



The African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF 2012

**2 – 4 October 2012
Smart Village Convention Center
Cairo, Egypt - Report**

Overview

The African Internet Governance space has gone through different phases through the WSIS process with regional meetings held from 2002 to 2005 in Bamako, Accra, Addis Ababa, Cairo, Johannesburg, Douala and Tunis. Within the global IGF initiative, Africa has hosted IGF in Egypt (2009) and in Kenya (2011). Presently, there are five regional Internet Governance Initiatives ongoing in the continent; the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF), the East Africa Internet Governance Forum (EAIGF), Le Forum de Gouvernance de l'Internet en Afrique Centrale (FGI-CA), North Africa Internet Governance Forum (NAIGF); and the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF).

The first face-to-face meeting of the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) held at the Convention Center of the Smart Village of Cairo, Egypt per kindness of the people and government of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The agenda is in annex. Over three days, 229 participants from 31 countries participated physically, and 52 persons from 21 countries participated remotely from October 2 to October 4, 2012.

The conference was opened by His Excellency Eng. Hany Mahmoud, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt. During the opening ceremony, the representatives of ECA, IGF secretariat and the African Union Commission delivered statements. All the statements of the opening ceremony are in annex.

Background of AfIGF

The African Internet Governance Forum was formally launched in Nairobi, during the global Internet Governance Forum in 2011. The Forum has been approved by the Council of Ministers of ICT, in their deliberation in Khartoum, September 2 – 4, 2012. Its Terms of Reference have been discussed and adopted by the AfIGF participants in Cairo on October 3, 2012. They are in annex.

The Secretariat of the AfIGF is hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in its Addis Ababa Headquarters, in Ethiopia. The Forum's website is on

<http://afigf.uneca.org>. It currently runs social media outlets on Twitter and Facebook. The official contact is afigf@uneca.org

Objectives

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 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.

The AfIGF Secretariat

The AfIGF Secretariat is composed of a lean secretariat and seasonal volunteers including interns and fellows from the continent. Its responsibilities are to:

- ✧ Provide administrative, logistical and organisational support to the AfIGF;
- ✧ Promote the AfIGF activities of the members (sub-regional and national IGFs including other stakeholders);
- ✧ Develop strategies on sustaining the AfIGF process and secretariat in consultation with Bureau members;
- ✧ Act as a knowledge management hub of the AfIGF experiences, best practices, knowledge, expertise, needs and resources among sub-regional and national IGFs;
- ✧ Convene AfIGF meetings; and
- ✧ Develop and maintain active e-mail lists and website to provide updated AfIGF related information to sub-regional and national IGFs including other international stakeholders.

The AfIGF Bureau

The AfIGF bureau is composed of the 5 current conveners of the regional IGF or their designates. It is chaired by the host country of the last AfIGF. For the period of 2012 - 2013, it is chaired by Ms. Nermine El Saadany of Egypt.

Participation

Participants to AfIGF were from:

- ✧ African member states
- ✧ Regional IGFs: WAIGF, EAIGF, SAIGF, FGIAC, NAIGF
- ✧ Academia
- ✧ Private Sector
- ✧ Civil Society
- ✧ Regional and International Organizations

Partners

The first Africa IGF was organised by the Secretariat, with support from:

- ✧ The Ministry of ICT of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- ✧ Google
- ✧ The dotAFRICA project of UNIFORUM ZACR
- ✧ The Association for Progressive Communications
- ✧ NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency
- ✧ La Francophonie
- ✧ The Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa - FOSSFA
- ✧ The Smart Village Company LTD
- ✧ Mobinil
- ✧ Telecom Egypt
- ✧ Vodafone
- ✧ Media
- ✧ Volunteers

Pre-Conference Workshops

In preparation for the AfIGF, three pre-conference workshops were organised

1. The Innovation Prize for Africa, by UNECA
2. WCIT 12 and the Revision of the ITRs, by APC
3. La Francophonie Numérique, by OIF

The recommendations and conclusions of the pre-conference workshops are attached as annexes.

Regional and National IGFs

The Forum received reports from:

1. North Africa IGF
2. East Africa IGF
3. Forum de la Gouvernance de l'Internet en Afrique Centrale
4. Southern Africa IGF
5. West Africa IGF
6. Senegal
7. Côte d'Ivoire
8. RDC
9. Uganda
10. Benin
11. Nigeria and
12. Kenya
13. Tunisia

Issues from Regional and National IGFs

Among other issues, the following were retained from the diverse experiences of regional and national IG initiatives:

- ⤴ Prior consultation is needed to identify the national actor whose attributes, experiences, and expertise makes it the most suitable to play the role of the convener
- ⤴ Engagement is needed from all stakeholders
- ⤴ Discussion need to begin with topics of national focus
- ⤴ Online discussions should precede face-to-face meetings
- ⤴ The involvement of the national regulatory agency is fundamental
- ⤴ Capacity building and awareness-raising need to continue through the process

Issues in AfIGF

The first AfIGF received expert presentations on:

1. Access and Diversity
2. Emerging issues
3. Managing Critical Internet Resources
4. Internet Governance for Development
5. Security, Openness and Privacy
6. African Digital Representation Strategy

Discussions that followed after the presentations allowed participants to arrive at a number of key recommendations. The pre-conference recommendations on ITRs and IPA are in the annexes.

