusion and encourage information and knowledge sharing.

h.   Improve the enabling environment to address:
   - the use of universal funds to provide access for all
   - human resources challenges and capacity building issues
   - development of locally relevant content and applications

C.   Connecting the next billion

The panel noted that "connecting the next billion" should be viewed as a Programme/Project by countries and stakeholders and as such should be approached using Programme/Project best practices and methodologies. Specific recommendations on "Reaching the Next Billion Internet Users" were presented as follows:

a.   Ministry of Communications & Information Technologies or departments responsible for ICT should review their ICT & broadband policy/plans through enhanced multi-stakeholder cooperation involving diverse stakeholder groups towards ensuring that all are involved in the policy implementation.

b.   Government should demonstrate requisite political will to implement viable policies already in place.

c.   There should be continuity in government activities to avoid cases where once a government replaces another on going projects are abandoned.

d.   Smart Initiatives pioneered by President Kagame at the regional level should be sustained to help remove e-frictions in states/countries such as right of way challenge, multiple taxation and deployment of government services on-line using the open data model.

e.   There is need for effective monitoring and evaluation of programme using online real-time portal reportage, preferably based on appropriate indicators and targets.

f.   AU should step up its multi-stakeholder approach to its meetings and consultations with

governments to better take care of private sector, civil society and academia/technical cooperating and collaborating institutions.

g. Participants and the AfIGF secretariat are enjoined to contribute to the call for input to the IGF Multi-Stakeholder Advisory group consideration of "Policy Options to connecting the next billion".

h. Open Data Model, local content development, eLearning initiatives & others should be used to boost demand.

i. Universal Service Provision Funds should be used to engender infrastructure into underserved areas and to enable access affordability to disenfranchised groups and remote areas.

j. Regional initiatives should be enhanced to promote broadband infrastructure.

k. Power grid capacity should be boosted through diverse sources.

l. AU in cooperation with ECA should explore the creation of a continental common toll-free Internet platform in conjunction with telcos and other stakeholders to preserve the identity and unique cultural heritage of Africa.

D. Addressing cyber security issues, including SPAM

The panel put emphasis on the need for an African Safety mechanism for African e-consumers with an emphasis on Pan-African collaboration and cooperation in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of Cyber Crimes including issues related to effectively countering and combating spam. The following specific recommendations were made:

a. Encourage government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to work together to raise public awareness on the risks of spam and of cybercrime and of what can be done to combat it.

b. Enhance capacity building in cyber security, including spam for law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, magistrates and judges.

c. Encourage African government to ratify the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection and to transpose their cyber security laws in the framework of the Convention in such a way as to facilitate international cooperation in preventing and combating these illicit activities.

d. Encourage all African government to update their criminal laws as soon as possible, in order to address the particular nature of cybercrime. In determining the strength of new legislation, States should be encouraged to be inspired by the provisions of the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection.

e. Build regional and international cooperation in cyber security to enhance public protection and to promote more effective information sharing to address cyber crimes issues (effective regulation adoption, anti-spam technology development, and training/awareness raising of users and providers).

f. Disseminate anti spam best practices for service providers to enable them take the most appropriate measures to combat spam.

E. Human Rights on the Internet

The panel noted that Access to the Internet is essential for the full realization of human development and facilitates the exercise and enjoyment of a number of human rights and freedoms, including the rights to freedom of expression and access to information, peaceful assembly and association. The following specific recommendations were made:

a. Establish, with the ACHPR, of mechanisms to promote, monitor, and popularize the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms and UNESCO's concept of internet universality across the continent to ensure their role as guiding principles for the further development of public policy in support of human rights and the internet;

b. Establish of self regulatory, independent objective oversight, and sanctioning mechanisms in light of the Declaration of principles to ensure Rights to Privacy in the Digital age are protected and the Johannesburg principles on National Security implemented, similar to an Ombudsman.

c. Recognise that meaningful access to ICTs including control over ICTs as a key resource, play and important part in catalysing change towards advancing the status of women and girls, and their human rights.

d. Recognise and develop responses that empower women, working with all other stakeholders, to address the emerging issue of online violence against women.

F. IANA Stewardship Transition

The panelists noted and the two parallel tracks, which resulted from the transition announcement made in 2014 by the U.S. Commerce Department ie, The IANA Stewardship Transition focusing on delivering a proposal to transition the stewardship of the IANA functions to the multistakeholder community; and Enhancing ICANN Accountability to ensure that ICANN remains accountable in the absence of its historical contractual relationship with the U.S. Government. The following specific recommendations were made:

a. Support and enhance the multistakeholder model.

b. Maintain the openness of the Internet.

c. A call for Africa to contribute to the process and have their voice and influence heard.

G. Net Neutrality and its implications for Africa

Through the discussion with the panelists and participants, it emerged that there might be a need for regulation that addressed the specific context of Net Neutrality; however there were views expressed from some participants that net neutrality posed some challenges for African stakeholders which warranted further investigation and dialogue in order to reach a common position on net neutrality. The following key recommendations were made:

a. The African Union in collaboration with ECA and other partners should convene an African Forum on Net Neutrality

b. Research and analysis should be undertaken at national and regional level on the policy, legal and regulatory implications of Net Neutrality

c. Regulatory agencies should take steps to address concerns raised about Internet Service Providers (ISPs) who engage in practices such as Network Address Translation (NAT) which restrict the type and level of service that end users are availed.

d. Civil society in collaboration with other stakeholders should undertake consumer awareness initiatives on Internet access and usage

H. Enhancing Multi-stakeholder Cooperation

The panel noted that Multi-stakeholder governance requires trust and mutual respect, and that it was important to create a space where African governments and the other stakeholders would come together to

discuss and collaborate in order to build trust and a culture of multi-stakeholder policy formulation. It also noted that the process should be participatory and inclusive and that its outcome should result from due consideration given to views and experiences of all. Specific recommendations included the following:

    a. There should be mutual trust and willingness to engage amongst different stakeholders.

    b. Any panel discussing multi-stakeholder governance in future AfIGF sessions should include government representatives.

    c. African governments should embrace the principle of multi-stakeholder policy-making in the Internet governance area.

    d. A framework for the rules of engagement should be developed by all stakeholders including government participation, taking into account established best practices in this area. This would enable Africa to define its own approach to multi-stakeholder governance and to develop appropriate working methods for its implementation. It will also establish AfIGF as a space for a real inter-stakeholder dialog towards workable and constructive outcomes.

I. Sustainable Development and the Internet Economy

The panel noted the relationship between Sustainable Development and the Internet Economy and looked at how ICTs and the Internet could facilitate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, by bringing economic growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability, through a more effective collaboration between development stakeholders and new ways to manage programmes. Specific recommendations included the following:

    a. Define and elaborate a regional policy on the life cycle of digital tools.
    b. Create and develop local content for digital industries.
    c. Create a global indicator observatory in the region.
    d. Develop e-Waste strategies - anti dumping
    e. Invest in research and development to come up with innovative solutions and services that will drive the African continent forward.
    f. Build awareness on e-waste and capacity on strategies to encourage use of renewable resources in ICTs.

J. The African IGF: The Way forward

Participants noted that the AfIGF process was led by civil society and regional organizations since its inception and that it was time for governments to join and be fully active in the process as members of the structure governing the African IGF. The following specific recommendations were made:

    a. Fully implement the AfIGF governing structure at the sub-regional and continental levels in order to have all stakeholders equally play their respective roles.
    b. Invite media to participate in and cover the African IGF.
    c. Develop a matrix of responsibilities for following up on issues and recommendations.
    d. Establish a mailing list and discussion forum for the African IGF.
    e. Africa IGF to publish each year on its website detailed reports on resources mobilized and their expenditure.
    f. From 2016, AfriSIG should be held back-to-back with the African Internet Governance Forum

On Internet Governance, in general and the AU Declaration on IG, it was noted that the Declaration will be officially circulated through appropriate diplomatic channels to African ministers for review, amendment and adoption. In the meantime, participants have made the following recommendation:

a. Call upon the AU Commission and ECA to create an African Internet Development & Governance Observatory and put in place mechanisms to track and follow-up recommendations from the regional and global IGFs and to provide periodic reports to member States.

K. Gratitude

Participants at the fourth African IGF express their gratitude to the Government and the people of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Africa Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, our sponsors and the volunteers who, each, in their various roles, contributed to a successful African Internet Governance Forum

Addis Ababa, Tuesday, 8 September 2015.
The African Internet Governance Forum

L. The Rapporteuring Team

- Barrack Otieno – Coordinator
- Towela Nyirenda Jere
- Emilar Vushe Gandhi
- Antonin Benoit Diouf
- Mamadou Ndiaye
- Mohamed Timoulali
- Makane Faye

M. Knowledge resources

- Website: http://afigf.org/
- Discussion list: http://knowledge4africa.uneca.org/groups/afigf-l
- Knowledge Manager: Girma Dessalegn

ANNEX 1: OPENING STATEMENTS

telecommunications & postal services

Department:
Telecommunications and Postal Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Address by the Deputy Minister of the Republic of South Africa
Hon. Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize
At the 4th Africa Internet Governance Forum

The AU Commissioner
Members of the Regional and International Organisation
Representatives of Internet Society
Valuable Stakeholders
Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to have been invited to address this great gathering.

On behalf of the South Africa delegation, I would like to send our greetings and appreciation to the Government and People of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the political capital of Africa. I wish to also thank the organisers and sponsors of this 4th Africa IGF.

As Africa what is our role in the Internet ecosystem, where do we see ourselves in the next five to ten years? We need to find ways to ensure that Africa benefits from the digital era.

