ICT African Continent Integrated Strategic Plan 2015-2020

OVERVIEW OF A COMPREHENSIVE CONTINENTAL ICT STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the presentation

- Report on the implementation of the CITMC-4 decision
- Highlight the progress made
- Get guidance from the Bureau

Outline of the presentation

- Background of the initiative
- Status of implementation
- Structure of the draft report
- Next steps

BACKGROUND (1/2)

❖ **Various initiatives**
  ➢ UNECA: African Information Society framework (AISI), 2000

  ➢ AUC:
    • ARAPKE-African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy, 2006
    • Reference framework for the Harmonization of Telecoms/ICT Policies and Regulations in Africa, 2008
    • Action plan for Development of Postal Sector in Africa, 2008
  ➢ NEPAD (e-Commission):
    • e-Africa program, 2007

❖ **Triggers for need of streamlining reference documents**
    • Integration of the NEPAD into AU structure processes
    • The merging in 2011 of all ICT activities into one unite- The Information Society Division
    • Thus, the need for merging of all AU strategic documents and reference frameworks : e- Africa program, Reference Framework for harmonization and ARAPKE

BACKGROUND (2/2)

❖**Attempts for streamlining**

- *4th Ordinary Session of the CITMC requests AUC "to develop in collaboration with NPCA, RECs, Specialized Institutions and UNECA an updated, integrated and coherent AU strategic CIT framework for Africa taking into account the existing frameworks of all African CIT stakeholders"*

- NPCA took the lead and hired a consultant to facilitate the UNECA, AUC and NPCA workshop on merging their strategic/reference documents.

Status of implementation of the plan

- Consideration of the first draft by AUC, NEPAD and UNECA in March 2013
- Agreement to integrate all AUC-UNECA-NPCA plans into comprehensive strategic plan covering 2015-2020 period
- Seeking for Endorsement by the AU Commissioner for I & E CEO of NPCA
- Submission for comments to RECs

HIGHLIGHTS (1)

PURPOSE

- Coordinate, Promote and Facilitate the development of 'Post & ICT' sectors to 'accelerate the integration and Socio-Economic development of the Continent'

VISION

- Tripling , reliable and secure Access to Broadband services across the Continent by 2020

HIGHLIGHTS (2)

- ## Brand Promise/Commitment

  - Ensuring that each country has at least two reliable fiber connections, internationally, regionally and to its neighbours, which are competitively priced or based on open-access principles.

  - Ensuring that national markets are fully competitive to allow African end user to benefit from reliable low-cost international fiber capacity Ensuring that the many opportunities offered by transport and Energy terrestrial infrastructures are accessible for fiber optic cable deployment.

  - Ensuring sufficient ownership, commitment and co-ordination from RECs and member states to encourage quick deployment of needed regional infrastructures through adoption of the required enabling environment to promote competition and open-access to the backbones.

  - Ensuring that the most effective governance and ownership models are adopted to maximize the financing opportunities from both private and public sectors to promote the universal access.

HIGHLIGHTS (3)

- **Strategic goals** (SEVEN)
  - Post & ICT Infrastructure
  - Capacity Development
  - e-Applications & Services
  - Enabling Environment & Governance
  - Mobilization of Financial Resources & Partnerships
  - Industrialization in Posts ICT Sectors
  - Research and Development

HIGHLIGHTS (4)

- ## Strategic Objectives:
    - ### For Post & ICT Infrastructure
        - ✓ Building of Broadband Infrastructures
        - ✓ Strengthening of Postal ICT Networks
        - ✓ Promotion of investment in postal infrastructure
        - ✓ Promotion of rural access to ICT infrastructure
        - ✓ Promotion of development of Regional and Continental digital broadcasting networks
    - ### On Capacity Development
        - ✓ Introduce to and Extend e-Learning in institutions of learning
        - ✓ Promote development of specialist/expert capacity in Post & ICT
        - ✓ Promote digital Literacy
        - ✓ Promote ICT for Education
        - ✓ Develop and manage knowledge
        - ✓ Encourage the utilization of Post and ICT across all socio-economic sectors
    - ### On e-Applications & Services
        - ✓ Enhance Service Delivery through on-line services
        - ✓ Promote Development of Local and Localised Content and Services

HIGHLIGHTS (5)

- **Strategic Objectives (Cont.):**
  - ➢ **For Enabling Environment & Governance**
    - ✓ Develop an 'Outreach' Strategy on Information Society Development
    - ✓ Enhance wide spread understanding and participation in Internet Governance and Participation in Africa
    - ✓ Promote the implementation of Legislation to ensure security and reliability of networks across the continent
    - ✓ Develop comprehensive e-strategies
    - ✓ Enhance harmonization of Policy and Regulatory Frameworks for Post & ICT
    - ✓ Initiate leveling of the playing field for business/regional Post/ICT market

  - ➢ **On Mobilization of Financial Resources & Partnerships**
    - ✓ Promote Investment in Post & ICT
    - ✓ Develop innovative approaches for the creation and management of universal access/service funds
    - ✓ Increase awareness and necessity to provide adequate funding to Regional and Continental initiatives and projects in Post & ICT
    - ✓ Establish and operationalize the African ICT Development Fund
    - ✓ Establish innovative fund raising strategies for Post & ICT Development in Africa

HIGHLIGHTS (6)

- **Strategic Objectives (Cont.):**
  - ➢ **On Industrialization**
    - ✓ Promote establishment of ICT assembling and manufacturing plants
    - ✓ Promote development and production of software and hardware in Africa
    - ✓ Promote business process outsourcing (BPO) in Africa
    - ✓ Facilitate the creation of Technological Parks and Incubators
  - ➢ **Research and Development**
    - ✓ Establish regional and/or common research centres, programs and networks.
    - ✓ Encourage research & development and industrialization of African to develop Post/ICT systems.
    - ✓ Establish and nourish partnering relationships with universities and research centres across continents

Next Steps

- AUC, NPCA, UNECA, AU Specialized Agencies - ATU & PAPU- and RECs for final comment in the margin of IST meeting in Nairobi on 1 June 2013
- Guidance of the Bureau of the CITMC, 21 June 2013