Recommendations

A. On Access and Diversity

1. Enhance infrastructural development and access
2. Facilitate competition by opening up the national backbone to different industry players
3. Establish a legislative framework to facilitate ICT investment
4. Promote content and applications that respond to local needs
5. Consolidate and increase research in access and diversity
6. Invest more in fiber networks, while encouraging the growth of mobiles
7. Reorient Universal Access Fund in order for it to play its primary role
8. Enhance policy and regulation that enable innovative solutions that can address the access gap
9. Develop and implement strategies in partnership between the public sector, business, civil society and the technical and research communities that recognise that Africans need more than mobile internet access in order to be creators and controllers of internet content and applications
10. Governments to prioritise and focus their role on providing an enabling environment for internet development and use and to put the broader public interest before the creation of new revenue streams

B. On Emerging Issues

11. Consolidate ongoing national IG initiatives
12. Explore more on Cloud Computing
13. Take into account privacy and personal data protection
14. Encourage African countries to develop legislative frameworks for the protection of personal data
15. Facilitate legislative collaboration and cooperation among member states towards a better protection of personal data

C. On the Management of Critical Internet Resources

16. Support the operationalization and implementation of DotAfrica (.AFRICA) TLD by UniForum ZACR, an initiative by the African Union Commission and to encourage the establishment of the dotAFRICA foundation, the vehicle to foster innovation, boost African ccTLDs and to develop the domain names reseller market in Africa for the benefit of the local communities

17. Manage Internet critical resources through the multistakeholder framework based on openness, inclusivity, transparency and accountability
18. Develop African ccTLD and build partnership with AFTLD
19. Develop African Registrar
20. Create and promote local content
21. Build more redundancy for Radio Spectrum management in Africa
22. Make use of the guidelines on spectrum management
23. Create centres of excellence for R&D and also put in place Observatories
24. In order to mitigate risks against critical Internet Ressources, stakeholder should :
 - build a platform of international cooperation in the regulation;
 - build more capacities;
 - build more redundancies;
 - strengthen multi-stakeholderism.

D. On Internet Governance for Development

25. Promote the creation of content in diverse languages on the Internet
26. Promote policies and funds that support the creation of content in local languages
27. Emphasise on access, freedom, and human rights at Baku IGF and avoid the Wikileaks subject
28. Deepen discussions and understanding of the role of intermediaries
29. Remain inclusive when addressing issues of IG. There is therefore the need to recognize the roles of government, private sector and Civil Society
30. Address the needs and concerns of rural communities within the context of access, infrastructure and services, especially within the framework of IG

E. On Security, Openness and Privacy

31. To keep the Internet as an open space and widen access capabilities in african countries
32. To consider the multistakeholder approach as a basis for dealing with Internet security issues
33. To find ways and means for capacity building in the field of cybersecurity including training programmes on electronic signature, PKI, audit, CERT etc, and to raise security awareness level in the African countries
34. To invite member States to develop their own national cybersecurity strategies
35. To put in place national legal frameworks for the development of confidence in the use of ICTs in general and Internet in particular,
36. To establish national CERT

37. To invite Specialized regional organizations to establish programs to harmonize the understanding of Security at the African level and with the global understandings
38. To move beyond the current surveillance to an adequate utilisation of information in the case of privacy

F. On African Digital Representation

39. Ensure / source more funding for African participation
40. Implement the recommendations of the Council of ICT Ministers, 'Khartoum 2012'
41. Ensure that the ICANN Africa's Strategic Plan draft outline is turned into a fully fledged strategy document, after further consultations are conducted within the African communities and ICANN constituencies
42. Reform the membership of the African Strategic Working Group on the ICANN strategic document to better align with the constituency and SO/AC and integrate its activities into the ICANN annual corporation planning process
43. The African ICANN Strategy is welcome and should be finalized taking into account the views of the entire African community
44. All stakeholders should participate in the implementation of the coordination mechanism, which was adopted by CIMIT-4
45. Countries should be supported in implementing the CIMIT-4 Resolutions
46. Countries should organize national IGFs with the involvement of all stakeholders
47. AUC and ECA should support promotion of African ICT businesses
48. The Youth should be supported in IG issues
49. Use of social networks to engage and IG debate should be promoted
50. Remote participation in national, sub-regional, regional and international IGFs should be widely used
51. Africa should speak with one voice at the Internet Governance Forum, taking into account the outcome of AfIGF

G. On the Africa Internet Governance Forum

52. Consolidate ongoing national IG initiatives
53. Begin IG processes in all countries where none exist
54. Capacity building and awareness-raising
55. Engage with new communities so they understand what IG is all about
56. Recruit champions (for different causes) at national level
57. Broaden participation
58. Better engage with government at national level
59. Engage more continental actors who share mandates and objectives similar to the AfIGF, such as the Africa Governance Institute

60. Establish a Remote Participation team within the AfIGF secretariat
61. Invest on the needed technology to enable Africans to benefit from Remote Participation at all ICT events globally

Conclusion

The AfIGF secretariat and the Chairperson of AfIGF2012 will take the outcome of the conference to the global IGF to be held in Baku from 6-9 November 2012.

Gratitude

Participants at the first AfIGF express their gratitude to the people and the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the sponsors, the personnel of the Smart Village Convention Center, and the volunteers who, each, in their roles, contributed to a successful Africa Internet Governance Forum.

The AfIGF Secretariat wishes to express its gratitude to Ms Nnenna Nwakanma of West Africa IGF, who has coordinated preparation of the report.

ANNEXES

Pre-conference Workshop on WCIT-12 and Revision of the ITRs, organized by APC, Google and NPCA

Conclusions and Recommendations

Key thoughts on

What needs to be done at national, regional and global levels to strengthen African influence to make IG in Africa more effective, inclusive and accountable?

