



## **The African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF 2015**

**16 – 18 October 2016**

**Durban International Convention Centre (ICC), Republic of South Africa**

**Durban, South Africa**

**DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT**

### **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 (UNECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Forum's website is [www.afigf.org](http://www.afigf.org). It currently runs social media outlets on Twitter and Facebook.

### **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.

### **Participation**

Over 200 participants drawn from government, private sector, academia, research institutions, technical community, civil society organizations, media, and other stakeholders from over 30 countries attended

physically the 5<sup>th</sup> African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF2015) held from 16 to 18 October 2016 in Durban, South Africa.

AfIGF 2016 was officially opened by the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Republic of South Africa, Mr. Willies Mchunu. Welcome statements were delivered by Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize, Deputy Minister of Communications, Mr. Raul Echeberria, Vice-President ISOC, Mr. Chengetai Masango, Coordinator, IGF Secretariat and Dr. Elham M. Ebrahim, Commissioner, Infrastructure, The African Union.

The key Note Address was delivered by Dr. Siyabonga Cwele, Minister of Communication of the Republic of South Africa.

Below is the summary of the various opening statements.

### **The Deputy Minister of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services**

In her welcoming speech, the Deputy Minister, Hon. Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize welcomed participants and commended the organizers of the conference. She reminded participants the aims of AfIGF which is 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. She highlighted the specifics of AfIGF and touched upon key elements of AfIGF such as inclusiveness, awareness raising, capacity development, coordination, representation, advocacy, access, content development, etc. She concluded by wishing successful deliberations to the conference.

### **The Vice President of ISOC**

In his introductory remarks, the Vice President of ISOC indicated his happiness to meet in South Africa, the members of the African Internet community. He indicated that staff of the Internet Society have attended in 2016 many national and regional IGFs around the world and noticed the new way to discuss and deal with IG issues in an open and multistakeholder manner. Having been in the WSIS process since its inception, he acknowledged success made, especially at the national and regional levels where action is taken. He advocated diversity and involvement of all stakeholders in order to ensure relevance of decisions taken and actions undertaken. He cited two major events which occurred recently and which impact the Internet Governance Ecosystem; these are the SDGs and the IANA transition. He ended by wishing fruitful debate to participants.

### **The Coordinator of the IGF secretariat**

The IGF is hosted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in Geneva. The secretariat coordinator indicated that IGF was an inclusive space for exchange but global challenges as well as local ones existed. He advocated learning from similarities and differences between global, regional and national IGFs. He put emphasis on the need to have a strong participation of the developing countries in IGF and emphasized the contribution to be made which will lead to achieving the MDGs. He ended by inviting stakeholders to participate in the global IGF in Mexico to be held in December 2016.

### **The African Union Commissioner**

The AU Commissioner began her speech by welcoming all participants to the 5<sup>th</sup> African Internet Governance Forum and specifically thanked the host country for its leadership role in championing emerging socio-economic development initiatives that are transformational and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). She also thanked ministers present and congratulated both the APC and NPCA for successfully hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the African School on Internet Governance. She highlighted the fundamental changes that have been brought about by Information Technologies. She also noted the issue of low broadband access in Africa and called upon member States to put in place structures and systems to protect their interests on the Internet as well as ensuring that National IGF's are established. She spoke about the role that Digital Transformation will play in the achievement of the SDGs and the African Union Agenda 2063 Goals and

Aspirations. She concluded on the steps that the AU commission has taken to improve access, promote connectivity, combat cybercrime and enhance Africa's participation in IG fora.

### **Opening statement by the Prime Minister of KwaZulu-Natal**

The Prime Minister welcomed the delegates and indicated that in September 2012, this province had hosted a meeting of African ICT Ministers. In this regard, he urged the African governments to work towards their complementarity for the benefit of their population and should create jobs and eradicate poverty. He emphasized the need to consider and use Internet connectivity as a tool for economic growth because access to ICT infrastructure and telecommunications were essential for any country's development. In this context, he was in the opinion that connecting projects to broadband Internet were vital investments for the benefit of citizens. He concluded by declaring the 5<sup>th</sup> African IGF open.

### **Keynote address by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of South Africa**

He welcomed the participants on behalf of the Government of South Africa and noted that the conference will discuss the management framework of the Internet in Africa, including policies, applications and projects. He indicated that ICT growth in Africa was very rapid, that the internet was spreading and it has positive effects on growth. Because of the lack of fixed line, mobile telephony was being extensively used while the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals call for the availability of broadband Internet. As a continent we must pay attention to access to the Internet. We need to allow our citizens to participate in the Information Society. He put emphasis on the need to make Internet governance multilateral and inclusive. He indicated that there were different approaches on policy development and implementation. He spoke about universal access in South Africa and the country's plan to move from consumer to producer of content on the Internet.

