

# Internet Governance Forum

3 Years of Dialogue &  
Capacity Building

Where do we stand in Africa?

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# The Stages

- 1-WSIS- GENEVA
- 2.WSIS-TUNIS
- IGF-ATHENS
- IGF-RIO

# WSIS-GENEVA

Declaration of Principles  
Action Plan

# Declaration of Principles

- Internet Governance
  - must be multilateral
  - democratic
  - transparent
  - participative
  - involvement of government/Int Org/Private sector/civil society

# Action Plan

- Foster international dialogue among all interested parties-government,private sector,civil society,and relevant organisations.
- Internationalize the management of internet resources

# WSIS-TUNIS

- **We take note** of the WGIG's report that has endeavoured to develop a working definition of Internet governance. It has helped identify a number of public policy issues that are relevant to Internet governance. The report has also enhanced our understanding of the respective roles and responsibilities of governments, intergovernmental and international organisations and other forums as well as the private sector and civil society from both developing and developed countries.

# DEFINITION

- A working definition of Internet governance is the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

# DEFINITION

- 1. Proposes a sequence in which agreements must be made
- 2. first there must be a definition of the principles and norms on which governance must be based.
- 3. Negotiation of a frame work convention
- (from Mathiason & Mueller-Internet Governance-Quo Vadis)

# IGF

- has to be seen as a preparatory element for something else

Mathiason & Mueller.

# IGF

- Result of 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of WSIS
- Convened by UN Secretary General
- Forum for multi –stakeholder policy dialogue on issues related to internet.

# IGF

- Not a new organization
- Not a decision making body
- Does not have the power of redistribution.

# IGF

- Based on “soft governance” approach
- Has the power of recognition
  - can identify issues of concern
  - can draw attention to an issue
  - can put an issue on the agenda of international cooperation
- Can shape public opinion & decision making

# IGF-Purpose

- Exchanging ideas & information
- Sharing best practices
- Learning from one another  
( no one size fits all)

# IGF-Methodology

- Achieving policy coherence through exchanging information
- Sharing of best practices
- NOT through negotiation on a common framework e.g WSIS

# IGF

- NATIONAL
- REGIONAL

# Hyderabad Forum

- Overall theme-Internet for all
- Broad themes
- -Reaching the next billion
- Promoting cyber security and trust
- Managing critical internet resources
- Taking stock and the way forward
- Emerging issues- The Internet of to-morrow

# Where does Africa stand?

- Opportunity-information
  - learning
  - sharing experience
- Constraints
  - financial-participation
  - horizontal daily agenda
  - lack of preparation

# How to really benefit?

- Initiatives –local,regional,continental
- Sources of funding
- On-line exchange of experience/information
- Regulator centred regional and continental meetings
- Preparation and distribution of pedagogical material

# Input from Africa

- Audit of IGF awareness
- Stock taking of African resource persons
- Training of trainers
- Catalogue of needs in terms of priority
- Creation of Co-ordination Unit within AfriNIC frame work.

- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.**