National African IG structures must be sustainable and ensure continuity of engagement and purpose. Given the breadth of IG issues, national IGFs should prioritise issue areas according to stakeholder interests.

At national level when governments feel left out in processes, their tendency is to initiate control. Therefore, governments need to be engaged and to engage.

All African IG stakeholders need to work together to broaden the pool of people and groups involved in and aware of IG, including parliamentarians and newly elected representatives.

National IGFs should leverage existing best practices (structure, operating methodologies, etc.) from around Africa and the world.

National IGFs should be strengthened through bringing in and working with new voices such as youth, and working with creative and innovative communities to find new ways of building awareness of IG issues (through video, online campaigns, etc.).

IG issues need to be made less technical and less full of UN-speak so that the key points can be more easily communicated to a broader audience – after-all IG is about the Internet, a medium that has an impact on every stakeholder group and every user.

National IGFs need to engage more specifically with Human Rights groups to ensure that they are more aware of and participants in IG issues.

National IGFs should identify stakeholder groups or individuals to act as champions for specific issues and empower them to engage with all stakeholders.

At regional level: maximise the use of the existing regional structures such as the AU and other RECs (regional economic commissions) to promote the integration and

development of outcomes to help develop consensus and assist in presenting a common position.

What needs to be done at national, regional and global levels to strengthen African influence and involvement in global IG processes?

4. Recognizing and maximizing the role of regional mechanisms and bodies such as the AU example: AU's role in safeguarding the Dot Africa domain name to remain in Africa and to benefit Africa
 5. Empowering African people to participate on the processes through improved remote participation for example better ICT infrastructure; affordable ICT equipment and costs; and setting up remote hubs during conferences
 6. Having champions locally to develop social movements and lead campaigns around emerging issues
 7. The local internet industry players including developers to work towards marketing their services and products to the local people. For example, very few Africans use African-developed domains and other platforms.
 8. Hold open consultations on what is priority in terms of IG issues
 9. To engage effectively globally, first we must engage well nationally, for example we need to interrogate the national policies on domain names, access, cyber security, registration etc
 10. Create national awareness- not see the internet as a stand –alone technology but integrate with the traditional media eg using radio in local languages to demystify the internet and hence demystify the IG processes
 11. Get civil society to engage more in the policy discussions
-
- ⚡ Effective, sustainable and multi-stakeholder national IGFs will enable Africa to have more influence at the global level.
 - ⚡ The IG community needs to educate and reach out to more individuals and stakeholder groups across Africa so that the number and diversity of Africans who are aware of and experts in IG increases at national, regional and global levels.
 - ⚡ Increase (financial and other) resources available for Africans from civil society and other stakeholder groups to participate in national, regional and international IGFs.
 - ⚡ Ensure that national governments across Africa are aware of the importance of IG issues, not just the technical aspects of IG but also the importance of the Internet to economic development and human rights.

Can Africa provide leadership in consolidating multi-stakeholder internet governance that respects and promotes human rights and contribute to development?

- ⤴ Africa can and should first provide leadership to Africa by observing the fundamental human rights such as Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Association , Freedom of Assembly and Right to Privacy as embodied in the UDHR and in accordance with the Ruggie Principles endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council which are organized under the UN Framework's three pillars:
 - The State Duty to Protect Human Rights
 - The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights
 - The need for greater Access to Remedy for victims of business-related abuse.
- ⤴ Incorporating multi-stakeholder forums including:
 - The civil society
 - The business and technical community such as the ISPs, developers etc
- ⤴ Governments to promote initiatives that promote development such as ICTs in education which should include components of human rights education;
- ⤴ Governments to give incentives to develop local applications and content such as health applications; education etc
- ⤴ Encourage sharing of experiences, information sharing and replication of best practices

What are the improvements that are important to us?

- ⤴ Capacity building to stakeholders such as the civil society and the public on internet governance to understand their role as stakeholders
- ⤴ Awareness raising and outreach for the African content- local media, local language radio
- ⤴ Improvement of remote participation
- ⤴ Stakeholder collaboration

**Pre-conference Workshop on the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA),
organized by UNECA**

Conclusions and Recommendations for Follow-up activities

Participants at the pre- conference on IPA made the following recommendations:

- Policymakers need to promote an innovation ecosystem aiming at strengthening the capacity of innovators and entrepreneurs, putting in place public and private institutions which would drive innovation and increasing the availability of resources to better nurture the capacity of potential innovators in Africa
- The need to publicize the importance of activities such as the IPA through networking and outreach
- Internet governance related issues are also critical in shaping ICT based innovation in Africa and therefore require that policymakers design policies and regulatory frameworks that aim at promoting creativity in the ICT sector
- There is need to raise awareness on the importance of intellectual property rights to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship



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2 – 4 October 2012
Cairo, Egypt

Draft Agenda

<http://afigf.uneca.org/>

2 October 2012: Parallel Pre-conference Workshops

14:00 – 14:15	Registration
14:15 – 16:00	<u>Pre-conference Workshop 1, by ECA:</u> • The Innovation Prize for Africa <u>Pre-conference Workshop 2, by Google, APC, NPCA,</u> • WCIT-12 and Revision of the ITRs <u>Pre-conference Workshop 3, by OIF</u> • La Francophonie numerique
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee/Tea break
16:15 – 18:15	Pre-conference Workshop 1: • WCIT-12 and Revision of the ITRs <u>Pre-conference Workshop 2:</u> • La Francophonie numerique <u>Pre-conference Workshop 3:</u> • The Innovation Prize for Africa
18-15-19-15	Cocktail reception offered by Google
End of the Day	