South Africa owes much of its existence and success to the collaborative spirit, support and partnership it received from our brothers and sisters in the continent and from the international community. The information society has been one of the key terms used to describe today's society since the 1980's. It is through this chain of social, cultural, economic and technical cooperation that we are able to enjoy the benefits of the knowledge economy. We have collectively bridged the developed and developing countries using the tools for economic and social development. ICTs have been a critical catalysts for this development. We have used ICTs as a vehicle to create a knowledge society and active innovative sectors, as well as using it as an engine for economic growth.

I am hoping that our engagement over the next two days, will not only be responsive to the review task at hand, but we should identify strategies which will:

- advance Africa as a knowledge production hub;
- create and localize digital development/digital systems and governance
- address the gaps in our knowledge economy especially with regard to inclusivity and empowerment of women, children and marginalized groups; and
- identify strategies and tools for us to achieve an integrated African economy – which is self-reliant and self-productive.

Our vision as a country is "To establish South Africa as an advanced Information Society in which Information and Communication Technology tools are key drivers of economic and societal development."

Much of this started at the World Summit on Information Society, where we actively participated because we wanted to realise this vision. South Africa supports the WSIS process which emphasise that Policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. The AU Ministers of Communications and ICTs met two days ago (3-4 September) to deliberate on this. And I am happy that the Addis Declarations recognises the importance of Africa to have its own position on Internet Governance. I am confident that as member-states we will act proactively towards finalising Africa's position.

For us to achieve this inclusive information society, we must continue to roll out the connectivity infrastructure on multiple platform, so that Africa can continue to grow its connected users (Connecting the Next Billion). African member states need to develop the clear governance structures to ensure a managed and accountable use of the internet by providers and users respectively. This includes amongst others responsibilities of infrastructure owners, role of internet service providers, over the top services including social media platforms, classification of content including for example child online protection to mention but a few.

Most of Africa's traffic is routed outside the continent and the accelerated programme on the finalisation of Regional Internet Exchanges (RIXP) deployment should be encouraged in order for the continent to be able to implement secure networks and applicable systems.

The accelerated deployment of networks will provide Africa with huge cost savings on internet transport systems and information management but most importantly will enable Africa to intra-connect; thus providing an excellent platform to implement internet governance rules as envisioned from an African perspective.

Colleagues, Internet Governance is a collective responsibility, and as governments, we recognise the responsibility of creating policy that relates to the protection of civil liberties, state securities and other developmental initiatives, which should be led by the states through their national instruments and working together within the multilateral institutions to advance a more harmonised policies and regulations.

It must also be noted that the role of civil society and the industry cannot be overlooked and as Member-States, we should facilitate inclusive forums where opinions of the interested parties can be debated to enhance the instruments of Internet Governance.

As South Africa, supports the call on AUC together with the AU Member States to develop an Africa Strategy on Internet Governance as well as management of Internet. This Africa strategy must also address the demonopolisation of ICANN and support the participation of all member-states on equal footing.

I hope we will move with speed, as the internet is a growing and critical platform and Africa needs to add its voice to the global debate at the United Nations and support the transformation agenda of the AU.

The Agenda 2063 calls on us to contribute to a secure, inclusive and sustainable developed society, with a strong cultural identity promoting common heritage, values and ethics through the internet as one of the platforms.

I hope that our session will enhance the multistakeholder cooperation, taking into consideration specific rules and responsibilities of different stakeholders, towards a realisation of the WSIS and AU Agenda 2063 goals. Partnership is critical for us to achieve developmental goals, broader participation and increasing access so that Africa becomes a knowledge-based information society for sustainable inclusive growth.

Together we will have a good outcomes document.

I thank you

Welcome statement by Dr. Jimmy Ocitti
Director, Public Information and Knowledge Management
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

- **Her Excellency, Honorable, Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize, Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services, South Africa,**
- **Ms. Mary Uduma, President, Nigeria Internet Group, outgoing AfIGF Chair,**
- **Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Representative of the African Union Commission**
- **Delegates from Government Institutions,**
- **Representatives of the Civil Society, Private Sector, Academia, Regional and International Organizations,**
- **Distinguished Delegates,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In the name of the United Nations Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Dr. Carlos Lopes, I have the pleasure to welcome you all to the 4th African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF 2015).

ECA is proud to organize this high level event with the African Union Commission (AUC), with the support of various partners, namely, the South African Central Registry (ZACR), the Association of Progressive Communications (APC), ICANN, ISOC, UNESCO, the Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA) and AFRINIC.

I would like to stress my appreciation to our host, the African Union Commission, for the smooth collaboration in preparing this event and the excellent facilities made available to AfIGF2015.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This conference is being organized 3 days after the conclusion of the first meeting of the Specialized Technical Committee on Communications and ICT, which brought together for the first time, ministers in charge of ICT, information, media and broadcasting, thus putting emphasis on convergence and the fact that ICTs play the role of a key driver and enabler for cultural, social and economic development.

Today overall, the Internet economy contributes 5% to 9% to total economic growth in developing markets the Internet's economic benefits are increasingly shifting to the developing world.

African countries have begun to recognize that, without investment in ICT, the continent will stay on the periphery of the global knowledge economy. In this context, a number of African countries have undertaken considerable legal and institutional reforms to improve access to the benefits of international connectivity and enhance ICT infrastructure, to provide more affordable handsets and prodigious growth in mobile, internet and data services. The African Information Society Initiative (AISI) which was adopted by the Heads of States and Governments of the then Organisation of African Unity in 1996 as the Africa's digital agenda has played an important role in Africa's current transformation through exploitation of ICTs.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a result of several years of policy actions by African governments with support of their partners and private sector, the number of undersea fibre-optic cables landing in Africa has increased from about 2 active cables in 2001 to around 16 by the end of 2014. Satellite coverage is also improving with international, predominantly private-sector companies deploying more capacity over Africa. Mobile subscriptions in sub-Saharan Africa are forecasted to exceed 635 million by the end of this year (2014) and predicted to rise to around 930 million by the end of 2019[1]. In 2012, the mobile ecosystem directly supported 3.3 million jobs and contributed $21 billion to public funding in the region. By 2020, mobile is set to double its economic effect, employing 6.6 million people and contributing $42 billion.

At the regional level, several RECs have established ICT frameworks and efforts are underway to harmonise ICT legislation across members.

At the ECA internal level, in term of Access to Information and Knowledge, the Public Information and Knowledge Management Division was created in 2013, to bring together communications, publications, knowledge, and ICT to form a strategically oriented unit promoting the visibility and impact of the Commission. The 2014 statistics are below:

- ECA Youtube Channel, achieved over 57,000 views of ECA videos.
- The ECA website (www.uneca.org) achieved from January to August 2015:

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[1]   Ericsson, "Mobile Mobility Report Annex: Sub-Saharan Africa", June 2014 http://www.ericsson.com/res/docs/2014/emr-june2014-regional-appendices-ssa.pdf

- o 5,021,763 hits; and
- o 1,284,223 page views.

ECA's digital contribution to the African Virtual Library and Information Network (AVLIN) consists of the following key services to be made available to members of the network:

- The ECA Institutional Repository, which houses all ECA publications online from 1958 (http://repository.uneca.org), with currently 20,000 PDF documents, receives average hits of 300,000 per month and full text documents downloads of 25,000 per month
- The "ASKIA" online portal (http://askia.uneca.org/), which is a one-stop-shop to socioeconomic knowledge on and from Africa, connects users to various information resources available on the web over an interactive one-stop search engine that contextualizes, ranks, and intelligently clusters knowledge according to various criteria.
- The African Knowledge for Development Network (http://solutionexchange-un.net/africa) has currently more than 600 members engaged in 11 communities.
- The Solution Exchange Services (http://solutionexchange-un.net/africa) linking into a Community of Practice the African Planners and the African Statisticians, harvesting knowledge being stored into an online repository

The above issues are part of the WSIS Action Lines C3 and C8.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

African governments have Internet Governance high in their agenda. One key achievement to be remembered is the adoption of the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection, which is the result of ECA and AUC efforts in the last four years mandated by the Conference of Ministers in charge of ICTs through the Oliver Tambo Declaration.

Recommendation on the operationalization of dot Africa, the soonest, on 4 September 2015 in these same premises is another sign of commitment by the African Ministers of Communications and ICT.

There are several other initiatives which are on going on the continent and for which we request full commitment of all stakeholders for their implementation,

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Internet governance, as a key issue emerging from the WSIS process is an important multi-stakeholder (Governments, the private sector, civil society and academia) platform within their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures and programs shape the evolution and use of the Internet. The key to making Internet Governance a success at both the sub-regional and regional levels is dependent on the take up and active participation at the national level. It was in this context that the African Ministers of ICT urged through the Khartoum Declaration, all stakeholders to participate in the IG process at all levels.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

ECA will continue to work closely with the African Union Commission to provide the necessary support to Member States in order to realize the continental vision Agenda 2063 and is committed to working closely with all stakeholders in implementing the outcomes which will be tabled here as AfIGF2015 recommendations.

I would like to, once again to thank this distinguished gathering for the time and commitment shown towards AfIGF.

I thank you for your kind attention and wish you fruitful deliberations.

H.E. HON DEPUTY MINISTER PROF MKHIZE (MRS) OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFICA

M. JIM OCITTI DIRECTOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT DIVISION (PIKMD) OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

MRS. MARY UDUMA, REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA, THE OUTGOING CHAIR

DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

It is my honour and a great pleasure to welcome you here in Addis Ababa at the AUC HQ.
In this room designed for the meetings the Permanent Representative Committee PRC
Next to Mandela Hall where all heads of states meet every year

It is also my honour and privilege to take part of this 4th session of the African Internet Governance Forum.

This is our 4th gathering to address matters related to IG. We met in Cairo, In Nairobi and in Abuja. We are yet to meet in other regions: Southern and Central.

