



## **REPORT**

# **3<sup>rd</sup> Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF)**

**Golden Peacock Hotel  
Lilongwe, Malawi**

**17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum 2014 (SAIGF-14) was convened from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014 in Lilongwe, Malawi. This high level multi-stakeholder event on emerging issues on Internet Governance (IG) in SADC was hosted by the Government of Malawi. The SAIGF-14 was co-convened by SADC Secretariat in conjunction with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) and the Southern African NGO Network (SANGONET) under the theme "Internet Governance as a Building Block of SADC Regional Integration".

## **2.0 ATTENDANCE, OPENING CEREMONY AND ORGANISATION OF WORK**

### **2.1 Attendance**

The SAIGF-14 was attended by Delegates from nine (9) SADC Member States namely; Botswana, Kingdom of Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Kingdom of Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Forum was also attended by representatives from the SADC Implementing Agencies (technical community); Communications Regulators' Association for Southern Africa (CRASA) and Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA), the private sector, civil society, academia and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The list of participants is placed at Annex A.

### **2.2 Opening Ceremony (Session 1)**

Mr. James Madya, representative of the Chairperson of the SADC, Zimbabwe, reminded the Delegates of the Internet Governance structures that are being implemented in the SADC region starting from the grass root level in Member States with the setting up of National IGFs, feeding to the SAIGF, Africa IGF (AfIGF) and ultimately the Global IGF. This is how the voice of Southern Africa is being heard all the way up to the highest forum of the IGF.

Dr. Edmund Katiti, the Head of the NEPAD e-Africa Programme stipulated that Africa needs to have a coordinated and effective voice in the way the Internet is governed and thus NEPAD's involvement in the regional, continental and global IGFs as well as the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) processes. He gave a brief on the role of the NEPAD e-African Programme and reported that NEPAD Agency is working closely with the APC, supported by several stakeholders in the establishment of the first African School on Internet Governance (AfriSIG) as a pre-event to the ICANN-47 in Durban, South Africa. With more support now obtained, the next edition of the AfriSIG will take place in Mauritius during the last week of November 2014.

Speaking on behalf of SADC Secretariat, the Programme Officer - Telecommunications Dr. George Ah-Thew, recalled that in June 2011, in Botswana the Honourable SADC ICT Ministers requested the establishment of the SAIGF in order to ensure that the views and voices of Southern Africa were represented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Global IGF in 2011. The inaugural meeting of the SAIGF was convened in September 2011 in South Africa. The SAIGF-14 is the third event of its kind. He also recalled that in November 2012, in Mauritius the SADC ICT Ministers urged Member States to set up their National IGFs so that they may contribute input towards the SAIGF. He noted that some Member States such as Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa have responded to this call.

He highlighted that the Internet is one of the discoveries with the highest impact. It radically transformed the ICT sector but more importantly, it deeply impacts our economy and society. The Internet owes much of its success to how it has been governed. He noted that the Internet access rates are still relatively high and he urged stakeholders to continue their efforts in making Internet access more affordable. Dr. George Ah-Thew thanked the Government of Malawi for hosting the SAIGF-14 and for the leadership they have demonstrated in the implementation of the SADC ICT Programme. He also thanked the NEPAD Agency for supporting the participation of some delegates to the SAIGF-14.

The SAIGF-14 was officially opened by the Honourable Kondwani Nankhumwa, MP, the Minister of Information, Tourism and Culture of the Republic of Malawi. The official opening ceremony was also attended by the Secretary for e-Government, Mrs. Olive Chikankheni.

In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister reminded delegates that ICT is a very important aspect in our daily lives as it is a sector that cuts across many sectors. He acknowledged the difficulty to execute regional integration and harmonisation in the absences of ICT applications and systems. He said that despite the benefits offered by ICT, we need to guard against abuse and misuse of Internet Resources, especially when it can lead to catastrophic effects to our young people. He indicated that the SAIGF-14 could not have been held at a better time when the region is grappling with challenges facing the ICT sector. The SAIGF-14 provides the Southern Africa an opportunity to share experience, challenges and best practices and together we can strategise on interventions to address such issues and to ensure that the citizens of SADC have access to timely and relevant information and that they also participate in the development, governance and democratic processes in the region. The SAIGF-14 will also enhance capacity to identify and discuss issues relating to Internet Governance and ICT Policy. He concluded by re-affirming the commitment of Malawi towards harnessing the powers of the ICT for socio-economic development at all levels and universal access to ICT products and services. SADC Citizens should recognise the importance and benefits of harnessing the powers of ICT for socio-economic development. This may be achieved through the facilitation of the multi stakeholder dialogue on the management and development of the Internet.