3 October 2012: Beginning of AfIGF

08:00 – 09:00	Registration (ctd)
09:00– 09:45	Opening Welcome Statement by Makane Faye, UNECA Statement by Masango Chengetai, IGF Secretariat Welcome statement by Moctar Yedaly, AU Opening Statement by Eng. Hany Mahmoud, Minister of CIT, Egypt,
09:45 - 10:45	Approval of the Bureau of AfIGF2012 and Adoption of the AfIGF Terms of Reference, moderated by Moctar Yedaly, AU
10:45 – 11:15	Report from the Pre-conference Workshops (IPA, WCIT, OIF), moderated by: Michel Linze, Central African IGF
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee/Tea break
11:30 – 13:00	Reports from the 5 sub-regional IGFs (West, Centre, South, East, North) and WSIS Follow up, moderated by Nermine El Saadany
13:00 – 14:00	Discussion Reports from National IGFs, moderated by Mohamed Timoulali (UNECA)
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:00	Access and Diversity, moderated by Anriette Esturweysen, APC Presentations by: Coura Fall, Francophony Organization & Khaled El-Attar, IBM
16:00 – 17:00	Discussion Emerging issues, moderated by Christine Arida, Egypt Presentations by: Grace Githaiga, Kenya & Mouhamadou Lo, Senegal Discussion
17:00 – 18:00	Managing Critical Internet Resources, moderated by Mr. Antoine Pokam, Cameroon Presentations by Koffi Fabrice Djossou, Uniforum SA & Jimson Olufuye, AfICTA Discussion
End of the Day	

4 October 2012: Continuation of AfIGF

09:00 – 10:00	Internet Governance for Development [IG4D] cross cutting priority, moderated by Clement Dzidonu, ATAC Presentations by: Edmund Katiti, NEPAD & Jean Marie Noah, Cameroon Discussion
10:00 – 11:00	Security, Openness and Privacy moderated by Mr. Ridha Guellouz, Tunisia Presentations by Esam Abulkhirat, Libya & Perpetus Jacques Hougbo, AFRICACERT Discussion
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee/Tea break
11:15 – 13:45	Africa Digital Representation Strategy , moderated by Makane Faye, UNECA 11:15-11:45 Outcome of the 4th African ICT Ministers (CITMC-4), held in Khartoum, by Moctar Yedaly, AU 11:45-12:15 Coordination Mechanism for African Stakeholders at international fora, by Moctar Yedaly, AU 12:15-12:45 African participation in IGF meetings, by Towela Nyirenda Jere, NEPAD 12:45-13:45 The African ICANN Strategy, by Pierre Dandjinou, Benin
13 :45-14 :30	Lunch break
14:30 – 16:00	Finalization of the Recommendations and Conclusions (closed session), moderated by Nnenna Nwakanma, WAIGF
16:00 – 17:00	Presentation of the Recommendations and Conclusions by Nnenna Nwakanma, WAIGF, moderated by Moctar Yedaly, AU
17:00 – 17:30	Closing Statement by Moctar Yedaly, AU Statement by Makane Faye, UNECA Closing statement by Nermine El Saadany, Egypt

End of AfIGF2012

Terms of Reference

September 2012

Background on Internet Governance

Building on the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals, and the mandate given at the Second Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis (WSIS), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a United Nations led-activity initiated in 2006 as a global platform for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on prevailing and emerging issues on Internet governance in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability, and development of the Internet.

IGF mandate as per Paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda

72. We ask the UN Secretary-General, in an open and inclusive process, to convene, by the second quarter of 2006, a meeting of the new forum for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue—called the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). The mandate of the Forum is to:

- Discuss public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet;
- Facilitate discourse between bodies dealing with different cross-cutting international public policies regarding the Internet and discuss issues that do not fall within the scope of any existing body;
- Interface with appropriate inter-governmental organizations and other institutions on matters under their purview;
- Facilitate the exchange of information and best practices, and in this regard make full use of the expertise of the academic, scientific and technical communities;
- Advise all stakeholders in proposing ways and means to accelerate the availability and affordability of the Internet in the developing world;
- Strengthen and enhance the engagement of stakeholders in existing and/or future Internet governance mechanisms, particularly those from developing countries;
- Identify emerging issues, bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public, and, where appropriate, make recommendations;
- Contribute to capacity building for Internet governance in developing countries, drawing fully on local sources of knowledge and expertise;
- Promote and assess, on an ongoing basis, the embodiment of WSIS principles in Internet governance processes;
- Discuss, inter alia, issues relating to critical Internet resources;
- Help to find solutions to the issues arising from the use and misuse of the Internet, of particular concern to everyday users;
- Publish its proceedings.

The mandate of Internet Governance Forum was put in place initially for a five years duration; 2006 in Greece, 2007 in Brazil, 2008 in India, 2009 in Egypt, 2010 in Lithuania. Following the first five years successful mandate of IGF the international community requested for extension to another five years, which started in Kenya in 2011.

Towards the African Internet Governance Forum

The Internet Governance space in Africa has been very active during the WSIS process with regional meetings held from 2002 to 2005 in Bamako, Accra, Addis Ababa, Cairo, Johannesburg, Douala and Tunis. Moreover, within the IGF global initiative, Africa has hosted IGF in Egypt (2009) and in Kenya (2011).