HONOURABLE MINISTER,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

ICTs have empowered the lives of Africans and are driving entrepreneurship, innovation and income growth.

The effect of ICTs on the African economy is impressive. But it is the way they are changing the everyday lives of Africans that is genuinely transformational. And Africa needs to transform. Africa is transforming. Africa will continue to transform itself.

Today, about 62% of the overall population of Africa is below 35 years old and more than 20% are between the 15 and 24 years age bracket. By 2020, more than 70 % of Africa's youth will be at least twenty years old. These are the actors who adopt ICT.

The future of the continent and the future of ICT is what these young men and women will do with it.

HONOURABLE MINISTER,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The acceleration and reliability of networks have changed the way we communicate, the way we learn, explore and shop; the way to inform, to entertain to organize, to develop and work.
Our lives are IN and ON the computer, the smartphone, the tablet and all other gadgets we use to communicate and access the Internet; our assets - worth billions of dollars -are far in the Internet. In the Cloud

Internet is the Engine for Growth and Development that Africa should not and cannot afford to miss. Succeeding in the Internet era will depend on defining and deploying not only the right cyber and cyber-secure technologies, but also the right policies and operations

We, in the AUC, believe that the more our modern society depends on the Internet the more relevant Internet governance is becoming.

Far from being the remit of some selected few, Internet governance concerns all of us to a lesser or greater extent.

The Internet Governance is the NEW SPACE where political and economic power is unfolding in the twenty-first century.

Technologies and approaches of and for Internet governance increasingly mediate civil liberties such as freedom of expression and individual privacy.

They are entangled with the preservation of national security and the arbitration of digital commerce and innovation.

The diffuse nature of Internet governance technologies is shifting historic control over these public interest areas from traditional nation-state bureaucracy to private ordering and new global institutions.

Many of these governance functions are technically and institutionally complicated and therefore out of public view. Yet how conflicts over Internet governance are settled will determine some of the most important public interest issues of our time.

Internet governance is moving increasingly into the African public eye.

Presently the five African Union Regions have created their Regional Forums for Internet Governance and African IGF (AfIGF) has been set and is jointly hosted by AUC and UNECA.

I would like to seize this opportunity to thank UNECA and especially Mr Makane faye for the tremendous support. AUC and AUC have always teamed up to make AfIGF run this

I would like also to thank NEPAD agency and the entire Internet Community, Academia and Civil Society for the support to Africa's contribution to the Global Debates on Internet.

We have moved fast in this area but a lot still to be done. First and most of all, we need to be present at IGF and ICANN

HONOURABLE MINISTER,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The AU Commission is very committed to achieving the goals of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) and those of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

We, also strongly believe that the fully inclusive approach, involving governments, the private sector, civil society, international governmental organizations and International organizations reflects the general

partnership approach which has helped build the Internet over the past 45 years.

We, believe that the Information Society is everyone's future partly thanks to the Internet and its rapid development

HONOURABLE MINISTER
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

We have just concluded the five days' session of the STC. I

I was an opportunity will be an opportunity for us to enhance and strengthen our role as technical body advising the AU Assembly on the developments of the Information Society of Africa.

Here are few highlights on some of the major issues we have addresses related to Internet:

1. **The STC requested us with UNECA to provide** all required support to the AUC for the implementation of Dot Africa

2. **To ACCELERATE** the ratification of the AU convention on Cyber Security and Personal data and the development of National Cyber-Security Legislation and the creation national and regional Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) or Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT)

3. **PREPARE** Strategies and plans for the migration from IPv4 to IPv6

4. **PROMOTE national and regional IGFs and provide technical and financial resources and participate in their activities**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

The mission of the AU - our mission - is to initiate and promote strategies and means that will contribute to the integrated development of Africa. For the Information Society, our objectives among others is the promotion and the development of policies and strategies, the coordination and harmonization of these policies and regulatory frameworks, and finally to support the implementation of integrating programs.

With your commitments and support, The African Union Commission will spare no effort to contribute to the implementation of all decisions resulting from this STC Session.

I would like to wish you all very fruitful discussion

Thank you for your kind attention

ANNEX 2: REPORT OF PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

A - THE AFRICAN VIRTUAL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION NETWORK (AVLIN)

Theme: Creating synergies in the Libraries and Documentation Centres capacity building programmes in Africa

Workshop Report

Introduction

A workshop organized by the African Virtual Library and Information Network (AVLIN) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa took place on the 6th of September 2015 on the above theme and was attended by Library and Information School (LIS) professionals from different parts of Africa.
The workshop started with a plenary session moderated by Dr. Victoria Okojie from Nigeria. The welcome remarks were given by Mr. Makane Faye from UNECA followed by a keynote speech, by Prof. Clement Dzidonu from Ghana.

In addition there were two presentations which were followed by a short discussion with questions from the audience. The presentations were:

- Current status of Capacity Building in Africa: A SWOT Analysis, By Dr. Buhle Mbambo Thata, UNISA , South Africa

- AVLIN/ASKIA initiative: Its role in the capacity building Arena, by Irene Onyancha, UNECA

The mid-morning session consisted of five short 10 minutes presentations based on identified areas for the AVLIN capacity building programme. The session was moderated by Mr. Ridha Guellouz from Tunisia.
The afternoon had a break out and a report back sessions moderated by Mr. John Tsebe from South Africa.

Plenary Session:

*Keynote Address***: Creating Synergies in Libraries and Documentation Centers Capacity Building Programs in Africa by Prof. Clement Dzidonu**
The keynote speaker highlighted the changing landscape of capacity development in the technological era in which he identified three main issues namely: technology for capacity building; need for capacity development through training and; developing a strategic plan for capacity building for library and information professionals. He further noted the changing role of Library and Information School professionals in the digital age focusing on the need to examine the emerging trends in the LIS landscape. He concluded by emphasizing the need for providing a coordinated approach to capacity building activities for LIS professionals in Africa.

Presentations

a) **Current Status of capacity building programs in Africa: SWOT Analysis: By Dr Buhle Mambo-Thata**

Dr. Buhle Mbambo Thata defined capacity building and reflected on the role of continental players on capacity building. The focus of the presentation was on skills development in light of the library associations, consortia training programs; library and information schools; employers and; external organization (eIFL, INASP etc.)

The presentation provided a SWOT analysis on capacity building programmes emphasizing on skills development where she identified various strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in this area. She concluded by highlighting the critical issues in capacity building namely, the dependency on external funding and need for collaboration and cohesion amongst the key players.

b) **The African Virtual Libraries and Information Network (AVLIN) Role in Capacity building on information development in Africa, By Irene Onyancha**

Ms. Onyancha provided background information on the African Virtual information Network and the recommendations made by the Knowledge and Library and Information Services (KLIS) Subcommittee of the Committee for Development Information, a statutory meeting of the ECA. She highlighted the AVLIN strategic interventions for capacity building on information development in Africa. The presentation also focused on the role of AVLIN on capacity building since 2001 and the ASKIA online platform, a one-stop shop for socio-conomic knowledge from and on Africa which is one of the activities undertaken by AVLIN following the KLIS recommendations. She concluded by emphasizing on the need for synergies between information development programmes on the continent to leverage on each other's potential and avoid duplication of efforts.

Mid-Morning Session:

Mid-morning session had short presentations on five topics identified for the AVLIN capacity building programme:
- Community of Practice (CoP) and Networking-Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan, AfLIA

- Local content development and identification of resources and modalities from contribution. Mr. Antonin Benoit Diouf, Senegal.

- ICT development and institutional policies. Dr. Sarah Kaddu, Uganda.

- Leadership and Mentoring. -Ms Jacinta Were, Kenya

- Funding /partnership (strategic alliances). Dr. Kay Raseroka, Botswana.

The presentations were an impetus to the afternoon breakout session.

Afternoon Session: Breakout Session:

In the afternoon the participants broke away into two working groups to discuss the five identified topics. The discussions focused on the strategies to be put in place to achieve the goal of AVLIN as a vehicle for access to information development in African in support of the UN 2013 and AUC 2063 agendas. In addition, the participants were to identify partners and sustainability measures for the proposed strategies.

Group 1: Discussions covered three topics namely: the Communities of Practice and Networking; Local content development and identification of resources and modalities for contribution to ASKIA and; ICT development and institutional policies

Group 2: Discussion covered two topics namely: Leadership and mentoring and Funding and partnerships
The report back session was moderated by Mr. John Tsebe, President of AfLIA.

The presentations and outcomes of the discussion were used to compile a list of strategies and related actions for the development of the AVLIN capacity building strategic plan. This activity was led by Dr. Rosemary Shafack, of Buea University, Cameroon.

The proposed strategies for the AVLIN strategic plan are presented after the conclusions.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were proposed:

- Promote capacity development in a fast changing technological environment to enhance access to information through libraries.

- Strengthen collaboration between AVLIN and other stakeholder such as AfIGF to provide local content and open data in support of sustainable development goals in Africa.

- Develop political and regulatory framework for the establishment and implementation of laws that enable open access to information

- Ensure financial support for the development and sustenance of Library communities to enable free access to information to all through the use of multimedia and emerging technologies

- Advocate for access to information as a development imperative

Proposed strategies for the AVLIN capacity building strategic plan - Draft

The following strategies and corresponding actions were identified for the AVLIN capacity building programme

1. Communities of practice	
Strategies	**Actions**
Having a moderator for the COP	1. To identify and appoint a suitable and willing moderator 2. Develop terms of reference
Establishing expert group for each subject area	1. To identify expert for each group and compile a comprehensive list that is regularly updated 2. Identify topics to be discussed

Capacity Building on how to operate on the COP	1. To carry out a needs assessment 2. Develop a sensitization and relevant training programme for all stakeholders in the Communities of Practice (CoP)

2. Local Content Development & Identification of Resources and modalities for contribution	
Strategies	**Actions**
Develop mechanism for resource contribution and sharing (ASKIA online platform)	1. Develop modalities for members to contribute into ASKIA online platform 2. Develop selection criteria for participation institutions, type of content including all the official languages on the continent Develop awareness campaigns and a marketing strategy for sensitization of ASKIA to a wider audience including invitation to contribute content.

