AFRICAN INTERNET RESILIENCE
A WEBINAR SERIES

DRAFT AGENDA:
1 June, 14:00 EAT (UTC+3)

Introduction

Moctar Yedaly, Head Information Society Division
African Union

Opening Session

African Union Commission Official (TBD)

Virtual panel discussion

Eddy Kayihura, CEO, AFRINIC

Has there been significant change in Internet traffic in Africa since the COVID outbreak?
How did the Internet cope with those changes?

Dawit Bekele, Regional Vice President – Africa, The Internet Society

Has there been a change from the user's side?
Has the pandemic changed how Africans use the Internet?

Funke Opeke, CEO, Main One

What are telecom operators doing now to increase Internet resilience to adapt to COVID-19
realities? What else is required to ensure Africa's Internet readiness going forward?

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Virtual panel discussion continued

John Omo, Secretary General, African Telecommunications Union

Was Africa's regulatory environment ready for the changes COVID-19 brought?
How did regulators react?

Dr. Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo, Member, African Union Commission Cybersecurity Expert Group

Have there been increased cybersecurity issues in Africa due to COVID-19?

**Hossam El Gamal, Chairperson,
Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA)**

Has the Internet helped business continuity for African businesses during the lockdowns?
Some say COVID-19 is the beginning of the African dot-com boom, what do you think?

**Andile Ngcaba, Founding Partner and Chairman,
Convergence Partners**

How has the ICT sector contributed to fighting the pandemic?

Q&A

Closing remarks

African Union   Internet Society

Speakers

Moctar Yedaly

Head Information Society Division, African Union

Moctar Yedaly is a telecom, satellite and computer engineer with an MBA in international business. He graduated from George Washington University, Amity University and Institute of Informatics. He has more than 20 years of international experience in the field communication and networks management, resources evaluation and policy preparation. Moctar is a former staff member of Intelsat in the USA and RASCOM in Cote d'Ivoire.

Since 2008 he has been in charge of the Information Society within the department of Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission – an Intergovernmental organization with its HQ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Mr. Eddy Mabano Kayihura

CEO, AFRINIC

Mr. Kayihura, was appointed as AFRINIC's CEO in 2019. He has over 20 years of experience in telecommunications, financial technology (fin-tech), and IT infrastructure. Between December 2016 and December 2018, he was the CIO at the Bank of Kigali, the largest Bank in Rwanda, where he managed a team of over 70 engineers and business specialists in charge of running both the IT department and the digital business of the bank. He was previously the Executive Chairman of Rwanda Internet Community and Technology Alliance (RICTA). He also worked as the CEO of Broadband Systems Corporation in Rwanda for more than three years between September 2013 and December 2016. Mr. Kayihura has contributed to the growth of the IXP ecosystem in Africa as a workshop facilitator on the AXIS project under ISOC and African Union.

Mr. Kayihura holds an MBA International Business from Oklahoma Christian University, a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from the National University of Rwanda, Kigali, Rwanda, and numerous other professional qualifications.

Speakers

Dawit Bekele
Regional Vice President - Africa, The Internet Society

Dawit is the Regional Vice President - Africa. Prior to joining the Internet Society, Dawit worked at Addis Ababa University on teaching and research positions in computer science, since 1994. He also established and managed a private company that provides Internet related services for more than four years. Moreover, in the last ten years, Dawit has worked as a consultant for major international organizations such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Bank. His activities have enabled him to travel around Africa with a large number of information and communication technology professionals of the continent.

Dawit is an Ethiopian citizen living in Addis Ababa. He received his undergraduate, Masters and PhD degrees from Université Paul Sabatier in France, all degrees in Computer Science.

Funke Opeke
CEO, Main One

Funke Opeke is founder and CEO of MainOne. MainOne is West Africa's leading Business-to-Business communications and network solutions provider that built the region's first open-access submarine cable system interconnecting Lagos, Nigeria, Accra, Ghana and Seixal, Portugal, in 2010. This $240 million-dollar project was completed on time and on budget. In January 2015, the company launched operations of MDXi – a $40 million investment resulting in West Africa's largest Tier III data center which currently hosts major global and indigenous content. Since then, the company has partnered to deliver services in ten countries in the region including extending its submarine cable to Cameroon with Cameroon Telecoms, and to Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal in partnership with the Orange Group.