Presently, there are five sub-regional initiatives that are ongoing in Africa; which include the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF), the East Africa Internet Governance Forum (EAIGF), Forum de Gouvernance de l'Internet en Afrique Centrale (FGI-CA), the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF) and the North African Internet Governance Forum (NAIGF). These sub-regional initiatives, though active in their operation, do not yet cover all the countries in their respective regions. Moreover some of the countries are not actively participating in the initiatives

There is therefore a strong need for the establishment of an African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) that will support and promote the consolidation of the on-going sub-regional initiatives. It shall also reach out to continental and global stakeholders and guide in their engagement in continental, sub-regional and national initiatives.

Main 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 various processes and launch/strengthen their national processes.
- To facilitate national and regional exchanges and interactions between countries and sub-regions in continent.
- To facilitate the participation of African stakeholders in AfIGF and other appropriate Internet Governance Forums.
- To promote use of African languages in the cyberspace.

Fundamental principles

The AfIGF shall, in keeping with the original Internet Governance Forum:

- **Be Open** - all entities, organisations and participating institutions which are Internet governance stakeholders shall be free to join the forum.

- **Multi-stakeholder** - At all points, efforts shall be made to encourage all categories of stakeholders to actively participate in the Forum.
- **Language Diversity** - The AfIGF, to the measure of its capacity, shall strive to maintain language diversity in its operations.
- **Remote participation** - The AfIGF shall make optimum use of the Internet to increase number of participants.
- **Transparency** - The stakeholders shall strive to be open in communications, in decisions and their implementations. Clear understanding of the Internet Governance process for sustainability in engagement of all stakeholders shall be the aim of the AfIGF.

Membership

Membership to AfIGF is open to all stakeholder groups of all the African sub-regions. Members shall be conveners from the Sub-Regional IGFs of the five African sub-regions, individuals from Relevant African Government Institutions, African Civil Society, academic and technical communities, African Private Sector, and African based Regional and international organizations. Like the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) of the global IGF, members serve in their personal capacity, but are expected to have extensive linkages with their respective stakeholder groups. The activities of AfIGF shall be coordinated by a Bureau.

The AfIGF Bureau

The AfIGF Bureau shall be composed of the conveners of the five African sub-regional IGFs and three other stakeholder representatives from each sub-region. The Bureau shall be led by a Chairperson, representing the country which hosts the AfIGF Forum. At each annual AfIGF meeting, the Chairperson shall, in consultation with Bureau members designate one General Rapporteur among themselves to assist the Chairperson in drafting a summary of the meeting.

The Bureau shall develop annual work plan of the AfIGF activities. In appropriate cases, the AfIGF may be held in the framework of one of the sub-regional IGFs.

Modus operandi

AfIGF shall meet every year at different venue in each sub-region.

Work at meetings of the Forum shall be organized in plenary meetings and in breakout sessions depending on topics identified for the particular year's Forum. A Chairperson's or Moderator's summary shall be produced for each workshop, breakout and plenary session in each year's session of the Forum.

AfIGF shall also meet every year at the IGF venue and whenever possible during MAG consultations, which are held between two Internet Governance Forums.

AfIGF shall promote use of discussion lists and other online tools to facilitate discussions and exchange of information among its members.

Role of the AfIGF secretariat

The AfIGF Secretariat shall be composed of a lean secretariat and seasonal volunteers including interns and fellows from the continent.

The secretariat will have the following responsibilities:

- Provide administrative, logistical and organisational support to the AfIGF
- Promote the AfIGF activities of the members (sub-regional and national IGFs including other stakeholders);
- Develop strategies on sustaining the AfIGF process and secretariat in consultation with Bureau members;
- Act as a knowledge management hub of the AfIGF experiences, best practices, knowledge, expertise, needs and resources among sub-regional and national IGFs;
- Convene AfIGF meetings; and
- Develop and maintain active e-mail lists and website to provide updated AfIGF related information to sub-regional and national IGFs including other international stakeholders.

Hosting of the AfIGF secretariat

Based on the model of the global Internet Governance Forum (IGF) secretariat, which is hosted by the United Nations Department of Economic Affairs (UNDESA), the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) secretariat will be hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

The African Union Commission will fully support the secretariat in its activities to fulfill its mandate.

Opening Remarks by the Minister of CIT, Egypt

1st African IGF

3rd of October 2012

Mr. Makane Faye,

UN Economic Commission for Africa

ماكين فاي

Mr Moctar Yedaly,

African Union Commission

مختار يدالي

Mr. Chengetai Masango,

UN Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum

شينجيتاي ماسانجو

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great honour to welcome you all in Egypt.

Today, we witness the birth of the First African Internet Governance Forum. It is through your presence here as well as your active participation and engagement in the discussions that would take place over the coming couple of days, the Forum will prove to be a tremendous success.

Allow me here to take this opportunity to thank our partners the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Union AU for their valuable efforts towards the realization of the 1st African IGF. Our bonds with both organizations in Internet governance goes back to 2006 when we organized together “Africa on the Road to Athens”. The first regional meeting that aimed at raising the awareness of African countries before the first Global IGF held in Athens. Today, together with ECA and AU, we are creating a new platform that we hope will serve as a mechanism for bringing closer the different views on topics pertaining to Internet Governance.

As well, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for our international and national sponsors. Without your generous contributions, we would have not been able to achieve our target.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The current government is putting an emphasis on shifting Egypt to a knowledge-based society that can produce, effectively using innovation to improve life of citizens. The development of Internet in Egypt has also evolved from gradually being led by a group of pioneers in the early '90s to an overall national agenda. Years later, the advances made were brought about through a combination of government support and guidance, a political willingness, and a constant communication with all relevant stakeholders. The Internet penetration rate leaped from 13.75% to 37% between 2006 and 2012.