### **2.3 Thematic Workshop**

Following the official opening ceremony, the Forum commenced with a Thematic Workshop on dotAfrica: Supporting the Domain Name System (DNS) Industry in Africa and the Evolving IG Ecosystem - gTLD and Implications for ccTLDs. The Thematic Workshop was facilitated by the South Africa Central Registry (ZACR).

#### **2.3.1 Supporting the DNS Industry in Africa**

- We need to promote the growth of local DNS industry;
- Member States are urged to automate the domain registration process so as to make it easy for local people to register local domain names; and
- Having more people using local domains will bring the cost of local domain names lower, making it possible for even more people to acquire local domain name.

#### **2.3.2 Evolving IG Ecosystem: gTLDs and implications for ccTLDs**

- African Governments should support the Dot Africa initiative since the emergence of the Dot Africa gTLD does not in any way threaten ccTLD as witnessed in Asia and Europe when the .EU and .Asia were launched;

- Although most Southern African Governments have nominated Focal Points for the compilation of Reserved Names List (RNL) under the Dot Africa RNL initiative, the meeting noted that some Governments were still to provide entries for the RNL.

## **2.4 Organisation of Work**

The Agenda for the SAIGF-14 is attached as Annex B. The Host, Malawi, NEPAD, Sangonet and APC, CRASA and SATA volunteered to assist the SADC Secretariat as Rapporteur in preparing the draft Media Statement and draft SAIGF-14 Report.

## **3.0 ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS**

### 3.1.1 SAIGF-13

The SADC Secretariat gave an overview of what transpired from the SAIGF-13 that was convened from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2013 in Luanda, Angola.

### 3.1.2 8<sup>th</sup> Global IGF (2013)

APC briefed the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> Global IGF that was convened from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. There were 1500 participants of which 7% were from Africa. Key discussions were on:

- Mass surveillance - This issue was not only discussed in workshops and in main sessions but it permeated through the whole event. Users have not lost trust of the Internet but rather in the institutions that use the Internet undermine our fundamental human rights;
- Multi-stakeholder - Discussions in Bali also reactivated debates on multi-stakeholder approach to Internet Governance versus multilateral intergovernmental model; and
- Human Rights - The broader uptake of human rights discourse at the Global IGF made it possible for more diverse rights and development centric discussions to take place at the event including discussions of women's rights issues.

The following were observed:

- Many panels lacked regional diversity and in particular insufficient voices from Africa;
- Government delegations from Africa were not visible if not too few; and
- A lack of an Africa strategy.

### 3.1.3 9<sup>th</sup> Global IGF (2014)

NEPAD delivered a presentation on the 9<sup>th</sup> Global IGF convened from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey. There were 2400 participants of which 190 were from Africa, representing 8% of the total. Of the 94 workshops, 50 had African participation through panelists/speakers, organisers and remote moderators.

The main observations were:

- The importance of National and Regional IGFs was emphasized in a number of sessions and also featured in the Chair's summary. National and regional IGFs are seen as a way of strengthening the IGF and providing inter-sessional continuity;

- As suggested in the Outcome document of Net-Mundial, the IGF is working towards tangible outcomes and this year, Best Practice Forums emerged as one way of attaining this. Best Practice documents have been produced for the following:
  - Developing meaningful multi-stakeholder participation mechanisms;
  - Regulation and mitigation of unwanted communications (e.g. "spam");
  - Establishing and supporting Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) for Internet security;
  - Creating an enabling environment for the development of local content; and
  - Online child protection.
- Human rights featured prominently in the various sessions and workshops and the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms was launched; and
- There is a need to encourage and empower young people to participate in Internet Governance and Internet policy spaces.

#### 3.1.4 Concerns on African Participation

- General participation is low and participation from private sector and media stakeholder groups is noticeably very low or non-existent;
- African participation needs to be coordinated so as to realize maximal benefits from participation;
- Not many submissions of proposals for workshops were received from Africa; and
- Africa was not represented in the line-up of speeches at the opening and closing ceremonies.

Presentations by key stakeholders were made on the various Agenda Items of the Global IGF. Each Session was entitled an Agenda Item. At the end of the presentations in each Session, the Moderator allowed questions and comments to facilitate discussion on the subject matter. The main recommendations are presented in the forthcoming sections.

