

**MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE
2nd SOUTHERN AFRICA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (SAIGF)
VICTORIA GARDEN HOTEL
LUANDA, ANGOLA
5th – 7th AUGUST 2013**

The 2nd Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF), a high level multi-stakeholder platform to address emerging issues on Internet Governance in SADC, was convened from 5th to 7th August 2013 in Luanda Angola. The SAIGF which was convened by SADC Secretariat in conjunction with New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency was held in two parts over a three day period. The first day, 5th August 2013, known as the Pre-event was a working visit to the West Africa Cable System (WACS) Submarine Cable Landing Station at the Sangano Beach and the actual SAIGF was held over the two day period of 6th and 7th August 2013.

The 2nd SAIGF was attended by Delegates from 7 SADC Member States namely; Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Kingdom of Swaziland and Zimbabwe. The Forum was also attended by representatives from Communications Regulators' Association for Southern Africa (CRASA) and NEPAD. There were also representatives from the private sector, civil society and Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Pre-event

The Pre-event was a visit to the Sangano Submarine Landing Station where the delegates were hosted by Angola Cables. The site visit began with a presentation from Angola Cables which highlighted the vision, the structure and main operations of the organization and also included Angola Cables positioning in the African context. Following the presentations the delegates were taken on the visit of the submarine landing station and concluded the day with lunch at the Golfinho Restaurant in Sangano.

Official Opening

The 2nd SAIGF was officially opened by the Honourable Dr. José Carvalho da Rocha, the Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technologies of Angola. The official opening was also attended by a number of Angola Ministers including the following, namely: Minister of Culture – Honourable Dr. Rosa Cruz e Silva; Minister of Family and Woman Promotion – Honourable Dr. Filomena Delgado; Minister of Science and Technology – Honourable Dr. Candida Teixeira and Secretary of State for Telecommunications – Dr. Frederico Safeca.

In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister reminded delegates that the Angolan Government is developing a wide and ambitious program of national reconstruction in which supportive infrastructures for ICT development have priority. Internet governance is today one of the key issues to allow a real information society status, in view that this subject was being thoroughly discussed since the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 2003 and 2005. Considering that nowadays the Internet is a fundamental infrastructure for global stability as well as for socio and economic development, it becomes obvious that the management it derived resources should happen through a democratic, transparent and multilateral manner, involving simultaneously both local and regional active participation in the process. He also mentioned that the availability of internet must engage, the Governments, private and public sectors, civil society at large, international organizations, academia, acknowledging that for the attainment of such a desired goal, there still is a long

way to go. He concluded by indicating that the African continent has the right and the duty to raise its voice claiming for Internet governance mechanisms that might contribute to transform Africa in a zone of peace and socioeconomic prosperity. Therefore, it is expected that this 2nd SAIGF can alight the debate towards the sound development of the ICT sector in the Member States of the SADC Region.

Engineer Adilson Gomes, representative of the Chairperson of the SADC Council of ICT, reminded the delegates that in general African countries are increasingly recognising the role of ICTs for development, but also have awareness that there are many challenges, including: increased Internet penetration through the provision of access and terminals, content delivery sites and safety. Because of this, forums like the SAIGF as well as at the national level, where multi-stakeholders such as Governments, industry, civil society, private sector, academia and others meet and discuss Internet governance issues that are extremely important and necessary. These forums should enable to catalyze ideas, converge our recommendations to overcome the challenges faced by the SADC Region. These discussions should be open, accurate and result in concrete results.

Dr. Edmund Katiti, the Head of the NEPAD e-Africa Programme reminded participants that the Internet is affecting every aspect of our lives and Africa as a continent needs to have a coordinated and effective voice in the way the Internet is governed. He briefly spoke about the role of NEPAD Agency, specifically on the e-Africa Programme and also provided a brief update on the dotAfrica Project and on the issue of Reserved Names Lists (RNLs). Dr. Edmund Katiti informed participants that OAU/AU is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and is reviewing its achievement for that period. The celebrations for the ICT sector will take place during the first week of December 2013 as part of the Africa ICT week at the African Union Commission (AUC) new Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and all ICT stakeholders are invited. He indicated that although the IGFs are not decision-making forums, they are very important forums for capacity building, exchanges of ideas, and consensus building. He also stressed on the need of taking the concerns of the SADC Region to be discussed in the African and Global IGF processes, and into the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) processes, in order to influence the decisions being made there.

Speaking on behalf of SADC, the Senior Programme office Communications and ICT at SADC Secretariat Mrs. Cecilia Mamelodi-Onyadile, recalled that the decision to convene the inaugural SAIGF was made by the SADC ICT Ministers at their meeting held on 16th June 2013 in Gaborone, Botswana. She highlighted that the Internet has the potential to provide the SADC Region with endless opportunities and is being leveraged for the provision of Education, Health, Dissemination of Information, sharing of resources and for trade facilitation. She also stated that SADC Region has developed the SADC Harmonized Cyber Security Legal Framework comprising model laws on e-Transactions/e-Commerce Model Law; Data Protection Model Law; and Cybercrime Model Law, and noted that a number of SADC Member States have used the Regional Cyber Security Framework to develop their own national legislations. Mrs. Mamelodi-Onyadile thanked the Government of Angola for supporting and hosting the 2nd SAIGF and for the unwavering support and leadership that they have demonstrated in the implementation of the SADC ICT Programme and in the development and approval of the SADC Regional Infrastructure development Master Plan (RIDMP) which was approved by the SADC Summit in August 2013.

