

The Seventh African Internet Governance Forum – AfIGF 2018
4 – 6 November 2018

Corinthia Hotel, Khartoum, Sudan

Draft Outcome Document

This document summarizes the activities carried out in the framework of the 7th African Internet Governance Forum, as immediate take away at the end of the conference, to be made public for use up to finalization of the full report.

Background of AfIGF

The African Internet Governance Forum is Africa's multi stakeholder forum of Internet actors. It 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 hosted by the African Union Commission (AUC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Forum's website is www.afigf.africa. 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.

Participation

Over 300 participants drawn from government, private sector, academia, research institutions, technical community, civil society organizations, media, and other stakeholders from over 25 countries attended physically the 7th African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF2018) held from 4 to 6 November 2018 in Khartoum, Sudan, under the theme “*Development of the Digital Economy and Emerging Technologies in Africa*”

Remote Participation

The Telecommunications and Post Regulatory Authority (TPRA) provided remote participation facilities to enable different stakeholders around the world to participate in AfIGF 2018.

Partners

The seventh African IGF was co-organized by the African Union Commission in cooperation with the Sudanese Government.

AfIGF 2018 was also supported technically and financially by:

- a) African Union Commission
- b) TPRA, Sudan
- c) APC
- d) Facebook

- e) Internet Society
- f) ICANN
- g) IGFA
- h) AFRINIC

The Plenary was preceded by 8 parallel sessions on the 4th November. The reports will be annexed to the main AfIGF report. The parallel Sessions are follows:

1. Nondiscriminatory Internet Access
2. Community Network
3. Connecting the Unconnected
4. African court for online conflict resolution
5. Human Rights, Child Protection and youth rights
6. Internet Shutdowns
7. African Internet institutions
8. Cybersecurity Enhancement for the use and harnessing of ICT

Opening Ceremony

The General Director of Telecommunications and Post Regulatory Authority, Dr. Yahya Abdallah Mohammed welcomed participants, thanked the African Union for honoring Sudan with the precious opportunity of hosting such a remarkable event and wished the participants to enjoy their sojourn.

The Officer-in-charge of the e-Governance Division of the UN Department of Socio-Economic Affairs, Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, expressed through a video message, gratitude to the government of Sudan for hosting this meeting and the African union for sponsoring the event.

The Chief of the Information Society Division of the African Union, Mr. Moctar Yedaly, on behalf of H.E Dr. Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, thanked the people and authorities of Sudan for the wonderful organization of the 7th AfIGF and warm welcome and hospitality.

H.E. Bushara Gumaa Arror, Minister of Information, Communications and Information Technology welcomed all participants to the 7th African IGF in Khartoum before declaring open the annual conference.

Recommendations from the Opening Ceremony

- Africa must put in place the required human capacity and resources to deal with digital development challenges - for instance at the National Level, IGF processes should be established and enabled
- ICTs should be used in the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals
- ICTs should be a multisectoral enabler and support all sectors i.e health, agriculture
- Access to Internet should be democratized
- Human rights in the Internet must be respected

Keynote Address

The keynote speaker for AfIGF2018, Dr Alexander Sceberras Trigona, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malta, introduced the topic of Digital Diplomacy as a diplomatic angle to Internet governance. At the end of his lively statement and discussions, the following actions were recommended:

- By 2019 there should be geopolitical map on IGF's impact
- Roadmap to be put in place for training in the next 5 years of digital champions in the framework of EU cooperation agreement with the AU, such as training digital champions to places like Silicon Valley and exchanging experiences digital innovation
- Get hold of the UN High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation report and see what is in for Africa

The opening ceremony and keynote speech were preceded by one plenary session and followed by ten plenary sessions which came up with key recommendations below.

1. Induction for Newcomers (S1)

An induction session was conducted to set the ball rolling and to appraise participants on the Internet governance debate moderated by Mr. Makane Faye of the African IGF Secretariat. The following recommendations were made by participants:

- Need for African stakeholders to be engaged on Internet Governance issues and organize annual national IGFs in all the African Union member countries; and to participate in regional IGFs, the yearly African Regional IGF and the global IGF
- Need to strengthen multi stakeholder partnerships at all levels and sectors at the national and regional levels
- Need for African stakeholders to join the membership of the Internet Governance Support Association (IGFSA), the latter is being used to provide seed funding to national, regional and continental IGFs all over the world

2. National and Regional Initiatives (NRIs) (S2)

The session was moderated by Mr. Makane Faye of the African IGF secretariat. The following were the recommendations made from the session:

- Need to establish the first African MAG and to link the topics discussed at the national level with those discussed at the African level and at global IGF
- Urge all the countries that organize their national IGF to be inclusive in making sure that all stakeholders are fully involved in the entire process

