

Report on: Sudan Internet Governance Forum (SIGF)

Thursday, 1 November, 2018 (All day)

NTC Tower - Main Hall

The day started with a brief video illustrating the beginning of the Internet and who governs it. Eng. Tarik Merghani started the discussion speaking about the first phase of World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Geneva in December 2003, which failed to agree on the future of Internet governance, but did agree to continue the dialogue and requested the United Nations Secretary-General to establish a multi-stakeholder Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG). As a result the establishment of the IGF was formally announced by the United Nations Secretary-General in July 2006. It was first convened in October–November 2006 and has been holding annual meetings since then.

After that, the president of the Internet Society-Sudan chapter Eng. Nadir Gylani talked about how Internet society would be of great help in supporting Internet governance forums, youth IGFs, and Sudanese School on Internet Governance. Gylani's speech was followed by remarks from the general director of Telecommunications and Post Regulatory Authority (TPRA), Dr. Yahia Abdallah, who described the process of Internet evolution in Sudan and the number of Internet user

in Sudan that's reached more than 13 million users, as well as the effort5 TPRA has been exerting to improve Internet speed to reach up to 50 GB per second. Dr. Abdallah also talked about their endeavor to improve the telecommunication sector in Sudan.

Then Eng. M. Yousif moderated the first panel that discuss The Stakeholder Groups in the IG Ecosystem and their respective roles. The panel included Hiba Eltigani (Private Sector Representative), Prof. Nwari (Academia Representative), Sara Almin(Technical Community Representative), Jamal Amin(Government Representative), and Haifa Alkhair (End User sector Representative) . The second panel discussed Internet governance stories and recent Internet-related issues such as: Net Neutrality, GDPR, UA, New GTLDs, IDN, Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) , Internet Censorship, Intellectual property. The panel was moderated by Eng. Hiba Abbas and included speakers from the national information center, private sector, and academia..

In the last sessions Eng. Khansa Abdallah from Canar Telecom presented on Internet recourses management, and Eng.Mohamed Elnour gave a presentation on cyber security issues.

Recommendations:

As Sudan IGF mainly focused on issues facing the Internet ecosystem in Sudan, the recommendations of the forum were to shed more light on the following areas respectively:

- Non-discriminatory Internet Access
- Internet access for remote areas
- Cybersecurity - Regional and international cooperation
- Internet Economy
- Internet of Things (IoT)

Written by:

Eng. Tarig Merghani, President of Sudan IGF

Eng. Mohammed Yousif, Chairperson of Program Committee