### **Remote Participation**

AfIGF 2016 enabled remote participation from several parts of the world and used social media extensively during the meeting. Livestream was done through: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/zndcZASeqKJ>, viewed by over 1,200 persons by 18:30 on 18 October 2016.

### **Partners**

The fifth African IGF was co-organized by the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa in cooperation with the South African Government, fully supported by the Association for Progressive Communication (APC) and the NEPAD Coordination Agency. AfIGF 2016 was also supported financially by:

- The Internet Society
- ICANN
- The Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA)
- AfriNIC
- ZA Central Registry
- .zadna

## **High Level and Ministerial Session**

This year's African IGF had major innovations at the first day, which consisted of a High Level Segment, a Plenary Session and a Ministerial Round Table. The full report will be attached as annex.

The High Level Segment and the Plenary Session attracted high caliber experts of the Information Society from all stakeholder groups.

The Plenary Session received a presentation on "Building the foundation for Innovation" followed by a signing of a "Multi-Primary Administer Service Agreement" between the President of the DONA Foundation Dr. R. Kahn and the Minister of Communication of the Republic of South Africa, Dr. Siyabonga Cwele.

The following presentations were made during the High Level Segment:

1. Shaping the Future of the Internet in Africa
2. Internet of Things
3. Currency Cryptonym
4. Emerging Innovation
5. e-Commerce

### **Pre-conference workshops**

Parallel to the High Level Segment, the following five workshops were organized respectively, by AfLIA, GIPO, the Youth Caucus, APC and ACSIS:

1. Delivering an Inclusive Development: How Libraries Help Bring People Online and Reach the SDGs and AU's Agenda 2063
2. GIPO's Observatory Tool on IG
3. Youth and Internet Governance
4. From expression to repression-what kind of internet do we want in Africa
5. The role of the African Civil Society on African Internet Governance

The full report of each workshop will be attached as annex.

## **African IGF 2016 Plenary sessions**

AFIGF 2016 plenary sessions run from Monday 17 to Tuesday 18 October 2016 using panel format with a moderator and 3 to 5 panelists for each session. The agenda will be attached as annex. The list of sessions is below in chronological order.

1. Assessing the role of Internet Governance in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
2. Bridging the gender divide in the digital transformation of Africa
3. Africa's Digital Economy: Africa and Human Rights on the Internet
4. Connecting the next billion, which role for Africa?
5. Security and Privacy issues in the Internet
6. Inclusive development & Digital Transformation in Africa
7. Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Accelerating the Digital Transformation of Africa
8. Review and approval of the African IGF Charter and presentation of the reports on Regional IG conferences
9. Status of the Recommendations of AFIGF2015
10. Presentation of the Recommendations and Conclusions of AFIGF2016
11. The African Union Declaration on Internet Governance
12. Closing statements and Vote of Thanks

## **Report on the Plenary Sessions**

Below is the list of the plenary sessions. A summary of the panel presentations and discussion will be inserted in the relevant parts of each panel. The full reports of the sessions will be attached in annex.

- A. Session 1: Assessing the role of Internet Governance in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- B. Session 2: Bridging the gender divide in the digital transformation of Africa
- C. Session 3: Africa's Digital Economy: Africa and Human Rights on the Internet
- D. Session 4: Connecting the next billion which role for Africa?
- E. Session 5: Security and Privacy issues in the Internet
- F. Session 6: Inclusive development & Digital Transformation in Africa
- G. Session 7: Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Accelerating the Digital Transformation of Africa
- H. Session 8: Review and approval of the African IGF Charter and reports on Regional IG conferences
- I. Session 9: Status of the Recommendations of AFIGF2015
- J. Session 10: The African Union Declaration on Internet Governance
- K. Session 11: Recommendations and Conclusions of AFIGF2016

## **Conclusions and Recommendations from the Plenary Sessions**

Following presentation by panelists and subsequent discussion, the following recommendations were made:

### **Session 1: Assessing the role of Internet Governance in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

*For member States*

- African governments need to use and partner with libraries to deliver on national development plans SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.

*For member States and RECs*

- As African countries embark on the SDGs implementation strategy, Internet Governance must be embraced as a social development tool for community transformation, a facilitator for pro-economic policies, and a key domain for facilitating multi-stakeholders consensus and communication.

### **Session 2: Bridging the gender divide in the digital transformation of Africa**

*To Member States supported by civil society*

- Launch campaigns to sensitize women on the relevance of how to use the Internet and how to avoid traps of the Internet and also create platform and design programs that address issues related to women rights in African states.

