Communique of the African Youth Internet Governance Forum, N`djamena, 10th September 2019

The Youth Internet Governance Forum was organized on the 10th of September 2019 under the theme; **shaping the next generation of internet users** at the 8th Internet Governance Forum in Radisson Blu Hotel Ndjamena, Chad. A total of 6 sessions were held. These include Induction for newcomers, welcome remarks by the African IGF Secretariat, Mary Uduma, Chairperson of African IGF MAG, and a keynote address by the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union. Other discussions include; youth engagement in the internet governance process, online content and media: fake news and

 misinformation, a capacity building on data governance and digital identities and a final session on emerging technologies and the future of work.

We thank the MAG and the African Union for recognizing the importance of the youth IGF and their support in the Forum. The youth in Africa make up ¼ of the world's population, as such African countries should leverage the internet to create more opportunities for the youth.

Recommendations.

- There is a need for the youths to get involved in shaping policies that affect the growth and democratic usage of the Internet in Africa
- Young people should be encouraged to challenge the status quo to enable sustainable innovation and development in Africa.
- The Government of the Countries in Africa should involve more young people in national policy-making processes.
- As the major users of the internet, the youths are in the best position to contribute to the conversations of Internet Governance, for security, accessibility and safety online.
- Youth Participation in Internet Governance is very important, they need to actively participate in the ecosystem. A plea is made to the African Union and government.
- The youths are encouraged to engage with policymakers in their various countries and keep making recommendations to the policymakers as policy regarding the internet keeps emerging.
- There is a need to create an environment of Trust and the Youths are encouraged to hold the leaders accountable.
- We Government need to address the issues of Cyberbullying

- There is a need for a concerted multistakeholder approach as well as the need to contextualize data protection legislative processes.
- Utilization of the creative arts industry to push for heightened grassroots level participation
- Governments and policymakers must consult and adopt a multi-stakeholder approach to policy development.
- Data protection commissioners should begin implementing their data protection policies and ensure the functionality of data controllers in order to guard against human rights violations
- Organizations need to go beyond the bottom line and efficiency when considering emerging technologies .Take a step back to consider the holistic picture of how the nature of work, the composition of the workforce, and the notion of workplace interact with each other to shape the future of work
- We need both a visionary and pragmatic approach to take full advantage of emerging technologies by imagining the possibilities based on industry-specific data to define a transformational strategy.Organizations need to rethink workflow, workforce, and workplace from the ground up to take advantage of technologies while creating meaning and value for employees.
- Companies have to align organizational structure, leadership, and workforce development as they execute a cohesive strategy that goes beyond a short-term equation of cost and efficiency to creating sustainable innovation.
- There is a need for urgent attention and investment in the human capital development of the Youths. Especially in skills development to let the youths in Africa to remain relevant in the future of work.
- The youths in Africa urge the African Union and Governments to help in balancing the key elements that are changing the future of work: Automation and Innovation.
- The youth should understand that routine job will be automated and it is advised to invest in relevant future skills and knowledge acquisition

- To individuals who operate media platforms, it's important to authenticate the source of information,
- The youths and other individuals are advised not to forward un-authenticated information to another internet/ media platform users
- Always evaluate/analyze information before consuming and or sharing with other potential users

- Digital literacy awareness campaigns should be supported to improve the knowledge of youth on the dangers of weaponised online content
- There is a need for a platform for youth in Africa countries to continue their learnings on internet governance, data governance and skill development.
- The African youth Internet Governance forum urges the Youth Internet Governance Forum in all countries to organize workshops and training for the youth in their locations.