THE KENYA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM -KICTANET

KICTANET REPORT OF THE KENYAN IGF HELD ON 12TH AUGUST 2016 AT LAICO REGENCY HOTEL, NAIROBI, KENYA

IGF KE 2016 STEERING COMMITTEE
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Quotes

"Discussions on emerging issues are important as the legal and policy framework rarely keeps up with development." – Jaco du Toit

"IGF has the most impact at national levels." – Alice Munyu

"(To governments) Engage in conversation, don’t shut the internet down." – Ebele Okobi

"Sometimes innovation is by accident." – Victor Kyalo

"Africa has moved from trying to get to the table, we now sit at the table." – Eric Osiakwan

"Block chain is ripe for African states to work on." – Fred Fedynyshyn

"The Internet plays an important role in access to information on elections." – Ezra Chiloba
As a country, we have done well in building our infrastructure but we must begin to build our ethical infrastructure – Ezekiel Mutua

The internet has facilitated democratization of knowledge and information – Ebele Okobi

We must be part of the conversation to determine what we want the internet to be – Alice Munyua

Create linkages between all key infrastructural projects and academia to anchor institutions of higher learning to build capacity – Victor Kyalo
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Introduction

This is a report of the Kenyan Internet Governance Forum (KI-GF) held at the Laico Regency Hotel on August 12, 2016 from 0800 to 1800 hours.

Background of Kenya IGF

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a multi-stakeholder forum for policy dialogue on issues of Internet governance. The forum is held in an informal setting, free from binding negotiations. It brings together all stakeholders from government, private sector, technical community, academia and civil society to discuss Internet governance issues on an equal footing through an open and inclusive process.

The IGF has been held annually since 2006 and Kenya hosted the Global IGF in 2011. This type of cooperative engagement is usually referred to as the multistakeholder model of Internet Governance, which is one of the key features for the Internet’s success. This model is paramount in ensuring that the Internet remains sustainable for economic and social development.

The IGF is a unique platform for all stakeholders to openly exchange perspectives and concerns on key issues that may affect the future of the Internet for millions of Kenyans.

The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) has been involved in organizing the Kenya IGF in partnership with industry stakeholders to address key Internet issues. This year, Kenya’s IGF 2016 took place on August 12, 2016 and the outcomes will feed into the Global IGF slated for December 2016. The global theme for this year’s IGF is “Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth.”
Executive summary

The eighth national Internet Governance Forum (IGF) attracted more than 200 participants and was officially opened by ICT and Innovation Principal Secretary Victor Kyalo.

The forum brought together government, the private sector, academia, the media, civil society, technical communities and individual users to deliberate on existing and emerging internet-related matters.

The main issues of discussion included:

- Blockchain Technology and implications on the industry,
- Internet and Elections: Information Controls and Political Processes; Internet shutdowns before during and after elections,
- Access and OTTs: Perceptions and Regulation Access Gaps in Kenya, Local Content and its impact on the Internet Ecosystem in Kenya,
- The Role of Government, Academia and the Private Sector in Encouraging Innovation.
Recommendations

Opening Ceremony

1. Embrace ICTs for development and States progress.

2. Need for increased multistakeholderism and creation of awareness of how internet and ICTs traverse all sectors.

3. Increased collaboration between industry players such as operators, applications developers and others, and to accommodate each other through thematic forums.

4. The need for government employees to develop digital literacy skills.

5. Encourage supportive collaboration in government ministries, county governments and agencies.

Taking Stock: High level panel Theme ‘Internet Governance in Kenya a look at the past and the Future

1. The need for Africa to increase its contribution to the IG conversations through production rather than consumption.

2. Need to expand access of broadband services across the country rather than focus on the urban areas.

3. Develop technical skills based human resource to facilitate more engagement in the global internet sphere.

4. Inclusion of Internet Governance as a subject in the education curriculum within the one child per laptop project, or public policy generic subject as the constitution provides for public participation in policy formulation.

5. Increase youth participation in IGF and allow them to influence policy on issues which affect them.
6. Involve the business community in policy development as well as creation of awareness on business opportunities in the internet space.

7. Increase investment in critical infrastructure for the youth to develop businesses and to take up new opportunities available on the internet.

**Blockchain Technology and implications on mobile money**

1. That Government and its agencies should be at the forefront in taking a lead role in advocating for the uptake of Blockchain technology.

2. Kenyan institutions and regulators ought to look at the possibilities of embracing Blockchain technology to improve the integrity of our key systems.

