



**WEST AFRICA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM  
14<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER,  
ACCRA, GHANA.**

***EAST AFRICA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM,  
2009 SUMMARY REPORT .***

***“Thinking Globally; Acting Locally”***

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# SUMMARY

- GENESIS AND GOAL OF THE EAST AFRICAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM
- THE PROCESS
- KEY ISSUES AND RECOMENDATIONS
- INTERNET GOVERNANCE FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS
- ORGANISING TEAM
- EA-IGF 2009 SPONSORS
- CONTACT DETAILS

# GENESIS, GOAL AND OBJECTIVE;

## THE EA-IGF

- The East African IGF was first convened in 2008 in Nairobi after realisation that East African Stakeholders were not part of the global internet governance process.
- The convenors felt that National and regional IGF dialogues would help prepare East African stakeholders to meet these challenges, as well as ensuring they have a voice in shaping policy at the global level

## EA-IGF goal;

- Creating a community of practice that will, in the long term, become a sustaining foundation for meaningful participation of East African stakeholders in Internet public policy debates at the national, regional and international level

## Objective;

- creating awareness, increasing knowledge, encouraging local discussion and debates on local IG issues

# THE PROCESS;

Bottom up multi-stakeholder approach;

- **National online discussion** - This takes place at the individual countries for a period of about 1-2weeks, moderated by the national animators. . Aims at identifying local national IG issues, challenges and recommendations.
- **Face- to- face National Internet Governance Forum** - - national level stakeholders validate the online report, build consensus on national IG issues, challenges and recommendations and contribute to the regional EA-IGF programme.
- **The EA-IGF** – The regional East African IGF brings together the national IGFs and provides a platform for national issues to be debated and discussed at the regional level. The EA-IGF also discusses strategies to deal with the issues identified.
  - This year all the East African countries (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and Kenya) participated.

## SOME OUTCOMES OF THE EA-IGF PROCESS;

- National Level IG issues identified in Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda through virtual and face to face meetings, dialogue and debates.
- Increased awareness and knowledge of IG issues among East African internet stakeholders and policy makers.
- A common understanding and consensus of EA IG issues.
- To form advocacy efforts aimed at influencing the shaping of the Internet at regional and international levels.
- An EA region forum for negotiating and fronting common proposals on IG issues relevant to their region.

# KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS , EMERGING FROM THE 2009 EA-IGF ;

- Novelties at the 2009 EA-IGF included; seven main sessions, five dealt with specific thematic areas. One session was a report back on national IGFs and the parliamentarian session.

## **Thematic issues/sessions**

- Access to Broadband
- Cyber-security, privacy and trust
- Policy , legal and regulatory issues
- Critical internet issues
- Consumer issues

# ACCESS TO BROADBAND

- High costs
- Lack of local relevant content in local languages
- Last mile solutions not well developed

## **Recommendations;**

- Regional broadband policy
- Localizing the internet
- non-discriminatory Open Access model for universal affordable access to broadband
- Address access to submarine cables for the landlocked countries like Uganda and Rwanda
- Separation of ownership of the infrastructure from its use.



# CYBER SECURITY, PRIVACY AND TRUST

- Lack of legal and regulatory frameworks to address cybercrime

## **Recommendations;**

- Increased awareness raising among the internet users
- Set up National and a regional Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) to coordinate and respond to issues of Cyber security in the region. The CERTs should partner with other global CERTs;
- Up-date the substantive criminal law and procedural law in every country, in order to deal with e-crime and e-security accordingly.



# Cont,

- There is great need to build confidence and security in the use of ICT's at the national, regional & global levels;
- Need to ensure the protection of data and privacy, while dealing with Cyber security is observed.
- Develop strategies for protection of children, women and persons of disability who are affected differently by exclusion and cybercrime, and
- Compile statistics on cyber attacks at national level and share this data within the region for better coordination and sharing of lessons and strategies.

