

## Department of Infrastructure & Energy

### Press Release

#### THE 2013 TRANSFORMAFRICA SUMMIT



**The TransformAfrica Summit 2013** was held in Kigali, Rwanda from 28 to 30 October 2013 and graced by the presence of seven Heads of States and Governments:

**H.E. Paul Kagame**, President of the Republic of Rwanda

**H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni**, President of the Republic of Uganda

**H.E. Blaise Compaoré**, President of Burkina Faso

**H.E. Ali Bongo Ondimba**, President of the Republic of Gabon

**H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit**, President of South Sudan

**H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta**, President of Kenya and

**H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta**, President of the Republic of Mali

More than 1500 local, regional and international public services, innovators, private sectors, academia and thought leaders also attended the Summit.

At that occasion, **H.E. Dr Elham M.A. IBRAHIM**, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy represented **H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini - ZUMA, Chairperson of the African Union Commission**. The Commission participated in the Ministerial Round Table where Ministers in charge of ICT considered the SMART Africa Manifesto. H.E. Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy also took this opportunity to inform the Ministers that while the year 2013 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the OAU/AU and offers a unique opportunity to pay special tribute to the generation of Pan-Africanists and the founding fathers of the AU, it is also a time to reflect on Africa's journey over the last five decades in all facets of socio-economic development and set the vision & strategy for the coming 50 years. The Commission delivered also a panel address on Delivering SMART Communities and participated in key sessions of the conference.

The objective of the Transform Africa Summit 2013 Conference was to bring together all stakeholders to:

- Consider progress made with regards to the resolutions set during Connect Africa in 2007
- Discuss how Africa can leverage broadband to transform communities, governments and the private sector.

The outcome of the Transform Africa Summit was the consideration of the Smart Africa Manifesto by the Ministers in charge of ICT and its endorsement by the Heads of States and Governments present.

The SMART Africa Manifesto is a bold and innovative commitment to accelerate sustainable socio-economic development and usher Africa into the knowledge economy through affordable access to broadband and usage of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

The Heads of States and Governments present committed to the SMART Africa Manifesto principles which support the socio-economic transformation of Africa through smart implementation and application of Information and Communication Technologies.

The SMART Africa Alliance will be a quadripartite arrangement by the African Union Commission, African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank and the International Telecommunication Union, along with a strong Private Sector and Government participation to promote the SMART Africa Manifesto.