### **3.2 Capacity Development for IGF**

- Internet Governance issues need to be integrated into the education system;
- Member States need to be informed in time about the courses to be offered so that they can contribute;
- There is a need to create Regional Repository related to Internet Governance;
- Students need to be given a chance to share experiences during workshops;
- The programme needs to adopt to a localised version of Internet Governance;
- Effective Participation of African stakeholders;
- Contribution to global spaces and processes;
- Responsiveness & Coordination of Common Positions;
- Implementing multi-stakeholder processes & upholding multi-stakeholder principles
- Developing an African agenda for Internet Governance; and
- Strengthening Internet Governance initiatives.

#### 3.2.1 The African School on Internet Governance

The objectives of the African School on Internet Governance are:

- Strengthen existing capacity;
- Enable new entrants to increase their knowledge on Internet Governance;

- Build common ground around a public-interest oriented approach to Internet Governance;
- Foster critical debate on Internet Governance issues; and
- Identify and develop African positions on current issues.

The School was launched July 2013 and had more than 30 participants from 15 different countries. The 2014 School will be held in Mauritius (22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November) alongside AFRINIC-21. The long-term aim is to establish regional hubs in each of the 5 geographic regions of the African Union (AU).

### 3.2.2 Online Training in Internet Governance

The online training shares the objectives of the Africa School on Internet Governance and is an alternative approach to capacity development that reaches more people and engages them in learning for a longer period of time. A call for applications was launched in July 2013 and from over 600 applicants, 90 were selected. The course started on 25<sup>th</sup> August and included remote participation in the Global IGF. The course ends on the 20<sup>th</sup> October. The material is readily available and are funds required for on-going facilitation for future sessions. The training is facilitated by the DiploFoundation.

## **3.3 Operationalising the SAIGF**

### 3.3.1 Establishment the SAIGF Multi-stakeholder Coordinating Team

- Draft TOR which had captured the inputs from SADC, NEPAD, SANGONET and APC was presented by the SADC Secretariat;
- It was recommended the TOR be revisited by allowing Delegates to provide their input;
- Delegates were given two (2) days to forward their views and comments on the TOR to SADC Secretariat for final presentation and discussion on day 3;
- A Task Team of 5 people from various sectors was formed to look into the contents of the TOR for final discussion on day 3;
- SADC indicated that the TOR of the SAIGF Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Team and any future amendments must be validated by the SAIGF, then it shall be submitted to the SADC ICT SCOM for consideration and for approval by the SADC ICT Ministers (See Annex C). The upcoming Ministers' Meeting was on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2015 in Mangochi, Malawi; and
- NEPAD and APC advised the SAIGF-14 that they wished to become Observers rather than Members to the SAIGF Multi-Stakeholder Coordinating Team.

### 3.3.2 Status of National IGF and Way Forward

- Presentations were delivered by Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe;
- It was noted that most of the SADC Member States present had yet to establish their National Internet Governance Forums (NIGF). Two (2) Member States namely Malawi and South Africa (though not present) had established their NIGF;
- Most SADC Member States have enacted Acts on Cyber Crime, Electronic Transactions and Data Protection. It was also noted that progress have been achieved in the facilitation of child on-line protection and safety;
- Promote cross-sectoral multi-stakeholder cooperation in the establishment of the NIGFs; and

- Promote the importance of public awareness and education on Internet governance issues and increasing capacity of consumer bodies.

### **3.4 Policies Enabling Access and Diversity**

- Member States are encouraged to grow their NIXP into RIXPs; and.
- Promote open access and deployment of cost-effective wireless technologies in the digital dividend bands that will be released due to the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) migration.

### **3.5 Internet as an Engine for Growth and Development**

- There is a need to address the digital illiteracy challenge in order to deal with public access;
- Promote sustainable public Internet access at libraries and post office, especially in the rural areas;
- Member States are encouraged to share best practices on how to improve Internet access for all sectors among the Member States;
- Member States must adopt access and affordability policies that foster unfettered and non-discriminatory access to the Internet, including universal service requirements and licensing agreements;
- Internet companies operating in Africa are encouraged to invest in online tools, software and applications that enhance local and intercultural content exchange, and simplify the exchange of information across language barriers; and
- Member States are encouraged to ensure an enabling policy environment and coordination between different Government departments to ensure public access is promoted.