# POLICY, LEGAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES,

- Development of additional policy frameworks covering broadband, spectrum management, cybercrime, consumer protection and Intellectual property.
- Region to bench mark with others like the European Union in development of regional policies.
- Development of policies geared towards encouraging online trade and safeguarding transactions
- Further reducing taxation of e-products and services.
- Local software products need to be zero rated to encourage their development and adoption.
- Complete and approve the East African Communication policy.
- (Harmonised) Regulations on Network Equipment and standard approval

# CRITICAL INTERNET RESOURCES;

## Recommendations;

- Explore the possibility of a regional TLD(.eac)
- Regional Increase awareness of the internet resources and their management, especially at the national level.
- Create Awareness on IPv6- transition; Build capacity and Deploy IPv6 Infrastructure: test-beds, e.g Kenya
- Increase Root server deployment in East Africa
- Setup redundant national IXPs Interconnect national IXPs, to a Regional IXP
- Create national and a regional data centre

# Cont;

- Have a policy national /regional on ccTLD Management;  
example- clarity on the recent Kenya Communication Legislation, which places the management of dotKE sub-domain namespace under the Regulator. It is not clear how this would impact on KENIC administration which is a MS partnership,  
in Uganda though the ccTLD is technically well managed, it is the hands of a private investor, being a national resource, it should be managed by an all embracing entity representative of the public, industry and Internet community in Uganda,  
in Rwanda- the ccTLD is being managed outside Rwanda, by private investors.

# CONSUMER ISSUES;

## Recommendations;

- Capacity building for the consumers and ensure that it is disseminated to the grassroots.
- Ensure a proper legal framework for consumer issues (Law, regulation, codes of conduct)
- Provide transparent & accessible complaint resolution channels (Publicity & publication of outcomes)
- Promote informed consumer choice (Publication of statistics & information to empower consumer choice)
- Form an East Africa consumer advocacy forum/network

# Cont;

- Harmonize legal processes and frameworks at regional level to protect consumers and to enable a good cyber business environment
- Data protection act to guard consumers against misuse of their data
- Identify key issues for consumers
  - Access, Quality of Service, Pricing

# PARLIAMENTARY SESSION;

Aim: Recognising that parliamentarians have a role to play in the Internet governance dialogue, the IG for parliamentary session aimed at encouraging essential contribution of members of parliament to the IG debate

- Attended by members of parliament from Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya and United Kingdom.
- Session approved a declaration, which sought to support the development of regional policy frameworks on broadband access, cybercrime, among others.
- Report of the EA-IGF 2009 will be submitted and presented to the fourth IGF taking place in November in Egypt.
- The Third EA-IGF will be held in Kampala Uganda.
- Kenya officially announced its intention to host the 2011 global IGF



# Conclusion;

- The outcomes of the EA-IGF will be submitted to the East African regulatory authority EARPTO, the African Parliamentary Knowledge Network (APKN), the East African Community, as well as, the fourth UN Internet Governance Forum, taking place in Sharm- El-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2009.
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# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE;

- **Uganda:**
  - I-Network Uganda
  - Women of Uganda Network
  - CIPESA
  - Members of Parliament Hon. Nathan Nabeta and Hon. Edward Baliddawa
- **Kenya**
- Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)
- Kenya Network Information Centre (KENIC)
- Kenya ICT Board
- Ministry for Information and Communication
- Telecommunication Service Providers of Kenya (TESPOK)
- African Parliamentarian Knowledge Network (APKN) UNDESA
- Hon. James Rege, Chair, Parliament Select Committee on Energy and Communications
- Kenya National Assembly

# Cont;

- **Tanzania**

Sharing with People's Network(SWOPNET)

Member of Parliament Hon. Anthony Diallo

- **Burundi**

ISOC Burundi, Chapter

- **Rwanda**

Rwanda Development Gateway,

RURA

RITA

Rwandan Civil Society

# EAIGF 2009 SPONSORS;

- Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC);
- Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA);
- AT&T;
- Centre for Global Communications (GLOCOM) of the International University of Japan.
- AFRINIC;
- Afriregister
- Kenya's Ministry for Information and Communication;
- Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK);
- Kenyan Network Information Centre (KENIC);
- Telecommunication Service Providers Association of Kenya (TESPOK);
- Kenya ICT Board;
- Kenya National Assembly
- APKN/UNDESA



**Contact Details;**

**For more information about the EA-IGF**

**[www.eaigf.or.ke](http://www.eaigf.or.ke)**

**[info@eaigf.or.ke](mailto:info@eaigf.or.ke)**

**MEDA MOASE!**

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