



The Windhoek Declaration

21 October, 2016

Noting that the 4th AfICTA Summit with the theme: **Internet of Things for Sustainable Development (IoT4SD)**, held on 11th - 14th October, 2016 in Windhoek, Namibia;

Appreciating that the Summit was organized by **AfICTA- Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance**, and hosted by the **ICT Professionals' Association of Namibia (ICT-PAN)** under the auspices of the **Ministry of ICT, Namibia**;

Considering that the Summit focused on sub-themes which included: *The role of ICT in job creation; IoT, Affordability, Connectivity & Scenarios; Youth Development; SDGs & Cybersecurity; Internet Governance for SD – Aligning the Technical, social and political layers together; Sustaining critical infrastructure for IoTs and Keeping Internet safe, secure and resilient;*

Taking into consideration interventions by eminent speakers at the Summit including Hon Tjekero Tweya, Minister of ICT Namibia; who set the tone with an inspiring opening speech, the Summit hereby declares as follows:

1. In view of and in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs) national ICT policies, laws, regulations and practices should be reviewed for compliance and for inclusive benefits for all citizens.
2. The Internet of Things (IoT) presents a new opportunity for job creation in all sectors. That concerned stakeholders particularly governments and the private sector should evolve IoT strategies that maximize job opportunities for African youths. In this wise, long term tax holidays should be prioritized for business startups.
3. National multi-stakeholder dialogues on Internet Governance (IG) should be supported and, where not existing, convened in collaboration with government, private sector, civil society and the technical/academic community. That such dialogue will engender trust and commitment in tackling in-country IG issues such as Internet access and affordability for all, cybersecurity, mitigating cybercrime, quality of service, local content digitization, innovation/creativity, IPv6 deployment and other issues.

4. In order to end poverty (SDG1), African governments as a matter of urgency should remove all forms of barriers to free flow of people and investment resources across the region. A visa-free regime for business to business should be prioritized while, in the interim, visa on arrival service should be established.
5. AfICTA's commitment to the initiative of creating one million new ICT jobs by 2020, which was proposed by the Egyptian ICT alliance – EITESAL. This initiative is aimed at developing and promoting Africa to be the number 1 outsourcing destination in the world and should be embraced by relevant stakeholders. AfICTA therefore, calls on all members and stakeholders to volunteer support for the Global Outsourcing (GO) Africa initiative
6. AfICTA welcomes the October 1, 2016 transition of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) stewardship by the US Government to the global multi-stakeholder community, ICANN – Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers; and urges all stakeholders to actively engage and own the oversight process.
7. Internet for all, connectivity for all and broadband for all by 2020 should be top priority for all governments in Africa.

Released this day 21 October, 2016

Signed

Paul Rowney, Chairman Summit Committee.