3. ICT development & institutional Policies	
Strategies	**Actions**
Apply international standards that facilitate interoperability	1. Advocate for the adoption of international standards for information management and dissemination 2. Provide capacity building training in the application of Information Management standards and guideline to AVLIN members
Influencing public policy on ICT development	1. Provide policy briefing on the important role of ICT for development
Advocate for policies and legislation for access to information	1. Develop a policy brief on access to information 2. Briefing on existing policies on access to information
4. Harnessing suitable technologies for content development and dissemination	1. Develop relevant training programmes to build capacities on emerging technologies and methodologies for Knowledge/information management and disseminations

4. Leadership and Mentoring	
Strategies	**Actions**
Enhance capacity building in leadership, management and advocacy skills	1. Need assessment on leadership skills; 2. Develop curriculum for leadership, management and advocacy programs; 3. Strengthen collaboration among existing capacity building efforts
Advocate for government funding for libraries	1. Tap into the Cape Town Declaration by African ministers 2. Leverage the AU Declaration of AFIGF with Ministers with the responsibility for libraries and information to support the development internet infrastructure.

Place Libraries in the political and economic arena of governments for recognition.	1. Develop a competitive program to enhance partnership 2. Develop a marketing strategy

Partners identified

- Academic and Research institutions

- Government and their related Agencies

- Civil Societies and Non-Governmental Organizations

- Libraries and Library Associations

- International Organizations and related Agencies (United Nations, African Union Commission,

- Experts and Trainers

- Funding agencies

- Other stakeholders

B – THE INTERNET AND HUMAN RIGHTS: ACCESS TO THE INTERNET IN AFRICA AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT

Session Description
As the international organization mandated to promote and protect human rights in all regions of the world, the United Nations identified the integral role that the information society plays in reinforcing universal norms and standards, declaring in 2011 that access to the Internet is a basic human right, and an aid to the right to freedom of expression and opinions. Access to the Internet has become synonymous with access to broadband Internet.

This session sought to delve into the issue of access to broadband Internet as a basic human right in Africa by considering the practicalities around universal access to broadband when competing with other fundamental human rights such as access to food, sanitation, education and health care

Discussion
The discussions raised the views that there are many facets to Internet access such as access to infrastructure (technology and availability of services), bandwidth (quality and cost), content (type and relevance of services), security and privacy.

Some views expressed were that declaring Internet access as a fundamental right would catalyse further action in the implementation and actualisation of national plans (including ICT policies, Broadband policies, Universal Access and Service policies etc.). It was emphasised that having such a declaration would not remove the need for regulation. Further observations pointed to the need to consider oversight mechanisms to monitor adherence and compliance.

Views not in favour of declaring Internet access as a human right were concerned about the lack of efficacy of existing plans and declarations. There was also mention of the need to consider the Internet as a tool and rather than focusing on Internet access, the focus should be on access to information, services etc. which the Internet enables.

Taking a middle position, other views pointed to the fact that Africa needed to work towards bridging the digital divide concurrently with addressing other pressing needs; it was also pointed out that the Internet and ICTs could actually facilitate provision of essential services such as health, education, food security.

Overall, the session pointed to the need to further understand the meaning of Internet access as a human right and what implications this would have for Africa and Africans.

Key recommendations
- Definition of minimum standards for access and making access affordable.

- Deriving a commercial model for the Internet that is suitable for Africa

- Capacity building especially for stakeholders not normally associated with IG conversations such as journalists, judiciary, and members of parliament.

- Examination of existing rights and associated legislation which can set the context for access to the Internet as a fundamental right. Examples cited include the right to communicate, the right to information (a constitutional right in some countries), access to information legislation.

- People should enjoy the same rights online as they do offline

- Content should be affordable and locally relevant.

C – CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS FOR INTERNET GOVERNANCE AND INTERNET PUBLIC POLICY DIALOGUES

Session Description
The NEPAD Agency undertook a survey to identify capacity building needs to support Internet Governance and Internet public policy dialogues so as to inform future interventions in this area. The session presented the survey findings including the identified priority areas for training.

Summary of Findings
- Of the 7 clusters of IG issues (Infrastructure, Legal, Economic, Security, Socio-cultural, Human Rights, and Development), there was less knowledge expressed in the following areas: Infrastructure, Legal, Economic and Security issues.

- The top ten sub-issues across all the clusters identified as priorities for training are:

    1. Capacity development on Internet Policy

    2. Cybersecurity

    3. Content Policy

    4. Cultural diversity

    5. Privacy and data protection

    6. Copyrights

    7. Jurisdiction

    8. e-Commerce and e-Money

    9. Access Policy

    10. Virtual currencies

- On training preferences people prefer face-to-face over online training, full-time training over part-time training and training away from home or out of their country of residence.

- People are willing to pay for training programmes especially if they are certified or accredited to an educational institution.

- Challenges faced with training

    1. Limited opportunities

    2. High costs of training

3. Lack of knowledge and open source training material tailored to the African context

4. Lack of initiatives and interest from local institutions, governments and educational institutions towards capacity building in internet policy, particularly those that offered accredited courses

5. Training not available in other languages; most training is in English

Discussion

Participants noted the gender and youth bias in the respondents to the survey (women: 19.6%, youth: 21%) and expressed concern that this was also reflective of the actual participation of women and youth in Internet Governance and ICTs. Mention was made of the African socio-cultural context that sometimes made it difficult for women to participate and a suggestion was made for an affirmative-policy approach to enhance their participation.

Commenting on the issue of language, there was confirmation of the challenge faced with accessing training in languages other than English and how this marginalised a significant segment of Africa's population.

On certification and accreditation of training, it was noted that this can be a lengthy and complex process in academic institutions and other ways of dealing with this might be to engage the private sector and technical associations.

With regard to the preference for face-to-face training participants noted that while this was expensive, it allowed for learning in a controlled environment with minimal distractions and also allowed for feedback and engagement in ways which Africans found more comfortable. There were also suggestions that online training might be less preferred due to issues of trust of the training provider. Suggestions were made to link online training to events such as the Africa IGF or regional and national IGFs so that the training would have direct and immediate relevance.

Pre-events were recognised as a valuable avenue for capacity development and broadening participation, especially if they were geared towards orienting participants on issues tabled for discussion during the Africa IGF or other event.

A general observation was made to ensure that capacity development included actors not normally associated with Internet governance such as law enforcement, the judiciary, members of parliament and journalists among others.

Key Recommendations
- Develop a capacity building action plan taking into account the key priority areas identified by the survey conducted by the NEPAD Agency and paying attention to the participation of women, the contextualisation of content to Africa and the provision of training in languages other than English.

- Work with academic and other institutions to develop accredited training programs in Internet Governance and Internet Public Policy that can be provided affordably to all stakeholders

D – PRE-CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY UNESCO

UNESCO's Internet Study – Relevance to Human Rights online

Internet Universality underlined as key for Sustainable Development at the 4th African Internet Governance Forum

"If you are not at the table, you will be on the menu" stated Jan Moolman from the Association for Progressive Communications during a panel of the African School on Internet Governance dedicated to underlining frameworks, principles, charters, and spaces linking internet governance and human rights. The need for the African region to be at the table, and not on the menu, as it concerns issues of internet governance and the necessity to ensure the region is equipped not only as consumers, but as producers on the internet took center stage during the 4th African Internet Governance Forum at the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6-8 September.

Following the CONNECTing the Dots conference and outcome document underlining the significance of the Internet for human progress and its role in fostering inclusive Knowledge Societies, UNESCO presented the "internet universality" concept during the African School on Internet Governance, which brings together civil society professionals from across the continent prior to the Internet Governance Forum to discuss emerging issues in the changing ecological landscape of the internet in Africa. AfriSIG 2015, held in conjunction with APC's Gender in Internet Governance Xchange (GIGx) for Africa, was founded to ensure African multi-stakeholder participation in internet governance processes and a forum on the continent where government, civil society, businesses and technical people from across the region can develop strategies to ensure the internet assumes its rightful role in the post 2015 development agenda.

Following UNESCO's presentation during AfriSIG and prior to the African Internet Governance Forum, UNESCO held a side event entitled "UNESCO's Priority Africa and the Internet Study – Relevance to Human Rights Online." An overview of the Internet Study was presented, with a particular focus on the need for the internet to be rights based, open, accessible to all, and multi stakeholder. Following the overview of the study, a panel of the study in the context of Africa was moderated by Chris Kabwato from Highway Africa. Grace Githaiga (Kenya ICT Action Network) underlined the need for principles of freedom of expression to be translated to the digital environment. Ephraim Kenyanito, Dora Mawutor from the Media Foundation for West Africa, and Emilar Vushe from the Association For Progressive Communications articulated the ways in which issues of privacy, ethical dimensions of the information society, and access to knowledge and information are at the forefront of the agenda of debates on Internet Governance in Africa.

During the African Internet Governance Forum held at the African Union and as chair of the session on "Human Rights and the Internet," UNESCO reiterated the need, in light of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and post-2015 development agenda, to place human rights at the heart of Internet Governance in Africa, using the concept of "internet universality" with its four guiding principles that the internet should be human rights based, open, accessible to all, and multi-stakeholder as a basis for ensuring human rights online. UNESCO further underlined that "Internet Universality" accords with the Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and also echoes the first resolution on "promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet" passed by UN Human Rights Council in 2012. Lastly, UNESCO introduced the internet freedom series and recently published internet study "Keystones to Foster Inclusive Knowledge Societies" to underline cross cutting and emerging issues in the field related to free expression, privacy, ethics, and access.