3. There is need to have more information availed to the developers to ensure building of relevant solutions using the technology.

4. The Revenue Collection Authority may generate revenue from all transactions on the Blockchain platform as well as take it up for database management in taxpayer records management.

5. Increase service penetration in Rural Kenya and in such areas as Insurance.

**Internet and Elections: Information Controls and Political Processes: Internet shutdowns before, during and after elections.**

1. Increase positive blogging activities. Further, Bloggers should put up relevant, timely and useful information to counter negative narratives.

2. There should be no reservation of specific names for prospective political candidates as well as political affiliations from the .ke ccTLD Registry.

3. The electoral commission shall increase and ease access to information during the elections period to facilitate integrity of the process.

4. Utilization of digital media and online channels to enhance fundamental freedoms and rights and not to curtail them.
5. There should be collaboration between the electoral commission and state agencies using technology to ensure free and fair elections.

6. The Government and its agencies should join the internet movement in terms of increasing the uptake of the new media, engage the electorate in the conversations of the internet for positive use.

7. Need for assurance from the State that the internet will not be shut down during the upcoming general election.

**Access OTTs: Perceptions and Regulation, Access Gaps in Kenya, Local Content and its impact on the Internet Ecosystem in Kenya**

1. There should be no regulation to govern OTTs because of the opportunities presented and the difficulty of reciprocity in other jurisdictions. Further, allow market dynamics to lead rather than draft guiding regulation.

2. Need to develop good quality content since there is low uptake and usage of the infrastructure is less than 50%.

3. Telcos to be innovative and develop creative solutions in order to identify new revenue streams.

4. Increased collaboration between the telcos and OTTs for the benefit of the end users.

5. Adoption of Kenyan film ratings by OTTs for products which may be unsuitable for minors and contain harmful content.

6. Need to create awareness on methods of reporting of negative on social media, OTTs and digital platforms.

7. Waiver or reduction of costs charged to filmmakers for classification of films and local content to spur more content development and creative industries.
8. Facilitate freedom of choice and respect fundamental rights and freedoms for adult consumers such as classification of horror films as a genre of entertainment rather than banning of such content.

9. Need for **Industry collaboration and cross jurisdictional responsibility between CA, MCK and KFCB**.

10. Increased parental supervision and guidance on what content their children access and consume.

**Cyber Security: Status of Cyber security in Kenya, and Status of Child online protection in Kenya.**

1. Raise awareness for reporting mechanisms in case of incidences on online and digital platforms.

2. Need to develop and build technical capacity to deal with technical aspects of cyber security.

3. Increase of multistakeholder participation in the KE – CIRT and clarify means of engagement.

4. Involve the children and youth in policymaking process on cybercrime and cyber security as end users.

5. Develop a National child online protection and safety policy.

6. Collaboration of service providers across the board limit and/or restrict access to illegal sites in Kenya.

7. Empower parents and caregivers through information dissemination on the best practices on handling of devices which young ones have access to.

8. Improve the mode/means of communication by state agencies involved in the policymaking process to realize public participation as enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution.
9. Increase support and resources allocation towards research on issues of child online protection.

10. Introduction of Child online protection within the educational curriculum for students as end users.

11. Increased respect and advocacy for the citizens’ right to privacy by service providers within the service agreements and privacy policies.

12. To introduce the people aspect in policy rather than solely focus on protection of assets and data.

Open Mic Session, next steps;

1. For consumers to be responsible in use of devices and digital platforms.

2. Need to enhance Inclusivity of stakeholders in all affected industries, and those who use ICTs or the internet.

3. To encourage the incorporation of special needs such as Sign language interpretation during IGFs and other ICTs forums.

4. Need to include and engage policymakers into the conversations to avoid misinformed legislative drafting.

The Role of Government, Academia and the Private Sector in Encouraging Innovation

1. Academia should improve and make practical their mode of instruction to keep up with changes in the dynamic ICT industry.

2. Youth should to be more proactive and seek out new opportunities beyond academia.

3. Increased Public and Private Partnerships in innovations. The government’s role is key in particular if there are policies to be crafted.

4. Encourage society to be more supportive towards failed startups.
5. Challenge students’ intellectual ability in order to enhance development of useful innovation.

6. Need to bring together academia, industry and government to scale up the innovation potential in Kenya to global levels.

7. Challenge academic entities to work and collaborate with industry networks on a platform that connect people and strategic stakeholders.