3. Unlocking the development of the Digital Economy and Emerging Technologies in Africa (Roundtable) (S3):

The session which aimed at exploring solutions for putting in place a digital economy in Africa and making its population benefit from it was moderated by Mr. Moctar Yelaly of the African Union Commission who asked a series of questions to the panelists who responded successfully to all of them before opening the floor to participants. At the end of the session, the following recommendations were made:

- Government and other stakeholders need to educate and train people to help them unlock their potentials
- Government must encourage the development of free and independent media and vibrant civil society
- Government must be ready to embrace adverse effects of digital economy (e.g., child abuse, identity theft, etc.) and put in place the accompanying measures and remedies
- AU and member states should put in place the necessary mechanisms and tools to overcome the widening digital gap between African countries and the developed world
- The necessary standards, tools and mechanisms on e-transactions should be incorporated in the legislations of member States
- Member states must put in place enablers of the digital economy by achieving better indicators on e-government, transparency and fight against corruption
- Member states must prepare the youth for the future and new digital era
- Conditions of access to library and archives infrastructure and its optimum use must be enabled by the government
- Landlocked countries must have access to submarine communication cable surrounding Africa
- Governments must foster creativity in enhancing social and economic development and digital economy
- All e-applications must be considered as a common global good so that no one claims ownership
- Need to build trust and confidence on e-commerce and ensure all stakeholders benefit from digital products and services of all sectors
- A continental private sector meeting must be convened so that the actors discuss and identify areas where ICT can be used to boost business

4. Promoting Digital Africa: Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation for a Digital Africa (S4)

The session was moderated by Prof Clement Dzigonu of the Accra Institute of Technology (AIT) Ghana. The following recommendations were made:

- Women need to be empowered to leverage technology, bridge the gender gap and develop social entrepreneurship
- The Internet should be leveraged to provide basic services such as combating violence against women, creating employment, participation and decision making
- There is need to:
 - focus on infrastructure development, financing and capacity building for innovation
 - accelerate procedures to coordinate actions of entrepreneurs across the continent and at the level of government
 - ensure free access of internet and national content in public places and schools
 - develop strong financing partnerships between public sector and private
 - professionalize incubators by giving them licenses.
 - invite the best incubators to various forums to share experiences

5. Africa's Digital Economy: Access and Infrastructure as a fundamentals for Digital economic growth. (S5)

The panel was moderated by Dr. Dawit Bekele of ISOC. The following recommendations were made:

- There need for:
 - cross-border collaboration between African countries to facilitate Interconnection of Networks which would lower the cost of connectivity
 - the deployment of Internet Protocol version 6 addresses. In this context, AFRINIC offered to help African Governments deploy Internet Protocol version 6 strategies
 - African citizens to upload local content online for consumption by local communities
 - African citizens to buy their country code Top Level Domain Registries to enable them have funds for developing local Internet Communities
 - African countries to embrace Internationalized Domain Names
 - the creation of safe spaces for young people on the Internet to encourage them to be part of the Digital economy

6. Empowering Digital Cooperation towards building trust (S6)

The session was moderated by Ms. Anriette Esterwuysen of the Association of Progressive Communication (APC).

Following the remote presentation made by Mr. Jovan Kurbalija, Executive Secretary the UN High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (HLPDC) and presentations as well as comments made in-situ by other panelists, participants noted that HLPDC wasn't inclusive and balanced.

During the questions and answers, the following recommendations were made by participants:

- There is need for HLDPC to take history into context and benefit from best practices given that there have been several initiatives on digital cooperation at the global and African levels in the past
- HLDPC should hold proper consultations with Africa while the African Union would put in place and coordinate a mechanism where African countries would prepare their agreed positions for submission to the HLDPC. This will strengthen the efforts of the two African members of the panel to make a strong African contribution taking into account diversity
- Call for active participation of Africa in the UN- High level Panel on Digital Cooperation.
- Call for AUC to closely work with the Panel to organize a multi-sectoral and multi stakeholder conference on digital cooperation
- Use should be made of the available forums such as the African Internet Governance Forum to create trust among all stakeholders and thus enhance cooperation and interactions. In this context, a model based on the IGF concept should be adopted in order to enhance policy cohesion within government
- Need for training of judicial officers and law makers on the emerging issues that digital technologies bring about

7. Emerging Technologies Part I (IoT & Big Data)

The session was moderated by Mr. Michael Ilishebo of Zambia. The following were the recommendations:

- Africa to become actors/ innovators of the emerging technologies and not just users
- Strengthening of the relationship between the researchers, vendors and the procurement personnel.
- Capacity Building needed at all levels to ensure that Africa is ready for the IoT and Big Data usage both for the policy makers, users and innovators
- Africa should improve on connectivity and device integration
- Creation of more manufacturing hubs and collaboration with multinationals

