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**SECOND AFRICAN UNION SPECIALIZED  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (STC) ON  
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION &  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES  
STC-CICT-2  
20-24 NOVEMBER 2017  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL SESSION**

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and Information Communication Technologies (STC-CICT-2) was held at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from 23 to 24 November 2017. The experts' meeting held from 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 preceded the Ministerial Conference. The Ministers deliberated on the report of the experts' session and other agenda items as per Annex 1.

## II. PARTICIPATION

2. The following Member States took part in the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, DR Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.
3. The Republic of Seychelles communicated apologies for not being able to attend.
4. The following Regional Economic Communities (RECs) were also in attendance: COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, and SADC.
5. The following African and International Organizations and Agencies also took part: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), African Telecommunication Union (ATU), Pan African Postal Union (PAPU), the International telecommunication Union (ITU), and the Regional African Satellite Communication Organization (RASCOM).
6. The following organizations and regional institutions were also present: Internet Society (ISOC), and African Network Information Center (AFRINIC).

## III. OPENING CEREMONY

### Remarks by H.E. Dr Amani ABOU-ZEID, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission

7. Mr. Cheikh BEDDA, Director of Infrastructure and Energy read the speech of H.E. Dr. Amani ABOU-ZEID, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy

8. In her speech, she welcomed all delegates to the Second Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and ICT.
9. She also outlined the contributions of the African Union Commission to the development of the ICT and Communication Sectors in Africa and noted a number of AU programs and projects that have been implemented in this regard.
10. In conclusion, the Commissioner expressed her expectation for continued collaboration and cooperation among all stakeholders for the long-term development of the ICT and Communication sectors.

**Remarks by H. E. Arouna Modibo TOURE, Minister of Digital Economy and Communication of the Republic of Mali**

11. H.E. Arouna Modibo TOURE, Minister of Digital Economy and Communication of the Republic of Mali extended his gratitude to the AU Member States for having bestowed trust to Mali to serve as Chair of the Bureau.
12. The Honourable Minister highlighted the strategic importance of ICTs in the socio-economic development of Africa and expressed the need for appropriate policies and regulations to facilitate the development of the sector.
13. The Honourable Minister further highlighted the main achievements during mandate of the Bureau and called for their consolidation.
14. The Honorable Minister concluded his remarks by thanking the outgoing Bureau, Member States Experts and the African Union Commission for the support rendered during their tenure.

**IV. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

Adoption of Agenda and Work Programme

15. The session adopted the agenda and work programme and is attached as Annex 1.

**V. ELECTION OF CCICT-2 BUREAU**

16. The Ministerial meeting elected the following Members to the Bureau of the CCICT-2:

<b>EASTERN AFRICA</b>	
<b>ETHIOPIA</b>	Chair of the Bureau
<b>CENTRAL AFRICA</b>	
<b>CONGO</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair of the Bureau
<b>NORTHERN AFRICA</b>	
<b>TUNISIA</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair of the Bureau
<b>SOUTHERN AFRICA</b>	
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair of the Bureau
<b>WESTERN AFRICA</b>	
<b>GHANA</b>	Rapporteur of the Bureau

**VI. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS SESSION**

17. The Experts' Session report was presented and adopted by the Ministers with amendments and is attached as Annex 2.

**VII. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE**

18. The Republic of Sudan offered to host the 7th African Internet Governance Forum

19. The Ministers adopted the Declaration on Internet Governance with amendments and is attached as Annex 3.

**VIII. CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION**

20. The Ministers requested the African Union Commission to coordinate with NPCA, Specialized Institutions such as ATU, PAPU and International Organizations such as ITU, UPU and the Smart Africa Alliance, for the implementation of ICT programmes and projects in Africa;

21. The Ministers adopted the "2017 Addis Ababa Declaration" with amendments. The Declaration is attached as Annex 4.

**IX. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT STC**

22. After deliberation, the Republic of Algeria offered to host the 3rd Ordinary Session of the STC-CICT.

## X. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE MINISTERIAL REPORT

23. The Ministers' Session report was presented and adopted by the Ministers with amendments.

## XI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

24. The Federal Republic of Nigeria called for the support of her candidature to the position of Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT).

25. The Republic of South Africa called for the support of the SADC and Zimbabwe candidate to the position of Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT).

26. The need to support the Burkina Faso candidate for the position of Deputy Secretary General, ITU was also noted.

## XII. CLOSING SESSION

27. H.E. Dr Amani ABOU-ZEID, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission congratulated the new elected Bureau that will oversee ICT Development in Africa for the next two years.

28. She commended all participants for the successful deliberations that will contribute to the development of the ICT and Communication Sectors in Africa.

29. H.E. Mr GETACHEW NEGASH, State Minister of Communication & Information Technology, Dr. Debretsion Gebremichael, Chair of the STC-CICT2 and Minister of Communication and Information Technology of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia expressed his gratitude for being elected as Chair and thanked the outgoing Bureau for their achievements

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30. He highlighted the importance of ICT for the socio-economic development of Africa.

31. He concluded by calling on Member States to support the implementation of the outcomes of the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and Information Communication Technologies (STC-CICT-2).

32. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 hours local time on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2017

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**Addis Ababa, 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2017**