### **3.6 Content Creation, Dissemination and Use**

- Africans should use African ccTLDs and African Governments should take the lead on this;
- African ccTLDs should lower their rates in order to attract more domain registrations; and
- Africans should develop more local applications and put more African content online, and where possible have local content in local languages.

### **3.7 IGF and the Future of the Internet Ecosystem**

#### **3.7.1 Outcomes of Net-Mundial**

Net-Mundial – The Global Multi-Stakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance - was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April to discuss Internet Governance principles and the future of global Internet Governance. Of the 1229 participants from 97 countries, 133 (close to 11%) were from Africa.

The process followed to organise Net-Mundial is just as important as its outcome as it served to illustrate some ways in which multi-stakeholder principles can be applied in practice. Most notably:

- 4 Committees were set up to handle various aspects of the meeting:

- The High-level Committee with representation at Ministerial level and including representation from non-Governmental organisations (private sector, civil society, academia, technical);
- The Executive Management Committee with representation from all stakeholder groupings;
- The Council of Government Advisors (CGA) comprised of all Government officials that chose to participate; and
- The Logistics and Organising Committee.
- The meeting was chaired by the Brazilian Secretary of Information Technology Policy assisted by four co-chairs, one for each of the stakeholder groups; civil society, academia, private sector, technical;
- The mechanics of selecting representatives from the various non-Governmental stakeholder groupings was not prescribed and each grouping had to find its own mechanisms;
- The preparation of the Outcome document was informed by an open consultative process during which any individual or institution could provide submissions. A total of 180 contributions from 46 countries were received; 18 contributions were from Africa; and
- The contributions were synthesized into a draft document which was also subjected to open comment online ahead of the face-to-face meeting.

The Outcomes of Net-Mundial were presented through a comparison between a summary of African submissions to Net-Mundial and the Outcome Document. In general, most of the issues of concern highlighted by African stakeholders were incorporated in the Outcome document.

Net-Mundial identified the following issues as needing further discussion:

- Different roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in Internet Governance, including the meaning and application of equal footing;
- Jurisdiction issues and how they relate to Internet Governance;
- Benchmarking systems and related indicators regarding the application of Internet Governance principles; and
- Net neutrality.

### 3.7.2 Transition of stewardship of IANA functions and ICANN Accountability

- African Governments should support the Dot Africa initiative since the emergence of the Dot Africa gTLD does not in any way threaten ccTLD as witnessed in Asia and Europe when the .Asia and .EU were launched;
- Although most Southern Africa Governments have nominated focal points for the compilation of RNL under the Dot Africa RNL initiative, the meeting noted that some Governments were still to provide entries for the RNL. Member States that have not nominated focal points for the RNL are urged to send their nomination letter to the African Union Commission (AUC) and ZACR and to also prepare their Dot Africa's RNL;
- Participation by all interested parties and informed stakeholders in the SAIGF provides the opportunity to continue to practice and perfect the multi-stakeholder co-operation;
- To ensure the continued security, stability, and resilience of the Internet, governance structures and principles must be developed and there should be



strong co-operation among all stakeholders, each contributing a perspective, informed by their respective roles and responsibilities;

- Undertake benchmarking with the new gTLD guidebook that has set very high standards and stringent measures for new gTLD applicants in order to ensure high standards in ccTLDs. Governments and other stakeholders may use the same criteria;
- ccTLD Registries need to remain alert and responsive to heightened competition.
- Urge ICANN to provide clarity on the Independent Review Process (IRP) process including expected timelines;
- Stakeholders urged to participate in consultations on the transition stewardship of Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA); and
- Stakeholders need to uphold the Internet Governance principles that came out of the Net-Mundial and foster discussions on issue that were left for further discussions.

### **3.8 Enhancing Digital Trust**

- Encourage Member States to undertake the national transpositions of the SADC Cyber Security Model Laws;
- Facilitate dialogue among stakeholders and create awareness on privacy and consumer protection on the Internet;
- Promote more capacity building on cyber security and cyber crime;
- Promote collaboration between stakeholders to fight against cyber crime;
- Promote child on-line protection and safety;
- SADC Member States recognise that everyone has the right to security on the Internet and to be protected from harassment, stalking, people trafficking, identity theft and misuse of one's digital identity and data;
- A multi-pronged strategy is required for the prosecution of cybercrime; and
- Human rights should not be ignored, there is the need to protect privacy and the confidentiality of information in criminal investigation carried out by law enforcement authorities and avoiding ISP surveillance on the data that is subject to investigations.