Following the Opening Ceremony commenced with a Thematic Workshop on the Dot Africa (.Africa) Top Level Domain (TLD), and on Africa and the Domain Name System (DNS) Industry, including the Proposed Business Model for the DNS Centre of Excellence. The facilitator of the workshop Mr. Koffi Djossou from Uniforum ZACR, called upon the African stakeholders to support the creation of a DNS Center of Excellence with the goal to strengthen the DNS industry in Africa, foster innovation through research and development, capacity building, and bring together various key actors. On the issue of the planned launch

of the dotAfrica, he encouraged SADC Member States to liaise with the African Union (AU) and to nominate National Focal Points who will be responsible for entering the national RNL into the dotAfrica RNL online portal and for SADC Member States to start with the national consultations, compile their RNL in order to protect geographic, cultural and linguistic, economic, offensive and religious interests of the Member States.

Recommendations

The 2nd SAIGF discussed the following IGF Agenda Items and made their recommendations:

INTERNET GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

- Promote the Internet governance principles have their origins in the WSIS principles adopted by United Nations (UN) Member States in 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland. They have since evolved, through the second phase of the WSIS (2005) and beyond that through the IGF and through various national and thematic efforts.
- Recognise the importance of the two “families of principles”, namely: Process Principles (how we talk and learn about Internet governance and how we want to run the internet) and Substance Principles (what kind of Internet we want).
- Recognise the value of working together to agree on principles for, e.g. a region like Southern Africa, or in a country like Angola, is that it builds common ground and collaboration.

MULTISTAKEHOLDER PRINCIPLES AND ENHANCED COOPERATION

- Promote the establishment of national structures for Internet Governance taking into account the various stakeholders and their roles;
- Encourage Member States to follow or participate in the discussions at the AFIGF and Global IGF, and to submit responses to the Enhanced Cooperation questionnaire which has been provided by the working group of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and submission deadline of 31st August 2013 (<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/cstd.aspx>).
- Encourage Member States to support the NEPAD e-Africa Programme’s work of mapping national Internet ecosystems as a necessary step towards understanding and adapting multi-stakeholder models for Internet governance at national and regional levels. This mapping would help to identify priority issues and stakeholders; understand the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders; identify decision-making processes and forums and identify and understand linkages between stakeholders and processes

ACCESS AND DIVERSITY

Infrastructure and IXPs

- Connectivity should be enhanced to allow citizens access to Infrastructure at favourable and affordable prices.
- Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) should be developed on the principle to maintain our own national and regional IXPs.
- To realize the principle of the Information Society the right Infrastructure needs to be put into place which should be affordable to the citizens.
- At a Regional level SADC Member States have been encouraged to establish their own national IXPs and work towards the establishment of the regional IXP.

- Angola has taken the initiative to form an association of IXPs through the establishment of ANGONAP in 2012 which entity was given the management of the .ao domain. ANGONAP is a division of Angola cables and is in a position to provide Internet Connectivity.
- Angola Cables was founded in 2009 and consists of the top 5 Operators in Angola and is among others tasked with managing WACS on behalf of Angola, and has been mandated to set up the Angolan IXP.
- Internet should be available at an affordable price to SADC citizens.

Local Content and Local Applications

- Local content has very little to do with ICTs and has a lot do with how we value our culture traditions and language.
- A mindset needs to be achieved that will see local content as content for local but content by locals. The Region needs to encourage local content creation within agreed focus areas.

INTERNET GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT (IG4D)

- Experience of SADC Member States that have been leading with high penetration of mobile and Internet access in the SADC Region and also on the African continent show that the implementation of national ICT Policies and Strategic Plans to diversify their economy from mineral-based to knowledge-based economy is vital.
- ICT access for rural development is important and may be achieved by tele-centers and the postal services networks can be leveraged on this aspect.
- There is a need to promote ICT skills for sustainable economic development.
- Encourage implementation of enablers of ICT regulatory environments that promote competition such as market liberalisation, market analysis, separation of ICT policy and regulation from ownership interests.

SECURITY, OPENNESS AND PRIVACY

- Encourage SADC 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.

MANAGING CRITICAL INTERNET RESOURCES

- Encourage the multi-stakeholder approach in the management of critical Internet resources.
- Facilitate the collaboration of various operators and service providers.
- Promote investment to advance and expand IXPs in the SADC Region.
- Local content to be strongly emphasised and a need for developing common understanding around the definition of the concept of local content.

EMERGING ISSUES

- Ensure safety of citizens as they interact on the Internet.
- Facilitate collaboration of Member States to fight against cybercrime.

Key Priority Areas

- Security: Child online safety and security v/s privacy
- IPV6 transition
- Local content
- IXPs
- Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD)
- Internet governance principles
- National IGF

OPERATIONALISATION OF SAIGF

- SADC coordinates the regional team.
- Multi-stakeholder coordinating team with SADC Chairing.
- National IGFs to feed into the Regional IGF.
- NEPAD with experience at continental level should be a partner with the SAIGF.
- Need to define the roles and responsibilities.
- Establish a web site for the SAIGF.
- SADC to be tasked with preparing the TOR for convening committee/structure.
- Multi-stakeholder representatives (private sector, technical community, civil society, academia, and Government).

Closing Ceremony

The representative of the SADC Vice-Chairperson Malawi offered his vote of thanks to the Government and people of Angola

7th August 2013

LUANDA, ANGOLA