Linking current work by UNESCO to the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms, a Pan-African initiative to promote human rights standards and openness principles in internet-policy making on the continent, panelists from Nigeria, Gambia, and South Africa and participants of the African IGF recommended the need to use "internet universality" and the Declaration as guiding principles for emerging issues in the changing ecology of the internet in Africa to ensure the internet plays a central role in post 2015 development work.

E – PRE-CONFERENCE ON WSIS + 10

WSIS+10 Africa Regional Workshop Looking back to move ahead, 6 September 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Introduction

The workshop was organised by the Association for Progressive Communications, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology ,Egypt, African Union Commission (AUC), and Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)

Mr Adil Suleiman from the African Union Commission welcomed delegates and recognized the presence of the Deputy Minister of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services from the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize. He went on to underscore the importance of this workshop.

Session 1. Welcome and introductions - History of WSIS, Presentation on the WSIS process focusing on the expectations for post 2015 and the high level meeting in December 2015 and renewal of the IGF

Ms Nermine El Saadany from the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt, presented on the history of the WSIS process focusing on the expectations for post 2015, the high level meeting scheduled for December 2015, and renewal of the IGF. She noted that in participating in the WSIS+10 review process, Africa needs to have a critical lens that takes into account the past, present and future of the WSIS process for Africa. She briefly took the participants through the history of WSIS mentioning the two phases which took place in Geneva in 2003 which resulted in the formulation of Action Lines and a Working Group on Internet Governance. The second phase was in Tunis 2005 which resulted in a call for Enhanced Cooperation (EC) and the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

The final stage of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) overall Review process started in July 2015 with one session open for civil society and other stakeholders, while the second one was restricted for governments. The G77 + China countries gave an input document which highlighted action lines that are still a major challenge for them such as access, affordable ICTs, enhancing broadband quality and further endorsing different stakeholder partnerships in the national level to help develop domestic policies. The challenges are linked with the main priorities for the G77 group which are to bridge the digital divide and gender digital divide, promote development and ensure synergy between the sustainable development goals and the work on ICT development. All these efforts should be recognized in the outcome document from the UNGA. The G77 input document is important in the context of Africa as most African countries are represented on this group and have the power to steer the conversation and bring to the fore African issues.

The input document by the G77 group emphasised the need for the Internet Governance Forum to continue beyond 2016 in working towards fostering enhanced cooperation. The group further stated that it needs to uphold the values of the multistakeholder processes and that all stakeholders have different roles and responsibilities. The group also acknowledged that in order for the IGF to be beneficial to developing countries there is needs for terms of reference which guide the mandate of the IGF so it can be effective in its efforts to facilitate development.

Ms. El Saadany concluded her presentation with encouraging words for the different stakeholders and participants who attended the session to use this opportunity presented by the Africa IGF to give an African

voice and perspective to the non-paper and to use this space as a preparatory means for the UNGA meeting which will take place at the end of 2015..

2. Presentation on the analysis of stakeholder inputs from Africa for the non-paper, Identify what the priorities were from Africa based on the submissions and how well the non-paper reflects the priorities from Africa

Anriette Esterhuysen from APC took participants through the analysis of stakeholder inputs from Africa for the non-paper. The main objective was to identify priorities from Africa and how well the non-paper reflected on the priorities from Africa.

Key Points highlighted:
- The non-paper is meant to facilitate the WSIS review process. The non-paper is a very general document meant for for the general audience. It was coordinated and compiled by co-facilitators from output and inputs from different stakeholders written in the format which will be presented to UNGA.
- On internet governance the non-paper reaffirms issues such as inclusivity, access and cyberspace security. On the Africa's priorities, theWSIS process was parallel to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) where there is lack of integration of these goals with the WSIS process itself.
- The aim now should be to link the Sustainable Development Goals with the WSIS process to foster better direction and cohesion.
- The digital divide is still an issue in Africa but there is also a gender divide that needs to be addressed by 2030.
- There is a clear need for data and indicators to measure the gaps that exist in Africa and how we can effectively work together to deal with them.

Discussion
- The participants expressed their views pertaining to the lack of leadership from Africa in the WSIS+10 review process. It was noted that the first WSIS proceedings were in Africa but Africa now seems to be voiceless and without a perspective.
- A recommendation from the floor was that the 2015 review process should be done by national authorities which by doing this will encourage more measures to strengthen national IGFs.
- It was also noted that Africa might be having an outdated conversation and perspective regarding some issues in internet governance. Africa needs to keep up to date with the trends and global dialogues that are happening.

To conclude, Anriette Esterhuysen urged African governments to work together African governments to work together in pushing the African agenda and policy issues. She suggested that this can be done by working on submissions, attending forums like the African IGF and building regional capacity. She further proposed that Africa should consider leading in the advocacy for gender based rights and inclusion in the digital society. The session provided a platform for different stakeholders to examine the non-paper, establish an African voice, perspectives and identifying spaces where Africa can lead.

3. Break out groups to discuss how well the non-paper reflects the priorities from Africa, and preparation of Africa's response to the non-paper
Facilitator: Grace Githaiga, KICTANet

Grace Githaiga from KICTANet facilitated the break out group session to discuss how well the non-paper reflected the priorities from Africa. The session was translated into a working one to prepare responses that

focused on the seven areas identified in the WSIS Review + 10 non paper namely preamble, digital divide, ICT for development, Human rights, Internet Governance, cyberspace, and follow up and review, with the aim of contributing African voices into the document.

Concerns raised by participants included:
- There is no mention of human rights in this statement. Reference should be included on Human Rights as it was in the Geneva Convention.
- There is lack of clear reference to measurable targets particularly to provide guidance to national governments.
- That challenges have arisen not only of the rapid changes in technology but also of the other economic and social divides.
- That the digital divide is more of an economic divide and resolved unsolved issue in Africa.
- Internet access and penetration is still very weak in Africa and yet access for all is important. There is need to promote public access facilities such as libraries.
- There is need to consider an increase in contributions towards the Universal Access Funds as a way of filling in the financial gap in order to bring about universal access.
- That a reliable and sustainable ICT ecosystem (sustainable reliable health, education, security, justice, waste etc.) is necessary for mainstreaming ICTs in all sectors.
- The right of freedom of expression, as described in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is essential for media's role in information and knowledge societies.
  That the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online as they are enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- There is need for sustainable capacity building for members from developing and least developed countries to encourage meaningful participation and contributions to Internet governance issues.
- There is need to ensure the protection and empowerment of children online. In this regard, governments and other stakeholders should work together to help all enjoy the benefits of ICTs in a safe and secure environment.
- And in terms of follow up and review, there is need for Annual Regional Reviews of the WSIS+10 outcomes, involving all stakeholders, covered by UN Regional Commission while member States and Regional Organizations will report on progress in achieving these outcomes within the context of 2030 agenda of Sustainable Development.

The outcomes were compiled by APC and KICTANet and submitted as joint outcome document. The document is here: http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/Internet/Documents/UNPAN95296.pdf

Session 4. Next steps, closing and acknowledgments. What it means to participate and to influence outcomes beyond the non-paper in the context of the WSIS+10 Review, and possible opportunities beyond the Review for cooperation among stakeholders in Africa

This offered a diverse and rich output of views and creative solutions and contributions to the working groups. Towards the end of the workshop there was a widely shared view that Africa needs to get back on the saddle regarding the WSIS process and to have a strong voice and perspective which takes into account Africa's context. It was also widely acknowledge that there is need for capacity building in the continent to better contribute meaningfully in global forums and spaces. Beyond the African IGF and the WSIS review process there is a task to strengthen national and local authorities and stakeholders in not only steering domestic policy but in working together to deliver on set agenda's and goals. A strong need to build African capacity through establishing more regional and national IGFs which will aid in helping the continent in structuring a

perspective. The issue of funding and financing of all these activities remains a major challenge for Africa since most of its countries are stricken with poverty. However the group that was at the session believed that internet issues mattered too and engagement in the internet governance spaces need to continue.

ANNEX 3: REPORT OF PLENARY SESSIONS

A - WSIS + 10, AU IG Declaration and IGF Renewal

Short brief:
The session provided an overview on where Africa is from the ongoing WSIS overview process. The ECA, presented the African priorities and challenges as discussed in their meeting last April listing a number of action lines that remains valid and important to the welfare of the African continent among those action lines there were mentioning about the capacity building, e- applications, the importance of establishing national strategies for ICTs and developing local content. As well, there was a mentioning the existing gaps where there should be an attention given to, such as lack of financial resources and challenges related to infrastructure.
The presentation provided as well some highlights on future challenges such as open data, climate change and ICTs, peach and security and finding innovative funding mechanism.
There was a suggestion for proposing four new action lines besides the 11 existing ones: technology and innovation, peach and security, measuring ICT and statistics.

The other topic that was discussed was about the IGF future and challenges and most of the deliberations went around the importance of its continuation and to continue the relation with the UN family and the WSIS.

The third point discussed was about the African Union declaration on the Internet Governance, which is a very important, prepared by the AUC and presented to the council of ICT ministers articulating what could be the voice of Africa in regard to the global IG issues and discussions.

Recommendations:
1. Encouraging the African government and all stakeholder to submit their comments on the UNGA non – paper before the mid of September.

2. To request the AUC to circulate the AU declaration on the Internet Governance to all member states so that they can reflect upon.

3. Support the continuation of the IGF under the UN umbrella

4. Support the continuation of the CSTD and UN specialized agencies to continue following up on the WSIS reviews.

5. Suggest the renewal of the national WSIS committees by African governments to follow up on the national level on its implementation.