She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Alliance for an Affordable Internet and recently chaired the Committee to develop Nigeria's National Broadband Plan 2020–2025, launched in March 2020.

Speakers

Mr. John Omo
Secretary General, African telecommunications Union

Mr. John Omo is the Secretary General of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) having been elected during the 5th ATU Conference of Plenipotentiaries in August 2018. He leads the continental body entrusted with building consensus within African countries on ICT development. This includes matters of policy and regulation, capacity building, and also coordinating African proposals in international ICT fora.

Mr. Omo has 28 years' experience as a lawyer and has contributed immensely to the development of the local and international instruments such as policies, legislation and treaties in the field of ICT and environmental conservation. Prior to his election, he worked with the Communications Authority of Kenya, Kenya's ICT regulator, where he provided leadership over the Authority's legal policies and strategies and participated in a number local and international ICT fora. He holds a Master of Law degree in International and Commercial law from the University of Sheffield, UK and a Diploma in Human Rights Law from the UN Human Rights Centre, Geneva and ILO Centre Turin, among other professional courses.

Dr. Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo
Member, African Union Commission Cybersecurity Expert Group

Dr. Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo is a lawyer and academic, specialising in law and technology. She is a senior lecturer of law and technology at the Hilary Rodham Clinton School of Law, Swansea University, United Kingdom.

Before joining Swansea, she was a law lecturer at Lancaster University's Ghana Campus where she taught cybercrime and intellectual property law. After completing a Bachelor's degree in Law (LLB) at the University of Abuja in Nigeria in 2005, she attended and graduated from the Nigerian Law School in 2006 and was called to the Nigerian Bar.

She obtained a Master of Laws degree, LLM International Information Technology Law with Distinction from the Robert Gordon University in the United Kingdom in 2009 as well as a Doctor of Laws Degree, LLD in International Law from the University of Johannesburg, South Africa in 2018.

Speakers

She has a Postgraduate Certificate in International Academic Practice from the University of Lancaster in the United Kingdom and completed a Master's Degree in African Studies at the University of Ghana in 2019. She has attended various courses with academic credits including an international criminal law course at the University of Salzburg, Austria and courses offered by the World Intellectual Property Organisation and the World Trade Organisation.

She presently serves as the Vice-Chair of the African Union Cyber Security Experts Group (AUCSEG). Nnenna is passionate about human rights and development, her primary concern being ensuring universal access to ICT through a human rights framework. She has written for a range of academic journals and media publications in the areas of ICT law, cybercrime, international law and human rights.

Hossam El-Gamal
Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA)

Hossam has more than 25 years of professional experience in ICT both in private and public sectors.

After founding and managing several successful IT companies he was asked to bring his expertise into public policy management being selected in 2013 and till Feb 2017 by the UN Secretary General to become one of nine Global Business Representatives among the 55 MAG members advising on The Internet Governance Forum.

He was also selected from Jan 2016 to June 2018 in a ministerial capacity as the Chairman and CEO of the Egyptian Cabinet Information and Decision Support Centre.

He is currently the CEO of IKEN an Industry 4 digital transformation integrator and the elected Chairman of AfICTA - Africa ICT Alliance, previously a board member and since 2012 has contributed in making synergy between African nations ICT industries, and connecting with international ICT industry cloud and governing policies.

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Speakers

Andile Ngcaba
Founding Partner and Chairman at Convergence Partners

Andile is the controlling shareholder and non-executive chair of Convergence Partners. He was previously the Director General of the Department of Communications (DoC) for 8.5 years until the end of 2003, when he announced his intention to leave Government for the private sector. During his time in Government, Andile oversaw tremendous change in the South African technology and telecommunications landscape, both from the point of view of the diverse and advancing technologies on offer, as well as advancements in the overarching regulatory framework.

At the DoC, Andile was responsible for inter alia, policy formulation, conceptual development and implementation in the ICT sector. During this time, he assisted foreign governments with their own policy formulation and oversaw a number of significant developments in the ICT sector in South Africa.

Andile serves as the Executive Chairman of Dimension Data Middle East and Africa, a role in which he has overseen tremendous growth of the business into new markets as well as a number of new strategic initiatives.

In addition to appointments to the boards in investee companies of Convergence Partners, Andile holds, and has held, a number of positions on global and local bodies.