**Participation**

**Direct**

There were more than 200 attendees in person ranging from industry stakeholders in government, civil society, academia, commercial and business users.

**Remote Participation**

There was remote participation and live video streaming via online platforms on [http://livestream.com/internetsociety2/kigf/](http://livestream.com/internetsociety2/kigf/) supported by the Internet Society.

**Social Media**

There was a lot of activity and engagement of live proceedings on the day’s discussions on social media platforms such as Twitter. The discussion hashtag #KIGF (Kenya Internet Governance Forum) was on the Country’s trending topics.

**Media Coverage**

The Kenya News Agency covered the day’s discussions as found [here](http://www.kenyenewsagency.com), and an article was generated in the Country’s largest newspaper the *Daily Nation* by John Walubengo [here](http://www.dailynation.co.ke).
Opening Ceremony

The meeting began with introductory remarks from Ali Hussein on the background of the IGF, its importance, and KICTANet’s role in holding the annual forum. He then welcomed the panel that comprised Grace Githaiga – KICTANet, Alice Munyua – ISOC Board of Trustees and representative of the African Union Commission (AUC), Jaco Du Toit, Advisor for Communication and Information, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa and Victor Kyalo, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, responsible for Innovation and ICT. All panelists lauded the multistakeholder model that has been adopted in the Kenyan Internet Governance space and encouraged more discussion on emerging trends and debates.

Grace Githaiga recognized all key stakeholders and emphasized on the role each plays in the discussion. She highlighted the fact that the UN Global IGF’s mandate had been extended by 10 years demonstrating the importance of the Forum. She also encouraged professionals in the concerned field to be more proactive and advocate for their best interests otherwise other parties would legislate policies to regulate them.

Alice Munyua - As a founding member of KICTANet and one who spearheaded the first Kenya IGF, reminisced on the existent gap for an organization that could work with government in the Country to push the ICT agenda, and noted that KICTANet sought to fill this gap. She lauded the progress thus far and cited Kenya’s current status as one of those covered globally for demonstrating multistakeholder best case...
practices. Also, that internet governance was not just about domain names but traverses a cluster of several subjects including human rights, consumer protection, cyber security etc. Further, that digital literacy not only includes how ICTs work, but understanding how they affect Kenyans daily lives. She pointed out that there is need for engagement and participation from other affected stakeholders such as health and banking industries.

Jaco Du Toit pointed out that UNESCO has played a key role when it comes to use of ICT for development, as well as ensuring uptake of rights based approaches. He highlighted the need to have all stakeholders on board in order to come up with suitable solutions for the benefit of the society. He noted that there were opportunities for new participation in governance and in public service delivery, in the use and misuse of ICTs, and which ought to be resolved not only through policy but other forms as well. He called for more attention to the use of bottom up participation to promote education and empowerment for local communities including vulnerable parties and disadvantaged groups such as Persons with disabilities to ensure they have access to information, education and opportunities towards the attainment of a knowledge based society.

Principal Secretary Victor Kyal lauded KICTANet and other partners for organizing the IGF. He indicated that the State is focused on ensuring productivity and quality public service delivery. As such new emerging technologies are important and must be discussed for the benefit of Kenyans. He emphasized the need to involve all relevant stakeholders, such as Health and Agriculture, and the need to build coexistent synergies. Kyalo underscored the need to work together to make the internet affordable and to meet the needs of end to end solutions. On behalf of the government and in support of the governmental efforts in ensuring an innovative and robust society, he informed members of his weekly Thursdays which are Open door policy where he avails himself to stakeholders for consultations and discussions aimed at building the sector.

He further cited the government’s intention to spur more innovation in the country through the development of efficient and effective centers of excellence in the country’s institutions of higher learning; as this is where there was a mass of academic research and innovation.
Taking Stock - Theme ‘Internet Governance in Kenya: a Look at the Past and the Future

This session was moderated by John Walubengo with Panelists Eric Osiakwan – MD Chanzo Capital, Alice Munyua - African Union Commission and Waudo Siganga - Chairman of Computer Society of Kenya

Panelists shared their thoughts on the history of the global IGF, the past, present and future. There was also a focus on the development of Kenya’s Internet Governance landscape, its history considering it was the first national IGF to be held after the endorsement by the UN to have this annual forum globally.