A special emphasis is being placed during the current period towards the modernization of infrastructure. As such, a new broadband deployment plan is set in place, namely e-misr. Broadband is seen as a general purpose technology that stimulates growth in the wider economy and creates new business opportunities. It is a key driver of economic growth and national competitiveness, and it definitely contributes to social and cultural development.

Ladies and Gentlemen

We previously said that "there is a need to encourage more national and regional IGFs while exploring the possibility of extending institutional relationships among them and with the global IGF in the future". Today I am happy to see that almost all of our African regions have their own national IGFs; North Africa being the last in the row, yet started very strongly last month, and almost all countries are pushing for establishing the platform of the national one. In Egypt we are reviving the ISOC Chapter through the newly established body 'Internet Masr', where the different stakeholder groups participate to an open dialogue shaping national Internet public policies.

Today we witness the birth of what we can call the umbrella platform of the different regional forums and the link to the Global IGF. It is worth mentioning as well that all African regional platforms of Internet Governance have taken well into consideration the importance of including all relevant stakeholders in their respective roles to shape their own Forums.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The array of issues discussed within our Forum reflects and emphasizes its importance. Among those issues is the development of local content which still lags behind. The Internet is a viable tool that could be utilized in reaching out for rural and remote areas, providing them with the kind of support they need. Nevertheless, the absence of localized content stands as an obstacle in that regard. Our continent is very rich in cultural and natural heritage. Egypt believes that it is our clear responsibility together to further dig into current mechanisms and propose creative models to address policies that encourage the creation of multilingual content and Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). The lost inter- alia business that could happen if we are able to communicate with our local languages is immense. I hope our gathering today would be able to tackle this issue and we could find ways and means to collaborate efforts and share experiences in that regard.

Enhancing security and building confidence and trust in the use of ICT applications is one of most important emerging issues that are threatening the ICT sector worldwide. Collaboration of regional and international efforts from all stakeholders involved are much needed. In this respect, Egypt has established its national CERT and we are ready to discuss together policy challenges and find ways for cross-border cooperation on cybersecurity. As well, Openness and free flow of information should be maintained in way that preserves the stability and robustness of the Global Internet.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The international agenda of Internet governance this year, is very challenging.

The current UN General Assembly will decide on a number of important issues such as the report of the 15th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development of the Economic and Social Council on Internet Governance Improvements, the Enhanced Cooperation consultations, and the WSIS Review Meeting Decision. In addition, we have the World Conference of International Telecommunications (WCIT) that encompasses a lot of articles pertaining to Internet Public Policy matters. Such issues requires series collaboration and coordination from our side to be able to face the international community with one African Voice.

The experience of the regional and national IGF's proved its success. In many cases, the national or regional challenges were reflected in the Global Forum agenda, enriching the discussions and allowing for introducing new challenges. Accordingly, we believe that this 1st African Internet Governance Forum is a catalyst for creating more convergence between the views coming from the five different African regions. It will then channel- in a more consolidate manner- the African Agenda on the global Forum.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you all, wishing you a fruitful meeting.
Thank you.

The African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF)

Cairo, 3 – 4 October 2012

**Statement by Mr. Makane FAYE
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)**

**His Excellency, Eng. Hany Mahmoud, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of
Egypt**

Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Representative of the African Union Commission

Mr. Masango Chengetai, Representative of the Internet Governance Forum Secretariat

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 UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and that of my Director (Director of the ICT and Science and Technology Division of UNECA) who would have liked to be here with us but could not be present, due to other pressing duties, I have the pleasure to welcome you all to the first African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF 2012) being held in this beautiful and environment friendly Centre, called the Smart Villages.

UNECA is indeed very proud to organize this high level event with the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt through the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and the African Union Commission (AUC), in collaboration with the African sub-regional IGFs.

I would like to stress my appreciation to our hosts, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, for the smooth collaboration in preparing this event and the excellent facilities made available to the event.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The internet has been growing fast in the last decade with over one third of the world's population is now online of which 45% of them are below the age of 25. In the last five years, developing countries have increased their share of the world's total number of Internet users from 44% in 2006, to 62% in 2011. Although, Africa remains the region with the lowest Internet penetration at 12.8 percent, the internet penetration has grown about 22 times between 2000 and 2010, faster than that of East Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. Mobile technology is allowing millions of people in Africa to access the Internet, even without fully developed broadband networks. While fixed-broadband penetration is less than 1 percent, Africa has a growing mobile-broadband penetration rate of 4 percent as of 2011. However, Internet bandwidth per Internet user is also very low with 2,000 bit/s per user compared to the 90,000 bit/s per user in Europe.

It is estimated that the Internet now accounts for about 3.4 percent of GDP in mature economies and over \$8 trillion changes hands in electronic transactions annually. McKinsey's 2011 report on the Internet's economic impact in 13 economies that account for more than 70 percent of global GDP, including the G8 countries, the BRIC countries, Sweden and South Korea show that the Internet generated 10 percent of the GDP growth of these countries over the past 15 years and 21 percent over the past five. Although estimates on the number of e-commerce transactions in Africa are difficult to obtain, estimates suggests for e-commerce activity has grown exponential in some countries¹. The rapid growth of mobile Internet is also liberating Internet use from fixed locations and reshaping business models for mobile telecommunications including facilitating the growth of social networking, micro-blogging and others. This is why there is also a rapid growth in the use of social media and networks in the continent, including in Egypt where today's situation was partially brought about by the social networking. In this context, Africa registered the highest growth rate of Facebook users globally in 2011.