*To Member States supported by the private sector*

- Bring more women in both developing technology and also in developing content.

### **Session 3: Africa's Digital Economy: Africa and Human Rights on the Internet**

*To Member States supported by civil society*

- Education ministries and civil society should initiate educational programs at community level and in local languages that would provide raise awareness on the Internet. At the same time, civil society should also educate government leaders and politicians about the political and economic costs of Internet censorship.
- Promote national Internet Governance forums as key platform for multistakeholder dialogue, thus anticipating or / and mitigating Internet shutdowns; and support ongoing communications between government and citizens.

#### **Session 4: Connecting the next billion: which role for Africa?**

*To Member States and Parliament*

- Establish a policy framework and strategy for promoting local content development and consumption.

*To Regulatory Body supported by the private sector*

- Promote affordability of the Internet to the people in Africa through subsidizing broadband to academic institutions and libraries, reduction of operational costs for Internet service providers and levying taxes on Internet enabled devices.

*To Local Government*

- Create Community Networks where communities provide the Internet access for, and amongst themselves by connecting via a network of WiFi access points. This may be supported by deploying phone charging stations within the community.

#### **Session 5: Security and Privacy issues in the Internet**

*To Member States*

- African member states should sign and ratify the AU Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection. In this context, they should implement relevant regulations related to Access to Information, data protection, privacy and cybercrime.

*To Member States and all stakeholders*

- Reinforce capacity building on Internet governance issues as education and cybersecurity.

#### **Session 6: Inclusive development & Digital Transformation in Africa**

*To Member States*

- African governments should establish clear goals specifying what was needed to achieve Digital transformation using transparent and inclusive methods, supported by good governance.

*To Member States, Private Sector and Regulator*

- Encourage organizations and governments to migrate from IPV4 to IP6 and host local IXP and content to reduce the cost of access to the internet. In this context, regulators should review current regulations taking into account the new challenges of migration process to IPV6.

#### **Session 7: Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Accelerating the Digital Transformation of Africa**

*To Member States*

- Government should involve young people when creating policy for the youth and children.

- Governments need to integrate innovation and entrepreneurship in the education system and support hubs teaching young people innovation.
- Member States should implement the African Union Pan African radio and television project taking into account the needs of youth.

### **Session 8: Review and approval of the African IGF Charter and reports on Regional IG conferences**

*To All Member stakeholders*

- Make the draft charter available online, to receive input from all stakeholders.

### **Session 9: Status of the Recommendations of AfIGF2015**

*To Member States*

- Government should respect multi stakeholder approach in implementing national IGFs.
- IGFs should be organized according to the bottom up approach so as the discussions held at the national, regional and continental levels are up to date.
- Recommendations of the various IGFs should be taken into consideration in government, sub-regional and regional organizations' future actions and plans.

### **Session 10: The African Union Declaration on Internet Governance**

Request AUC to submit the African Union draft Declaration on Internet Governance to the African Union Policy Organs for consideration and adoption.

### **Closing**

The conference was closed by closing remarks from the Deputy Director for Infrastructure of the Department of Communications of South Africa. Also, prior to the statement of the Deputy Director, Mr. Moctar Yedaly Head of the Information Society Division of the AU delivered closing remarks.

### **Gratitude**

Participants at the fifth African IGF express their gratitude to the Government and the people of the Republic of South Africa, the Africa Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and our sponsors who contributed to a successful African Internet Governance Forum.

Durban, Tuesday, 18 October 2016.  
The African Internet Governance Forum

## **Programme Coordination**

Makane Faye, Resource Person

## **Rapporteurs**

1. Aicha Jeridi, HIVOS, Tunisia, Rapporteur General
2. Michel Tchonang Linze, CAPDA, Cameroon
3. Radwa Samy Mohmed, General Authority for Investment, Egypt
4. Antonin Benoit Diouf, IDEP, Senegal
5. Cisse Kane, ACSIS, Switzerland
6. Elizabeth Kasujja, Alibeth Consults, Uganda
7. Kossi Amessinou, Ministry of Planning & Development, Benin
8. Nonhlanhla Chanza, Right to Know Campaign, South Africa
9. Mandiaye Ndiaye, University Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal
10. Haddija Jawara, Gambia Press Union, The Gambia
11. Ade Agnide Bada, ACSIS, Benin
12. Vivian Affoah, Media Foundation for West Africa, Ghana
13. Jean Paul Nkurunziza, ISOC, Burundi
14. Arsene Tungali, Rudi International, DRC

## **Knowledge Facilitation**

Girma Dessalegn, ECA, Ethiopia

# ANNEXES