All panelists agreed that immense progress has been made on multistakeholderism and access. That the Kenyan ICT sector had witnessed immense growth and there was a shift from a focus on the basic infrastructural set up to ensuring development of skilled technical talent, global innovator participation as well as productive and meaningful African engagement on the global scale.

Eric Osiakwan observed that there has been a move from conversation on technology and access, to the production side – how startups and the developed innovative solutions get access to the global market and general resources. He also pointed out that internet
services were now affordable and it is up to African entrepreneurs to take part in the global space, as well as how stakeholders can ensure a conducive environment for innovators. He pointed out that the future of internet governance is steeped in access, affordability and widespread internet.

Alice Munyua affirmed that there was an emergent need to ensure proper capacity building to enable Africans engage globally on matters of internet governance especially since the next billion to be connected to the Internet is from Africa.

Waudo Sigaga emphasized the need for development of talented and skilled technical expertise which most Africans have shied away from. He observed the liberalization of internet control, increase in access points and reduction of costs.

And from the floor, citing the importance of internet governance and more so the need to have a strong African voice, it was suggested that internet governance be introduced in our educational curriculum which should be integrated with the government’s digital literacy programme.
Emerging Issues - Blockchain Technology and implications on the Industry

Panel: Rosemary Koech – Kimwatu, Head of Legal and Regulatory Affairs at WayaWaya and NBO Legal Hackers, Fred Fedynyshyn, Chief Legal and Compliance Officer at BitPesa, Thomas Kaberi, and CEO/Managing Partner of Business Support services Firm, Eric Mwangi, FinTech/HSBC. The session was moderated by Ali Hussein Kassim

The panelists introduced the key elements of Blockchain technology, how it works and the way it is governed. They highlighted the key uses of the technology including property and academic records management, banking and finance, insurance among others. Further, the panel discussed relevant case studies of States that had taken up or were piloting the use of Blockchain in different industries. It was noted that the Central Bank of Nigeria has set up a Digital Currency Working Group to look into the benefits of using Blockchain technology in the banking sector and what are the benefits it offers. In addition, Sweden is working on adopting Blockchain technology for its lands ministry to manage the registry.

Fred Fedynyshyn spoke of the myths associated with Blockchain including:
• That the coin is anonymous. He noted that every transaction is recorded but legal names are not documented.

• That it is used by criminals. However, there is evidence that major banks and retailers are using Blockchain for legitimate uses and transactions.

• That it is used for money laundering. On the contrary, over the years, banks have been fined for Anti Money Laundering malpractices yet they ran the regular traditional banking services.

• That the technology is being used to fund terrorism. Conversely, there have not been any reported cases of such activity, and even if there was, there would be a digital footprint left on the platform to trace the transactions.

It was clarified that Blockchain is managed by an Advisory board of industry professionals who give a general guide of the system, but the platform operates through consensus of users based on the bottom up model. As such, suggestions come from the bottom and only if viable, they may be adopted by the board.

Citing the past success story of the mobile money in the Kenyan space, there was consensus that the country needs to be a trailblazer, to tackle these issues directly and push for the adoption of new technologies such as Blockchain technology. It was recommended that our Kenyan institutions and the Regulators in particular the Central Bank, ought to look at the possibilities of taking up the technology to improve the integrity of our key systems.

Concerns and questions revolved around the mode and strategy of revenue collection by the mandated collecting authority, and, the need to have more information availed to the developers as well in order to ensure building of relevant solutions using the technology.
Internet and Elections: Information Controls and Political Processes, and Internet shutdowns before, during and after elections

Panelists: Abdalla Omari, GM, Kenya Network Information Centre (KENIC), Ezra Chiloba, CEO, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, James Wamathai, Bloggers Association of Kenya. The session was moderated by Stephanie Muchai.

The panelists had an interactive and relevant conversation on information controls and possible internet shutdowns especially with the current scenarios witnessed in several regions where general elections had taken place. Patterns have started emerging on shutdowns in particular of social media platforms.

The CEO of Kenya’s electoral body indicated that they intended to use ICTs for purposes of accuracy during the elections. Further, that the issue of possible shutdown of information controls such as the internet, was a decision outside the mandate of IEBC and handled by other state agencies.

Bloggers were encouraged to put up relevant, timely and useful information by James Wamathai. He submitted that there are rogue bloggers who propagate hate speech and other undesirable acts but that those are a minor representation of all the bloggers in the
country. Given the vast social influence that bloggers have on digital platforms, such content creators were urged to control the narrative and responsibly guide the online force that is Kenyans on Twitter (#KOT).