¹ WorldWideWorx 'Online Retail in South Africa 2011' report.

Therefore, improved access to the Internet represents huge potential for Africa's economic, political, social and cultural future despite the penetration still only represent a fraction of Africa's population.

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. In this regard, the Internet Governance space in Africa has been very active since the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process. There are now IGFs in all sub-regions and the African IGF was launched last year in Nairobi.

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. To this end, national forums on the management of Internet resources and critical infrastructure are encouraged in countries.

Presently, there are five regional initiatives that are ongoing in Africa; which include the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF), the East Africa Internet Governance Forum (EAIGF), Forum de Gouvernance de l'Internet en Afrique Centrale (FGI-CA), the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF and the North Africa Internet Governance Forum (NAIGF). These regional initiatives, though active in their operation, do not yet cover all the countries in their respective regions. Moreover, some of the countries are not actively participating in the regional initiatives.

The African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) was launched in 2011 to support and promote the consolidation of the on-going regional initiatives and reach out to continental and global stakeholders and guide in their engagement in continental, regional and national initiatives. We expect that this conference will

promote discussions on the African IG agenda and shape the way for Africa's participation in the next IGF, which will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from 6-9 November 2012.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to, once again to thank this distinguished gathering for the time and commitment shown towards AfIGF. Let me also extend our appreciation to our collaborators, whose support has made this event possible, Google, The Organisation Internationale de la francophonie (OIF), UniForum S.A with its DotAfrica Project, the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency, the Foundation for Free and Open Source in Africa (FOSSFA), Smart Village Company LTD, Telecom Egypt, IBM, Mobinil, Vodafone and our media partners.

I thank the Minister for attending and wish you fruitful deliberations.

Statement of Mr. Masango Chengetai, IGF Secretariat, Geneva

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentleman, it is an honour for me to be here today at the inaugural meeting of the African Internet Governance Forum. I am also particularly happy to be back here in Egypt, host of the first global IGF meeting to be held in Africa. It should be remembered that IGF is one of the major outcomes of WSIS and gets its mandate from the Tunis Agenda. Therefore it can be said that the IGF was conceived in Africa.

Since its formation in 2006, the IGF has gone from strength to strength. Participants have seen the benefit of the multistakeholder model in action and this has led to the formulation of more and more regional and national IGF initiatives to discuss Internet governance issues. At present, there are 12 regional IGFs and more than 22 national IGFs covering the globe, as well as thematic IGF initiatives such as the Youth IGF.

With the landing of the undersea cables connecting Africa to the (terrestrial network) over the last couple of years, bringing with it the increased internet connection speeds and coupled with the rapid decline of Internet connection costs thus making it more affordable to more and more people in Africa. Africa is poised to take a greater part in the information age with this it is also important that Africa make its voice heard in the global Internet Governance debate.

There is a great deal of talent here as well on the creative front with software ... mobile banking

As it has been said that good Internet governance begins at home. That is at the national and regional level, where the policies are incorporated into legislation and are actually implemented. It is better to have a public comment before a law is passed then after. I am very pleased that Africa has been very active in formulating IGF initiatives, both at regional and national level. With the East African, West African, Central Africa IGF, Southern African IGF and several national fora. In this context, the African IGF has a pivotal role in interconnecting these initiatives and can provide a united African perspective to the global Internet governance discussions and may also act as a coordinating mechanism for an African Internet Governance public policy formulation.

As I mentioned at the beginning there are a total of 34 regional and national IGF initiatives. They all have slightly different organizational structures reflecting the regional and national differences but they all adhere to the core IGF principles of

- being open, inclusive and transparent
- having a bottom up, multistakeholder policy development process
- non commercial in nature (no membership or attendance fees)

National and regional IGF's also have the advantage of it being easier for them to set policies and guidelines for their participant countries to follow and can have a more direct impact on public policy formulation. It is much better for people to comment and provide their views before a law or policy is implemented than after.

Africa has also hosted 2 annual IGF meetings with IGF 2009 being held here in Egypt At Sharm El Shiek and the 2011 IGF in Nairobi which had the highest attendance of any IGF meeting. From this we can infer that there is a great deal of interest in Africa for involvement in the Internet governance debate.

The seventh meeting of the Internet Governance Forum will take place on 6-9 November 2012, in Baku, Azerbaijan. The theme of the meeting is "Internet Governance for Sustainable Human, Economic and Social Development". 138 events have been included in the meeting's schedule: main sessions, workshops, dynamic coalition meetings, open fora, side sessions, etc.

At the Baku meeting, we will have an inter-regional dialogue session. The main aims of the session is to provide regional input on the main themes of IGF 2012, to give participants a cross-regional perspective, and to allow representatives of the regional and national meetings to inform the global IGF of concerns and topics beyond those included in the IGF programme of the meeting. I hope the African IGF will contribute to this session and bring in the African perspective into the global debate. In addition to this session, Africa IGF has been scheduled an independent timeslot to discuss its activities.

For those people who are unable to attend the Baku IGF in person remote participation will be provided we encourage the different national and regional IGF initiatives to set up a remote hub in their university, work place, or other suitable venue to make sure that their viewpoint and voice are heard in the global IG debate. Details about remote participation and remote hubs are available on the IGF website.

With that your Excellency, ladies and Gentlemen I wish you a good and fruitful meeting.