6. Encourage the African governments to foster their participation in the global IGF.

7. Encourage the participation of the African civil society together with other African relevant stakeholders in the global IGF.

8. Mobilizing the participation of the African youth in global IGF.

9. Stress the importance of establishing national IGFs.

B - PUBLIC ACESS TO INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The session emphasized the need to address access to information as a key development issue. It noted that inequalities in access limit the effectiveness of ICTs in addressing social needs.

There were three presenters with the following main recommendations:

1. **Presenter:** Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata, Executive Director, University of South Africa (UNISA), Pretoria, South Africa**.**

   Title of Presentation: Access to Information Through Libraries in Post 2015 Development Agenda

   Recommendations
   - ➢ Strengthen partnerships among ICT, libraries, media and other organizations in building local digital content
   - ➢ Partner with local and international IGF in building a community of practice that advocates for eradication of all forms of barriers to information access
   - ➢ A coordinated agenda with African Union, ECA and post-WSIS that sets an African Agenda for access to Information

2. **Presenter:** Ridha Guellouz, Tunisian ICT Association

   Title of Presentation: Access to information and knowledge in the context of SDG

   Recommendations
   - ➢ Launch specific programmes that target:
     - o Access to information and knowledge for people with disabilities
     - o Promote ICT for Education, Science and Culture
     - o <u>Linguistic diversity and multilingualism on Internet</u>
     - o <u>Open access to scientific information</u>
     - o Democratic public media
   - ➢ Promote the potential roles of stakeholders, especially local and regional NGOs
   - ➢ Launch specific programmes for "Open data" with specific consideration to intellectual property rights and protection of personal data and online civil rights

3. **Presenter:** Emilar Vushe, APC

   Title of Presentation: Providing Digital Inclusion for All

   Recommendations
   - ➢ Build awareness on the need for digital inclusion and encourage information sharing
   - ➢ Improve the enabling environment
   - ➢ Implement the use of universal funds
   - ➢ Address human resources challenges
   - ➢ Invest in locally relevant applications

At the end of the session, delegates were requested to make recommendations for strategic actions plans that will be developed. The following were suggested:

i. **Role of Libraries/librarians:** National, regional and continental Internet Governance Forums should include Librarians as key stakeholders in the process. There is an urgent need to support the development of libraries as drivers of access to knowledge. This will involve creating libraries (in the relevant model) that can adequately serve all populations. There was also a call that all stakeholders should support efforts to promote the reading culture.

ii. **Legislation:** Develop a legislative and policy framework for easier implementation and create an enabling environment. All countries should deal with access to information as a human right, in terms of: UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNUDHR) Article 19 and the Charter of African and Peoples Rights Article 9. The need to lobby for the implementation of access to information laws was stressed. Furthermore, government was called upon to appoint technically competent persons as Ministers or Deputy Ministers of Communication Technology.

iii. **Capacity Building:** There should be capacity building in different aspects, including developing the capacity of librarians to use emerging technologies; educating citizens on rights related to access to information so that they can also advocate for them; and inclusion of the internet in ICT skills training in various institutions . The need to train journalists in order to improve reporting on access to information was stressed. Also, it was suggested that ICT centres could be established for training and delivering services in rural areas.

iv. **Education and Training:** Include ICT skills in the school curriculum at a very early stage such as promoting access to ICT at the pre-school and primary school levels. Put in place initiatives to completely eradicate illiteracy, which at the same time would promote access to information and knowledge.

v. **Publicity/Marketing/Promotion:** Promote citizen education on ICT literacy, especially in rural areas and engage more with stakeholders. Beyond the hardware (infrastructure), promote the digital civilization – Internet as a new vehicle for information provision with roaming and mobile facilities to facilitate access.

vi. **Strategic Plan:** Develop a Road Map/Strategic plan for achieving full public access to information and knowledge. This will involve defining access and identifying the gaps to be filled. For instance, create a committee to monitor, evaluate and access impact on society as well as articulate a clear stance on gender and its implementation. Also, implement national policy and strategy on Open data and access.

vii. **Local Content Development:** Promote the creation of local content online in order to promote inclusive access. Considering illiteracy, which is a big issue in Africa, there is need to translate contents (governmental, health, economic and so on) into local languages and in oral format to reach a maximum number of people. In addition, investment by OTTs in local developers to promote innovation and ATI should be encouraged.

viii. **Cost:** Governments, regulatory bodies, network operators and other stakeholders should work together to bring down the cost of Internet access.

ix. **Funding:** There should be significant investment in public libraries to equip them with relevant ICT tools to ensure that they play a key role in promoting public access to information.

x. **Infrastructural Development and Connectivity:** There is need to develop more strategic efforts to get more commitment from government to support infrastructural development. In particular, governments should work together with network operators (fixed and mobile) to ensure rural communities are connected.

xi. **Partnership:** The importance of working with partners and collaborating with relevant stakeholders to optimize resources was stressed.

Dr. Victoria Okojie, Session moderator

C – CONNECTING THE NEXT BILLION

Moderator: Dr Jimson Olufuye

Presenters: Dr Jimson Olufuye, AfICTA
              Constance Bommelaer, ISOC (by teleconference)
              Gloria Katuuku, Uganda
              Michael Kottoh, MD Konfidants

Following the presentations and feedback from the floor, the recommendations below are hereby submitted on "Connecting the Next Billion Internet Users":

- Connecting the next billions should be viewed as a Programme/Project by countries and stakeholders and as such should be approached using Programme/Project best practices and methodologies.
- Ministry of Communications & InformationTechnology or departments responsible for ICT should review their ICT & broadband policy/plans through enhanced multi-stakeholder cooperation involving diverse stakeholder group towards ensuring that all are involved in the policy implimentation.
- Government should demonstrate requisite political will to impliment viable policies already in place. There are cases like once a government replaces another it abandons on-going project by the previous governments.
- Smart Initiatives pioneered by President Kagame at the regional level should be sustained to help remove e-frictions in states/countries such as right of way challenge, multiple taxation and deployment of government services on-line using the open data model.
- Effective monitoring and evaluation of programme using online realtime portal reportage.
- AU should embrace enhanced multi-stakeholder approach to its meetings and consultations with governments, private sector, civil society and academia/technical cooperating and collaborating.
- Participants are enjoined to contribute to the call (to be made next week) for inputs to the UN Secretary-General's Multi-Stakeholder Advisory group consideration of "Policy Options to connecting the next billions".
- Open Data Model, local content development, eLearning initiatives & others should be used to boost demand.
- Universal Service Provision Funds should be used to engender infrastructure into underserved areas and to enable access affordability.
- Regional initiatives should be enhanced to promote broadband infrastructure.
- Power grid capacity should boosted through diverse sources.
- AU should explore the creation of a continental common toll-free Internet platform in conjunction with telcos and other stakeholders to preserve the identity and unique cultural heritage of Africa.

D – ADRESSING CYBERSECURITY ISSUES, INCLUDING SPAM

Moderator: Mactar Seck, ECA
Panelists: Mactar Seck, ECA
               Michael Ilishebo, Zambia
               Halefom Hailu, Ethiopia

This session focused on the issue of cyber security including of Spam in Africa.
During the discussion several additional valuable inputs and questions were received from African states, private sector, civil society to require an African Safety mechanism for African e-consumers with an emphasis on Pan-African collaboration and cooperation in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of Cyber Crimes including issues related to effectively countering and combating spam.
Recommendations agreed by the participants include the following:

- Enhance Capacity Building training in Cyber Security of criminal justice professionals, including law enforcement personnel, prosecutors and judges
- Encourage Governments to take appropriate actions for spam by adopting anti-spam policies and technologies to protect service users and ISPs from illegal spam and improving education/awareness of service users and ISPs
- Encourage Governments, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to work together to bridge the digital divide, to raise public awareness and education about the risks of cybercrime
- Encourage African government to ratify the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection and to transpose their cyber security laws in the framework of the Convention in such a way as to facilitate international cooperation in preventing and combating these illicit activities;
- Encourage all African government to update their criminal laws as soon as possible, in order to address the particular nature of cybercrime.. In determining the strength of new legislation States should be encouraged to be inspired by the provisions of the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection
- Building international cooperation in cyber security to enhance public protection and to promote more effective information sharing to address cyber crimes issues (effective regulation adoption, anti-spam technology development, and education of service users and providers)

E – HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE INTERNET

Summary

As an introduction to the panel, UNESCO provided an overview of existing frameworks, principles, and declarations as it concerns human rights online. Furthermore, the concept of "internet universality" with its four guiding principles that the internet should be human rights based, open, accessible to all, and multi-stakeholder (known by the acronym ROAM), was outlined as a basis for ensuring human rights online. UNESCO further underlined that "Internet Universality" accords with the Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and also echoes the first resolution on "promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet" passed by UN Human Rights Council in 2012. Lastly, UNESCO introduced the internet freedom series and recently published internet study "Keystones to Foster Inclusive Knowledge Societies" to underline cross cutting and emerging issues in the field related to free expression, privacy, ethics, and access.

Salisu Kaka (Nigeria), following the introduction, provided an overview of the right to access the internet and human rights on the internet, underlining specifically the African experience. Kaka reiterated that access to the Internet has two dimensions 1) access to online content, without any restrictions except in a few limited cases permitted under international human rights law; and 2) the availability of the necessary infrastructure and information communication technologies, such as cables, modems, computers and software, to access the Internet in the first place. Outlining the WSIS Declaration of 2003 where the internet was declared a fundamental human right, Article 19, the right to freedom of speech, the right to development, and the right to freedom of assembly, Kaka outlined the ongoing debate on whether access to the internet should be considered a human right based on existing opposing views in the international community. Questions of future regulation of the internet were posed, and ensuring universal access to the internet was a priority for all States was set forward as a priority. In the African context, issues of cybercrime and cybersecurity and terrorism were brought forward as major preoccupations concerning regulation online.