On domain names and possibility of cybersquatting, it was clearly laid out by Mr. Abdalla Omari, the General Manager, KENIC, that manages the .ke country domain, that the market dynamics of buying and selling of domain names were clear, and there would be no reservation of specific names for prospective candidates as well as political affiliations. Further, that reservation will be based on the principle of first come, first serve basis. He indicated that KENIC would not get involved in interfering with the market dynamics of purchasing and selling of domains as long as they were within the policy framework which guides Kenic’s activities. In case of upcoming disputes, KENIC is equipped to deal accordingly as per its Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy (ADRP).

The Government and its agencies were urged to join the internet movement in terms of increasing the uptake of the new media, engage the electorate in the conversations and use the internet for positive use.

The members in attendance sought confirmation and assurance from the State that the internet would not be shut down during the upcoming national elections as had been witnessed in other jurisdictions including in the neighboring country. Shutdowns have been seen as a strategy to suppress freedom of expression rather than to promote national security; and as tools of censorship and limitation of fundamental human rights and freedoms. The forum was reminded of the fact that access to the internet was now a fundamental human right and such similar actions by the State will amount to limitation of rights and fundamental freedoms.

The panelists were Fiona Asonga, CEO, TESPOK, Ebele Okobi, Head, Public Policy for Africa, Facebook, Ezekiel Mutua, CEO, Kenya Film Classification Board, and Esther Wanjau, Deputy Director of Information, Kenya News Agency. The session was moderated by Harry Hare – CIO East Africa.

This panel sought to discuss the current state and possible future steps on the regulation or lack thereof of the Over the Top (OTT) Services. Over the Top Services are services provided to end users which ride on already existing networks and infrastructure.

The panelists across the board agreed that it would not be prudent to put in regulations to govern OTTs because of the benefits related to them. Further, that it would be difficult to enforce regulation in different territories and there would be the inevitable possibility of reciprocation.
Fiona Asonga outlined that these services consume telecommunication bandwidth without having to enter into agreements with the telecom operators who are the owners of the telecommunication infrastructure. She indicated that research showed that there was a consumer demand for the services and the market was demand driven as consumers actively sought access to the platforms. She outlined the need to develop good content for the consumers.

There was identified a need to develop good quality content as the underlying infrastructure is already developed but there is low uptake or use, and the usage of the infrastructure was less than 50%.

It was agreed that OTTs indeed promote business efficiency for the baseline infrastructural providers. The service providers who had lodged some complaints regarding OTTs’ use of their infrastructure at no cost were urged to be more innovative and develop creative solutions in order to identify new revenue streams. The need to also have differential services by the telcos was highlighted as it was seen that telcos which had more value adds on their services gained more and actively sought collaboration prospects with the OTTs.

Also, the increased uptake of OTTs use by consumers has inevitably resulted in increased demand for bandwidth and amplified traffic on the networks which increases the revenue for the service providers.

Ebele Okobi pointed out that consumers pay to telcos for the services which they use directly for OTTs or on free platforms when they purchase data. As such, there is a need to develop innovative solutions, and for telcos to embrace new business models. She also said that considering the fact that OTTs cannot survive without the underlying infrastructure, both parties at the end of the divide need to work in partnership(s) for the benefit of the consumers.

From KFCB, it was indicated that there was a need to create a suitable balance of interests between those of new market entrants, content creators as well as the consumers and the public at large through regulation. Ezekiel Mutua opined that fair competition was enhanced, and regulation ensured a level playing field. The absence of regulation could unethically allow cartels to edge out other players. He however unequivocally stated that regulation must not constitute control. He also observed that States which have
embraced the internet and ICTs have better GDP and economic growth than those who fought it. The Kenya News Agency exhibited its Digitization Project which seeks to digitize works with cultural and historical value, and which will be available to the Kenyan public.

Panelists were Nanjira Sambuli, Consultant, Francis Sitati, Communications Authority, Karimi Ruria Senior Manager Public Policy Safaricom, and Lillian Kariuki, Executive Director, Watoto Watch Network. The session was moderated by Moses Karanja of Centre of Intellectual Property and Information Technology- Strathmore Law School (CIPIT).

