



MALAWI 2022

19-21 July 2022 | Lilongwe, Malawi

Communique

We, the participants of the 11th Africa Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF), held in Lilongwe, Malawi from the 19th to 21st July 2022, under the theme '**Digital Inclusion and Trust in Africa**'.

Appreciate the important role of the African Union Commission, the Government of Malawi, the Africa IGF Secretariat, Partners and stakeholders who contributed to the success of the Forum;

Recognize the successful hosting of the Africa School of Internet Governance (AfriSIG) and the African Youth Internet Governance Forum held within the context of the 11th AfIGF;

Further recognizing the successful inaugural hosting of the Digital Policy Symposium for African Parliamentarians and the launch of the African Parliamentary Network on Internet Governance (APNIG), and the launch of the Network of African Women in CyberSecurity (NAWC).

Taking into account the contribution of the aforementioned events in the overall outcomes of the 11 the Africa Internet Governance Forum;

We hereby declare that:

- The Internet is a key enabler and tool for human resilience and solidarity, as such it must be secured, accessible, available and affordable.
- There is a significant digital divide and a human capacity gap in Africa; hence all stakeholders need to work together for digital inclusion, and improvement of livelihoods in Africa; with a key focus on marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- Consultative and Active adoption and implementation of norms, regulations, policies, standards and protocols within Africa for data protection, privacy, cyber security and overall internet governance are needed in Africa.
- The socio-economic landscape of Africa needs to develop and absorb the economic value of emerging technologies through entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation among other strategies.

- Africa and the globe as a whole need to thrive towards sustainable digital development that ensures the present generation enjoys the benefits of technology while protecting the future generations.
- Strategic steps by all stakeholders to ensure digital cooperation and interdependence beyond geographical boundaries are needed.
- The spirit and ethos of Multi-stakeholderism must continue to be nurtured and upheld in internet governance discourse and trust development.

Furthermore, in our declaration, We commit to:

- Advocate for policies, legislation, and technical and economic measures that promote digital inclusion, affordability, accessibility, availability and security.
- Actively participate in the development and adoption of norms, regulations, policies, standards and protocols within Africa for data protection, privacy, cyber security and overall internet governance is needed in Africa. With special mention to the Malabo convention and Africa Union digital transformation strategy 2020 - 2030
- Foster an environment and approach that ensures digital trust, cooperation and interdependence.
- Advance digital innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.
- Promote skills transfer, awareness, training and education 'in and of' the digital space, technologies, policies and regulations.
- Uphold and promote multi-stakeholder participation in internet governance discourse.
- Ensure that the African voice is heard within the global internet governance discourse, with deliberate inclusion of the youth.

Lilongwe, 21 July 2022