George Kristensen (GVC Media, the Gambia) outlined how the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms benefit individuals, civil society groups, the business and technical community, and governments. Underlining that openness, access, and affordability are central to ensuring that individuals benefit from the internet and the Declaration, Mr. Kristensen reiterated that freedom of expression and right to information are complementary. Furthermore, freedom of assembly and space for cultural and linguistic diversity were further underlined as central aspects of the Declaration related to human rights.

Chenai Chair (ICT Africa) underlined the links between gender equality and internet governance, equally requesting IGF participants to reevaluate their definition of the scope of gender issues online. Four major points were underlined as issues needing to be further addressed in this light: 1) Violence against women online, including revenge porn, 2) Censorship by the state on sexual and reproductive rights, not limited to women and the LGBT community, 3) the opportunity to use online spaces as forums to challenge stereotypes, and 4) the need to further acknowledge the issue of access as one beyond just a question of "connecting people." Underlining that income and education are two key issues affecting ICT access, Chair reiterated that women statistically have much less access and may make use of ICTs differently. Chair concluded in confirming the need to look beyond issues of ICT access and work interdepartmentally beyond ICT ministries to ensure issues of ICT competencies can be addressed.

Recommendations

- Designation by Pan-African and Regional Organization of a date as African Internet Rights Day;
- Establishment, with the ACHPR, of mechanisms to promote, monitor, and popularize the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms across the continent;
- Establishment of self regulatory, independent objective oversight, and sanctioning mechanisms in light of the Declaration of principles to ensure Rights to Privacy in the Digital age are protected and the Johannesburg principles on National Security implemented, similar to an Ombudsman;
- Establishment of a designated rapporteur on the specific issue of internet freedom as a key issue in order to hold policymakers accountable and further involve civil society;
- Ensure that legislation related to the internet on a national and regional level facilitates protection of rights and not limitation of access;
- Priority focus on openness, access, and affordability for all advocacy related to ensuring the internet as a fundamental human right;
- Ensure cross ministerial work between ICT Ministries and other Ministries, including Ministries of Education, to address the need for ICT competencies and media and information literacy, specifically for women, in formal and non formal education;
- Further involve youth and women in IGF deliberations at large;
- Integrate ICT competencies into national curricula;
- Further reinforce national infrastructure in order to ensure effective translation of laws and policies regarding the Internet into practice;

- Further ensure, on an IGF level, multi-stakeholder presence, specifically the presence of Government counterparts;

- Further engage with the African Declaration on internet rights and freedoms and UNESCO's "internet universality" concept as guiding principles for the further development of public policy in support of human rights and the internet.

F – IANA STEWARDSHIP TRANSITION

Moderator: Bob Ochieng (ICANN)
Panelists: Tijani Ben Jemaa (Member CCWG - Accountability)
                        Mary Uduma (Member ICG)

This informational session sought to give an update to the AfIGF delegates on the current status of the IANA Stewardship Transition. As you may recall, on March 14, 2014, the U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced its intent to transition key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community. Indeed this announcement was welcomed with a lot of excitement and received widespread endorsements from the global Internet community including the AUC.

The Announcement specified the *following 4 key principles outlined in the announcement:*

- Support and enhance the multistakeholder model
- Maintain the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet DNS
- Meet the needs and expectations of the global customers and partners of the IANA services
- Maintain the openness of the Internet
- NTIA also specified that it would not accept a proposal that replaces the NTIA role with a government-led or intergovernmental organization solution.

Since that announcement, the global Community has worked tirelessly and with great resilience and determination resulting in two parallels processes (tracks) namely:

- ➢ **IANA Stewardship Transition**: Focused on delivering a proposal to transition the stewardship of the IANA functions to the multistakeholder community.
- ➢ **Enhancing ICANN Accountability**: Focused on ensuring that ICANN remains accountable in the absence of its historical contractual relationship with the U.S. Government. The following info graphic best illustrates the relationship, structure and flow of proposals from the above 2 processes.

Tijani took the audience through the Accountability track while Mary elaborated on both the ICG and the overall Transition proposal. Tijani later clarified the importance of both processes and called on the Africa Community to come up, read and submit their comments to both proposals.

The discussion session witnessed heated debate and questions on the role of governments, ICANN's jurisdiction and whether the UN could be a better option for IANA function. The panelists clarified the importance of the Multi-Stakeholder Model as the best for governing the Internet owing to its unique borderless nature. For more information on the detailed process and current status including combined proposals under public comment, please follow this link: https://www.icann.org/news/blog/volume-9-an-update-on-iana-stewardship-discussions.

G – NET NEUTRALITY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICA

The session began with the three panelists framing definitions and principles of Net Neutrality after which they considered several questions related to Net Neutrality:

- Why is net-neutrality important and is it (really) an issue for Africa?
- Do you think there is a need for net-neutrality regulation in Africa?
- What should Africa's position be on net neutrality?

Through the discussion with the panelists and participants, it emerged that there might indeed a need for regulation that addressed the specific context of Net Neutrality; however there were views expressed from some participants that net neutrality posed some challenges for African stakeholders which warranted further investigation and dialogue in order to reach a common position on net neutrality.

Key Recommendations:

1. The African Union in collaboration with ECA and other partners should convene an African Forum on Net Neutrality

2. Research and analysis should be undertaken at national and regional level on the policy, legal and regulatory implications of Net Neutrality

3. Regulatory agencies should take steps to address concerns raised about Internet Service Providers (ISPs) who engage in practices such as Network Address Translation (NAT) which restrict the type and level of service that end users are availed.

4. Civil society in collaboration with other stakeholders should undertake consumer awareness initiatives on Internet access and usage

WSIS+10 Non-Paper: Comment from African Stakeholders at the 2015 African Internet Governance Forum

Submitted by the African Internet Governance Forum Secretariat

The African Union Commission (AUC), the Association of Africa Progressive Communications (APC), the Egyptian Ministry of ICT, the Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) and the Internet Society (ISOC), organized a pre-event on WSIS+10 on 6 September in Addis Ababa. This was immediately prior to the Africa Internet Governance Forum[2] that took place from 7-8 September 2015. At this event, after an overview of the WSIS process and the 10-year review, participants which included around 200 people from all stakeholder groups (government, civil society, business, academia, international organisations and the technical community) divided into groups that discussed the non-paper in depth.

This submission is a compilation of reactions to the non-paper that emerged from this event.

COMMENTS ON THE PREAMBLE OF THE NON-PAPER

Participants at the African IGF WSIS+10 pre-event were generally positive about the preamble and appreciate the special mention of African countries in paragraph 6. However, they felt strongly about the following:

Paragraph 1 would be strengthened by including a reference to human rights as was done in the first paragraph of the Geneva Declaration of Principles: "We, the representatives of the peoples of the world, assembled in Geneva from 10-12 December 2003 for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, declare our common desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."[3]

Participants felt that paragraph 3 should recognize that the benefits of the digital economy are limited by digital exclusion; exclusion which needs to be addressed for this 'economy' to contribute to sustainable development.

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

The non-paper importantly mentions the ongoing divides within and between countries in paragraph 10, as well as the risk that these divides may grow. However, it does not point out that the digital divide is first and foremost a consequence of larger social and economic divides. Insufficient human development remains a major unsolved problem in Africa. The value of increased access to devices such as mobile phones is limited by people's lack of knowledge in how to make use of these devices, or how to access relevant content, assuming this content exists and is available in local languages. These divides (digital, and social and economic) impact on all WSIS action lines. Awareness raising, advocacy and capacity building to develop, preserve, access and

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[2]   http://afigf.org/?q=AfIGF2015

[3]   http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs/geneva/official/dop.html

use content and knowledge that can contribute to social, economic and environmental development is necessary remain vital.

Internet access and penetration is still very weak in Africa. Access for all is important, but particularly for groups at risk, such as people living with disability, or people who are already marginalised, such as women in low income groups and rural people all over the continent. There is need to promote public access facilities such as libraries throughout the world, particularly in developing countries where such services do not exist, and when they do, are lacking in resources. Libraries are spaces which can provide not only access to the internet, but also access to information and capacity building.

Meeting these challenges requires developing collaborative planning, platforms and projects at national and regional levels. Regions should be encouraged to develop integrated economic strategies and models which includes manufacturing and certification of equipment and development of applications that respond to local/regional needs.

Overall we believe that for the digital divide to be bridged in Africa, but probably also in other developing regions, there is a fundamental need for investment in human capacity development and educational and research institutions, including universities. This will help bridge the lack of relevant online content, and in research capacity. It is also necessary to invest in research and data gathering at national level to enable all stakeholders, and governments in particular, to understand and respond to the changes in the digital divide.

ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Participants in the African IGF propose that the heading of this section be changed to "ICT for sustainable development" in line with the already stated link between the WSIS and the post-2015 development agenda.

Points they feel should be added to the non-paper include the need for continuous research into ICT for development and the need for, as stated above in digital divide as well, continuous capacity building and training. ICT for development does not require once off investment. Investment into mobilising ICTs for development should be long term and integrated across national budgets. The non-paper should stress the need for a diverse and sustainable ICT ecosystem across all sectors (health, education, security, justice, waste etc.) and point out that this can only be achieved by integrating or mainstreaming ICTs in all development sectors with the involvement of all stakeholder groups.

Some participants felt that Universal Access Funds are still an important source of funding that can be invested in ICT for development and that contributions from industry players should be increased to support sustainable development activities. Others were concerned that increasing licensing fees or taxation could raise barriers to entry for new and local businesses.