Across the panel there was unanimity on the need to protect our children and the younger demographic from the vices and negative traits that come with the internet and online platforms. Industrial reports indicate that children from as young as 3 years were able to use and own mobile devices. The legal and institutional framework that exists including the proposed Cybercrime bills, recommended the need to create more awareness so that end users may easily find recourse when aggrieved. Different instances of cybercrime such as defacing of state websites, Mpesa fraud systems, hate speech and online abuse were highlighted.

The panel spoke of the Kenya Computer Incident Response Team Coordination Centre and the industry regulator affirmed its support for efforts towards enhancing child online protection.
Open – Mic Session

Generally, there were several issues raised including the need to enhance Inclusivity of more stakeholders, to encourage the incorporation of special needs such as Sign language interpretation and the need to include and add policymakers into the conversations.
The Role of Government, Academia and the Private Sector in Encouraging Innovation

Panel: Betty Mutimba – Start up Grind, Harry Hare – CIO and DEMO Africa, John Walubengo – Multimedia University, Jessica Colaco – Brave Venture Labs and iHub, Alloys Meshack - CEO, Sendy, Professor Bitange Ndemo, University of Nairobi. Session was moderated by Ramah Nyang’- CCTV Africa.

There was consensus on the disconnect between the education curriculum in place in our institutions of learning and what is experienced and/or expected/ reality on the ground.

Academia was encouraged to improve and make more practical their mode of instruction to keep with changes in the dynamic industry. Walubengo admitted that indeed, academia was not in sync with the rapid technological changes and that the industry should have incubation hubs to integrate the systems to the students in the space.

The young were called to be more proactive and seek out new opportunities beyond the confines of academia as they pursue further education. Public and Private partnerships were highlighted as a way to encourage the Government enhance its engagement in innovation.
If we challenge the students’ intellectual ability and be more supportive towards failed startups, we can ensure and enhance development of useful innovations.

~

Prof. Bitange Ndemo, University of Nairobi

Bitange Ndemo asked the community to be more supportive towards failed startups. Also, that students’ intellectual ability ought to be challenged in order to ensure and enhance development of useful innovations.

Participants emphasized the urgent need to bring together academia, industry and government to scale up the innovation potential in Kenya to global levels.

Further, academic entities were encouraged to work and collaborate with the industry networks on a platform to connect people and strategic stakeholders.

Despite the criticizing of academia’s role in the space, there was agreement that its place would not be eroded as it is at this phase that the foundational fundamentals were imparted. Further, that the information derived from universities and schools is what enables the innovators to build up the creative solutions. Academia was challenged to take the extra mile to find or make practical the principles that they teach.
Adjournment

The meeting ended at around 20.00 hours with a cocktail hosted by KICTANet for the attendees.
AGENDA

Registration
08:00-09:00

Taking Stock - Opening Session: High level panel Theme ‘Internet Governance in Kenya a look at the past and the Future

09:00-10:00

Health Break /Photo session: Emerging Issues - Blockchain Technology and implications on mobile money

10.30 - 11.30

Internet and Elections: Information Controls and Political Processes: Internet shutdowns before, during and after elections.

11.30: 12.30: Health Break

13:00-14:00

Access OTTs: Perceptions and Regulation Access Gaps in Kenya Local Content and its impact on the Internet Ecosystem in Kenya;

14:00-15:00

Cyber Security Status of Cyber security in Kenya Status of Child online protection in Kenya

15:00-16:00

Open Mic Session, next steps

16:00 - 16:30
About IGF

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a multi-stakeholder forum for policy dialogue on issues of Internet governance. The forum is held in an informal setting, free from binding negotiations. It brings together all stakeholders from government, private sector, technical community, academia and civil society to discuss Internet governance issues on an equal basis footing through an open and inclusive process. The IGF has been held annually since 2006. Kenya hosted the Global IGF in 2010-2011.

This type of cooperative engagement is usually referred to as the multistakeholder model of Internet Governance, which is one of the key features for the Internet’s success. This model is paramount to ensure that the Internet remains sustainable for economic and social development.

The IGF is a unique platform for all stakeholders to openly exchange perspectives and concerns on key issues that may affect the future of the Internet for millions of Kenyans.

The 11th Annual Global IGF Meeting convened by the United Nations is scheduled to take place in Mexico, in November 2016. Every year since 2008, the Kenya IGF is organized in partnership with all stakeholders to address key Internet issues.

About KICTANet

The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) is a multi-stakeholder platform for people and institutions interested and involved in ICT policy and regulation. The network aims to act as a catalyst for reform in the ICT sector in support of the national aim of ICT enabled growth and development.