### **3.9 Critical Internet Resources and Emerging Issues**

Every Internet connected device needs an Internet Protocol (IP) address and the greater the demand for Internet service, the greater the demand for IP addresses. At the moment all IPv4 addresses in the IANA pool have been issued out to the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs). IPv4 addresses have been exhausted and there is a need to move to the new scheme – IPv6.

Internet is now a critical global infrastructure for socio-economic development. Developing countries have shown significant improvement in ICT, especially in mobile/wireless networks but still lag behind in Internet access. The digital divide may be reduced by extending mobile/wireless networks, which in turn requires IPv6. Hence, IPv6 deployment is vital to bridging the digital divide. IPv6 is emerging as the preferred platform and will be a core component of the wireless Internet architecture (3G & Beyond 3G). AFRINIC has received only 3% IPv4 allocation from IANA and still has a large pool of IPv4. The consumption rate of IPv4 is slow so the pool will last for a while although other regions

have ran out. There is also a slow adoption of IPv6 and Member States are encouraged to take up the available resources.

### **3.10 Internet and Human Rights**

- The broader uptake of human rights discourse at the IGF made it possible for more diverse rights and development centric discussions to take place at the event including discussions of women's rights issues;
- Many panels lacked regional diversity and in particular insufficient voices from African Governments;
- Member States are encouraged to ensure that all Internet-related laws and policies are clear, transparent and uphold human rights;
- Member States should encourage and monitor the participation of women and girls in all areas related to Internet development and governance;
- All African stakeholders, including regional and sub-regional bodies, Governments, civil society organisations, media institutions, relevant technology and Internet companies, should formally endorse the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms; and
- The technical community is encouraged to engage actively in the multi-stakeholder processes that deal with human rights as well as Internet Governance in Africa and provide policy inputs to Internet-related issues.

### **3.11 List of Important Regional and Global Events**

#### **3.11.1 Regional Meetings – 2014**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Annual e-Gov Africa: 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014, Rwanda;
- African Union Specialised Technical Committee on Communication and ICT (Information and Communication Technologies), Ministerial Conference: TBD, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- Ubuntunet Conference: 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Lusaka, Zambia;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Africa School on Internet Governance: 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Mauritius; and
- African Network Information Center 2021 (AFRINIC)-21: 22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Mauritius.

#### **3.11.2 Global Meetings – 2014**

- 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014, New York, USA;
- World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT): 26<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014, Guadalajara, Mexico;
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Global Forum on the Knowledge Economy: 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014, Tokyo, Japan;
- 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on WSIS: 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014, ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland;
- ICANN 51: 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014, Los Angeles, USA;
- ITU Plenipotentiary Conference: 20<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Busan, Korea;

- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) 9: 19<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Honolulu, Hawaii;
- Geneva Internet Conference – Internet governance at a Crossroad: 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Geneva, Switzerland; and
- Committee on Science Technology for Development (CSTD) 2014-2015 Inter-  
sessional Panel: 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Geneva, Switzerland.

### 3.11.3 2015 – 2016 Meetings

- ICANN 52: 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015, Marrakech, Morocco;
- Africa Internet Ecosystem Conference: TBD;
- Global Conference on Cyberspace 2015 (GCCS2015): 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Netherlands;
- Africa Internet Summit, TBD;
- ICANN 53: 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015, TBD;
- ICANN 54: 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015, Dublin, Ireland;
- SAIGF-15: TBD, Malawi;
- Africa IGF-15: TBD;
- 10<sup>th</sup> Global IGF: 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015, João Pessoa, Brazil;
- World Radio-Communication Conference (WRC-15): 2<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November, Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly (WTSA-16): 2016, TBD; and.
- OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy: 2016, TBD.

## **4.0 CONCLUSION**

The SAIGF-14 was a success. The various Internet Governance topics presented generated fruitful discussions between stakeholders. A Media Statement highlighting the major outcomes of the event was released at the conclusion of the SAIGF-14 (See Annex D).

### **4.1 Closing Ceremony**

Mrs. Olive Chikankheni, the Secretary for e-Government of Malawi closed the SAIGF-14. She expressed her satisfaction to the good dialogue that took place on the various themes of the SAIGF and encouraged participants to be involved in the AfIGF and Global IGF processes to ensure that we defend the regional interests on Internet Governance issues and we are able to influence the outcomes of such meetings.

Mr. Mogomotsi Banabotlhe, representative of the SADC Vice-Chairperson, Botswana offered his vote of thanks to the Government and people of Malawi.