8. Emerging Technologies Part II (AI and Blockchain) (S8)

The session was moderated by Mr. Abdalmeno Tharwat of Egypt. The following recommendations were made:

- Policy adaptation on Artificial intelligence and blockchain within each country
- Best legal framework should be in place
- Awareness and training to African people is needed
- Need to invest more to connect more people in Internet to facilitate blockchain development
- The community needs to be fully involved in the technology
- Careful review and caution should be taken in relation to job losses when discussing smart contracts
- Gender aspects should be taken into account in smart contracts

9. The Digital Economy and the attainment of SDGs and AU Agenda (S9)

The session was moderated by Mr. Luc Missidimbazi Banzouzi of Congo.

The following recommendations were made:

- The AU should engage African governments on issues of data
- Need to have access to data so that decision is made based on facts

10. Announcement of the African IGF MAG members (S10)

The list of the 17 African IGF MAG members were announced. There was one single recommendation which was:

- to convene the inaugural meeting of the AFIGF-MAG, the latest by 6th January 2019, using online facilities.

The AFIGF-MAG composition is attached.

11. Status and Recommendation of AfIGF2017 and Presentation of the Recommendation (S11)

Following the presentation of the status of implementation of the AfIGF 2017 recommendations which were geared to the African Union, the following two recommendations were made:

- Ensuring that Community networks take are engaged actively in the agenda of national, sub-regional and regional IGFs
- A Working Group be set up on the impact of ICTs

Closing Statements & Vote of Thanks

A Vote of Thanks were read on behalf of the participants by Ms.Evalyne Wanjiku of Kenya

Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Head of the Information Society Division of the African Union delivered a statement.

Dr. Yahya Abdallah Mohammed, Director General of the, Telecommunications and Post Regulatory Authority of Sudan read the closing statement.

The meeting benefited from the substantive support of the following:

Programme Director (Plenary Sessions): Mohammed Yousif, Sudan

Coordination: Makane Faye, African IGF Secretariat, Adil Sulieman, African Union

Knowledge Facilitation: Girma Dessalegn Mekonnen, UNECA

Rapporteur General: Peter Akinremi Taiwo, ACSIS

Rapporteurs: Tarik Merghani, Sudan, Mamadou Ndiaye, Senegal, Avis Momeni, Cameroon, Fred Mweeta, Zambia, Ines Hfaiedh, Tunisia, Sandra Chimpala, Zambia, Gofu Asefa, Ethiopia, Janet Kadu, Uganda, Jean Paul Paul Nkurunziza, Burundi, Prudence Nyamishana, Uganda, Barrack Otieno, Kenya, Zina Brahim Mahamat, Chad, Evalyne Wanjiku, Kenya, Rabie Bouyahiaou, Algeria, James Kaliisa, Uganda, Ade Agnide Bada, Benin, Edwin Chrisantus Soko, Tanzania, Karabo Rajuili, South Africa, Sarah Kaddu, Uganda, Oyindamola Gbemisola Sogunro, Nigeria, Chenai Chair, South Africa, Baboucarr Ceesay, The Gambia, Patrick Mukonjo Byamungu, Democratic Republic of Congo

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- Access
- Right
- Infrastructure
- Policy (11)
- Institution
- Community
- Awareness (7)
- Connectivity (26)
- Internet (75)
- Digital (57)
- Economic (26)
- Communication (10)
- Security (9)

African IGF Multi Advisory Group (AFIGF-MAG) Members for 2019-2020

	Surname	Name	Stakeholder Group
1.	George	Ah-Thew	Regional Economic Community
2.	Hisham Aboulyazed,	Alaaser	Government
3.	Luc Missidimbazi	Banzouzi	Government
4.	Keith Ephraim	Andere	Youth
5.	Clement	Dzidonu	Academia
6.	Gamal Amin	Elsayed	Government
7.	Anna Margareta	Esterhuysen	Civil Society
8.	Ridha	Guellouz	Private Sector
9.	Michael	Ilishebo	Government
10.	Aicha Chebbi	Jeridi	Civil Society
11.	Michel Mandela Tchonang	Linze	Civil Society
12.	Zina Brahim	Mahamat	Civil Society
13.	Lilian	Nalwoga	Civil Society
14.	Koffi	Raphael	Regional Economic Community
15.	Mactar	Seck	African intergovernmental organization
16.	Mary	Uduma	Private Sector
17.	Moctar	Yedaly	African Union

African IGF Secretariat

1.	Makane	Faye	
2.	Adil	Sulieman	