**SPEECH OF MOCTAR YEDALY
OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY
OF AfIGF
3-OCTOBER 2012**

- **H.E Eng Hany Mahmoud Minister of Communications and Information Technologies of the Republic of Egypt**
- **Mr MasangoChengatai form the IGF secretariat**
- **Mr. Makane Faye Representative of UNECA**
- **Distinguished participants**
- **Ladies and gentlemen**

It gives me greathonour and privilege to take part in this opening ceremony of the1st meeting of the African Internet Governance Forum- AfIGF

Allow me first of all to recognize, the presence of His Excellency **EngHany Mahmoud Minister,the Minister of Republic of Egypt in charge of ICT**, who despite his very heavy work schedule is here, with us, thus enhancing the grandeur of this august gathering.

I shall thank you, yourExcellency, and through you, express our gratitude to the people and Government of Egypt for the wonderful organization of this event and for the warm welcomeand hospitality, we haveall witnessed since our arrival in your great and beautiful country.

It is in fact not a surprise – isn't Egypt the mother of the world?

Allow me also to congratulate you and say “thank you” to Egypt forthe leadership and engagement in the ICT sector.

From your proposal in 2011 to host this event until now, the MCIT team has shown only professionalism, generosity and kindness.

Today, in Cairo, anothergreat stone will mark the history: The creation of the African Internet Governance Forum.

Your Excellency,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The more our modern society depends on the Internet the more relevant Internet governance will be. Far from being the remit of some select few, Internet governance concerns all of us to a lesser or greater extent, whether we are one of the 2 billion using the Internet or a non-user who depends on the facilities it services.

Internet governance is moving increasingly into the African public eye

Building on the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals, and the mandate given at the Second Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis (WSIS) as well as on the IGF mandate as per Paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda, it is now our turn, we Africans, to have our forum for Internet Governance.

The Internet Governance space in Africa has been very active as part of the WSIS process. Presently the five African Union Regions have created their Regional Internet Governance Forums. It is therefore time for the establishment of an African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) that will support and consolidate the work of the regional IGFs. It shall also reach out to continental and global stakeholders and provide guidance in their engagement in continental, regional and national initiatives.

Main objectives of AfIGF and Modus operandi are to be discussed and adopted at this forum. As for the secretariat it is proposed to adopt the IGF model and have it hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

Your Excellency,
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.

The Communications and Information technologies landscape is also changing rapidly and its environment is altering dramatically.

The drivers of our common philosophy –i.e. **Time - Distance - and location** are becoming less and less important in terms of providing global services.

Consequently, we, the policy makers need to review our approaches and adapt ourselves to the new world of ICT.

This is our challenge: Building an African information society for our future generations.

The future is today

The future of ICT is not about the phone or the computer anymore; it's about the applications and the information they deliver.

ICTs now offer major opportunities to advance human development – from providing basic access to education or health information to making payments and stimulating citizen involvement in the democratic process.

Honourable participants,

Ladies and gentlemen

The African Union Commission has just completed the 4th ordinary session of the conference of the African Ministers in charge of communications and information technologies.

At this conference the Ministers decided among other to:

1. Continue to implement the program for Infrastructure development in Africa- PIDA
2. Accelerate the Analogue to Digital Migration and the elaboration of National Cyber legislation
3. integrate postal services in a wider framework of communication and ICT services towards the establishment of a Universal Access Policy
4. elaborate an African Action Plan for migration from IPv4 to IPv6

5. Requested the AUC to submit to the AU Summit the draft AU Cyber-security Convention for adoption according to AU rules of procedure.

Honourable participants,

Ladies and gentlemen

The African Union Commission strongly believes that the building of an Africa's information society requires a secure cyber space, an appropriate infrastructure and efficient coordination.

We are inviting all stakeholders to join us and together develop ICTs for the benefit of our economies, for the benefit of our people.

This is what drives our action.

This is what will achieve the integration of Africa

Ladies and Gentlemen

I wouldn't conclude without thanking the men and women who made this event.

My special thanks go to Mr Makane Faye and his team, to Mrs Nermine El Saadany and her colleagues . You have done a great job.

I would like also to express our gratitude to all our sponsors for their contributions and support.

I wish you a fruitful deliberation and Thank you for your kind attention.

Closing Statement by Makane Faye, UNECA

Dear:

- AUC Colleague,
- IGF Secretariat Representative,
- Experts,
- Conference Partners,
- Distinguished Guest and Participants,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we now reach the end of this remarkable event, allow me to take this opportunity to thank, on behalf of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, all of you for your active participation in the different conference activities. You brought valuable knowledge, ideas and recommendations that were fundamental to the success of the event.

As a result of the various discussions and debates from the pre-conferences and the main sessions, interesting recommendations were addressed to our member states, AUC and stakeholders.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me reiterate that ECA is committed to take the recommendations forward and ensure that they are implemented. We will also ensure in cooperation with AUC and all stakeholders that the outcome of this conference is widely disseminated.

Finally, please allow me to express my appreciation to the Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Communications and Technology and her staff, for their personal involvement and full commitment, especially Ms. Nashwa Gad El Hak), in facilitating this successful workshop.

I would also like to thank all the presenters for sharing their ideas and all the participants for their valuable contributions to the workshop's success and Ms. Nnenna Nwakanma, outgoing Convener of the West Africa IGF.

I wish to thank once again the partners, which make this event a success: Google, The Organisation Internationale de la francophonie (OIF), UniForum S.A with its DotAfrica Project, the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency, the Foundation for Free and Open Source in Africa (FOSSFA), Smart Village Company LTD, Telecom Egypt, IBM, Mobinil and Vodafone.

Thanks to the interpreters, who has been very patient and competent.

Thanks to my Team.

I wish everyone a safe trip back home.