All participants felt that regulatory hindrances need to be minimized so as not to stifle innovation. There is a need for more, and more widely distributed, innovation hubs so that people in rural areas have easier access to to ICT for development tools, skills and information.

Energy and e-waste management must be tackled, and more use of renewable technologies such as solar be encouraged in all ICT expansion.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Participants felt that the non-paper does not give this important area sufficient emphasis.

They supported the non-paper's underscoring of the right to development and respect for freedom of expression and the independence of the press, taking into account the individual right to privacy, and media ethics and

responsibilities. They agreed that in the context of online communications no person shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, consistent with countries obligations under international human rights law.

The felt that this section should mention that the right of freedom of expression, as described in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is essential for media's role in information and knowledge societies, and through this, media's role in ICTs for sustainable development.

They support the non-papers reaffirmation that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online as they are enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

They felt that the non-paper should emphasize the need for the prioritization of women and girls in the areas of access, and equality online as offline, in order to achieve gender parity in all areas of engagement including in all aspects of the information society.

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Participants expressed overall support for the text of the non-paper in this section. They had some recommendations, outlined below:

They agreed that the Internet has "continued to grow in number of users, speed of access, range of services and many other ways, necessitating fast-changing and inclusive governance structure." Nevertheless they feel the non-paper should stress that despite the above, there are still affordability challenges for developing and least developed countries. Undersea fibre capacity available at the coasts of developing countries can often not be utilised by their citizens because of poor intra and inter-national infrastructure. There is need for more Internet Exchange Points (IXP) and the presence of first tier IXPs. This requires interventions at the policy level and cooperation between all stakeholders at the level of deployment.

They felt that the definition of internet governance in paragraph 23: "There is general agreement that the governance of the Internet should be open, inclusive and transparent, within the working definition of Internet governance as 'the development and application by governments, the private sector, civil society, technical and academic community in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, decision-making procedures and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet', should evolve to include the governance of the Internet technical resources.

They recommend that the non-paper includes a call for sustainable capacity building for members from developing and least developed countries to encourage meaningful participation and contributions to Internet governance issues.

CYBERSPACE

Many felt that this section should be entitled "cyber security" or cyber safety.

They felt that the call in paragraph 29: "We call for increased global efforts and cooperation in combating cybercrime and countering cyber-threats" should have the following text added: "without compromise of user privacy."

Paragraph 29 would then read: "We call for increased global efforts and cooperation in combating cybercrime and countering cyber threats without compromising user privacy."

The recommend adding the following text to this section: "There is a need for special emphasis on the protection and empowerment of children online. In this regard, governments and other stakeholders should work together to help all enjoy the benefits of ICTs in a safe and secure environment."

FOLLOW UP AND REVIEW

Participants are happy with this section in general but had the following comments:

They felt that the statement in paragraph 31 on mobilising domestic public and private resources to spur ICT access and content creation should recognize the role of civil society efforts. At present it appears to only include government and business. They therefore suggest the text is modified to read: "There will be a continued focus on mobilizing domestic public and private resources and the efforts of civil society to spur ICT access and content creation."

In response to paragraph 33 on content, participants added that there is little content in African languages meaning that African cultures and identities are not represented well on the internet. There is need to make local content and local knowledge accessible in order to facilitate the ability of governments, parliamentarians, local authorities, local communities, civil society, the private sector and individuals to make informed decisions in their efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

They felt strongly that there is a need for regional follow up processes. In this regard they recommend that a new paragraph be added before or after paragraph 37 that reads: "We call for annual regional reviews of WSIS+10 outcomes, involving all stakeholders, convened by UN Regional Commissions, where member states, international and regional organizations report on progress in achieving WSIS outcomes within the context of 2030 agenda of Sustainable Development."

They also recommend that the non-paper mentions the need for the development of targets and indicators to monitor progress towards the achievement of access to information and knowledge for the persons living with disability.

They also felt that this section should mention the need for promotion of the multistakeholder model, particularly at national levels, as an important pre-condition for effective WSIS follow up and implementation.

END

ANNEX 5: AGENDA

The African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF 2015
http://afigf.org/

06 – 08 September 2015
African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

	Tuesday 01 September – Saturday 05 September 2015
	Pre-conference Workshops
	African School of Internet Governance
	Sunday 06 September 2015
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 10:00	Orientation program for newcomers
10:00 – 10:30	**Coffee break**
10:30 – 13:00	Pre-conference Workshops
	- *WSIS + 10: APC in cooperation with the Ministry of CIT of Egypt, AUC, ISOC, KICTANet (**Medium Conference Hall – Ground Floor**)*
	- *Access to Information and Knowledge – The African Virtual Library & Information Network (AVLIN): ECA (**Small Conference Hall 4; 3rd Floor**)*
	- *The Internet and Human Rights: Access to the Internet in Africa as a fundamental human right – NEPAD Agency (**Small Conference Hall 2; 2nd Floor**)*
	- *Capacity building needs for IG and Internet public policy dialogues - NEPAD Agency (**Small Conference Hall 3; 3rd Floor**)*
	- *UNESCO's Priority Africa and the Internet Study – Relevance to Human Rights online (**Small Conference Hall 1; 2nd Floor**)*
13:00 – 14:30	**Lunch break**
14:30– 17:00	Pre-conference Workshops (ctd.)
	Monday 07 September 2015

08:30 – 09:00   Registration

Medium Conference Hall

MCs: Makane Faye, ECA & Adil Sulieman, AUC

09:00 – 09:30   **Opening session**

Remarks by outgoing Chair
Welcome statement by Dr. Jimmy Ocitti, Director, Public Information and Knowledge Management Division, ECA
Remarks by Moctar Yedaly, Head, Information Society Division, AU

Remarks by the Honorable Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services, South Africa, Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize

09:30 – 10-30	Report from the sub-regional IGFs and from the pre-conference workshops - Moderated by: Judy Okite, FOSSFA Presenters: Mary Uduma WAIGF, Michel Linze IGF-CA, Gloria Katuuku EAIGF, George Ahthew SAIGF, North Africa, WSIS Rapporteur, AVLIN Rapporteur, Internet Rights Rapporteur, AfriSIG Discussion
10:30-10-45	**Coffee break**
10:45-12-15	WSIS issues, including the Future of IGF and the AU Declaration on IG - Moderated by: Nermine El Saadany, Egypt Presentations by: Mactar Seck, ECA, Anriette Esterhuysen, APC, Moctar Yedaly, AUC Discussion
12:15 – 13:15	Public Access to Information & Knowledge in the context of the SDGs - Moderated by: Victoria Okojie, Nigeria Presentations by: Emilar Vushe, APC, Ridha Guellouz, ATTIC, Tunisia, Buhle Mambo-Thata, South Africa
13:15 – 14:00	**Lunch break**
14:00 – 15:00	Connecting the next billions - Moderated by: Jimson Olufuye, AFICTA Presentations by: Constance Bommelaer, ISOC (Remote Panelist), Gloria Katuuku, Uganda, Michael Kottoh, KONFIDANTS Discussion
15:00 – 16:00	Addressing cybersecurity issues, including SPAM - Moderated by: Mactar Seck, ECA Presentations by: Michael Ilishebo, Zambia, Halefom Hailu, Ethiopia Discussion
16:00 – 17:00	Human Rights on the Internet - Moderated by: Sasha Rubel, UNESCO Presentations by: Salisu Kaka, Nigeria, George Kristensen, GVC Media, The Gambia, Chenai Chair, APC Discussion
	End of the Day
1	**Tuesday 08 September 2015**
08:30 – 09:30	IANA Stewardship Transition - Moderated by: Bob Ocheing, ICANN Presentations by: Mary Uduma, NIGF, Nigeria, Mohamed Tijani Ben Jemaa, FMAI Discussion
09:30 – 10:30	Net Neutrality and its implications for Africa - Moderated by: Towela Nyirenda Jere, NPCA

Presentations by: Pria Chetty, EndCode, Janvier Ngnoulaye, University of Yaounde 1, Antony Chigaazira, CRASA

Discussion

10:30-10-45	**Coffee break**
10:45 – 11:45	Enhancing Multi-stakeholder Cooperation - Moderated by: Mimi Bulelwa Tau, South Africa Presentations by: Cisse Kane, ACSIS, Mawaki Chango, Digilexis, Grace Githaiga, KICTANet, Kenya Discussion
11:45 – 12:45	Sustainable Development and the Internet Economy - Moderated by: Palesa Legoze, South Africa Presentations by: Michel Linze, ACSIS-CAPDA, James Nguo, ALIN, James Mutandwa Madya, Zimbabwe Discussion
12:45 – 13:30	The African IGF: The Way forward - Moderated by: Moctar Yedaly, AUC Presentations by: Towela Nyirenda Jere, NPCA, Tijani Ben Jemaa, FMAI Discussion
13:30 – 14:15	**Lunch break**
14:15 – 16:15	Preparation of the Recommendations of AfIGF2015 - Moderated by: Barrack Otieno, KICTANet, Kenya Resource persons: Emilar Vushe, APC, Towela Nyirenda Jere, NPCA, Mohamed Timoulali, GOPIC, Morocco, Antonin Benoit Diouf, IDEP, Mmadou Ndiaye, Senegal
16:15-17-00	Presentation of the Recommendations and Conclusions of AfIGF2015 by: Barrack Otieno, KICTANet, Kenya
17:00 – 17:30	**Closing session** Statement by: Moctar Yedaly, AUC

End of AfIGF2015

Drafting Committee:

Coordinator: Barrack Otieno

Members:
1. Mohamed Timoulali, GOPIC
2. Towela Nyirenda Jere, NPCA
3. Emilar Vushe, APC
4. Antonin Benoit Diouf, IDEP
5. Mamadou Ndiaye, Senegal
6. Makane Faye, ECA