

African ICT Week

Africa and Internet Governance

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- Internet has been growing at 115% per year, doubling annually
- Over two billion
- Openness the main catalyst
- Unprecedented Communication and interconnection
- New levels of innovation
- Significant economic activity

Challenges

- Shifting set of global priorities and pressures.
- Internet-enabled economic benefits power and influence not equitably channeled to Africa

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Who is responsible for equity and growth of the Internet?

Key issue: Political, social and cultural differences between countries

No single organization or country

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Various organizations:

- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)**, coordinates the global domain-name system;
- The **Regional Internet Registries (RIR)** coordinates IP addresses, AfriNIC;
- The **Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)**, central coordinator for the development and promotion of Internet standards and protocols;
- The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)**, develops global technical standards so that devices and software all around the world can interoperate.

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- **United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU)** exists (by treaty) represents governments. landmark conference WCIT (world Conference on International Telecommunications) to review the 1988 International Telecommunications Regulations (ITRS) December 3-14 Dubai.
- **ISOC Internet Society** : engages in [policy](#), [governance](#), [technology](#), and [development](#).
- **The Internet Governance Forum (IGF)** a UN annual forum from the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

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Africa not full engaged in

- Internet infrastructure

- Internet economy,

- Influence and participation in global internet policy

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Engagement challenges

-Political, social, cultural, economic.

(Access, Awareness, Competing policy issues,
Resources, skills, capacity, etc)

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Recommendations

AUC leadership role

- Encourage member states to engage meaningfully
- Provide conducive policy and regulatory environment for the internet to grow evolve

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Thank you