



AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance



Report of the 2nd AfICTA Summit

held @
The InterContinental City Stars Hotel Cairo, Egypt

On

3 - 5 November, 2014

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i. The Cairo Declaration

i.i Executive Summary

Noting that ICT Ministers and top decision makers across Africa shared experiences of their respective countries related to policies African policy makers are implementing and initiatives undertaken to turn the 'smart Africa' vision into reality.

Recalling that in the e-education track, best practices in Africa and the challenges facing the adoption of ICT in this sector were discussed. The transformation to a knowledge based economy and creating jobs were highlighted as the biggest challenges for political regimes. Moreover, creating adequate interactive curricula requires technological tools that most of the communities lack.

Noting throughout the e-health session, experts shared case studies, success stories, strategies and initiatives undertaken across the continent. The importance of delivering health services in a timely and affordable manner to rural areas. Accordingly, embracing and encouraging innovative and affordable solutions.

Reflecting on plans and initiatives to develop national ICT strategies for a “smart” Africa, the panelists recommended Public Private Partnership (PPP) protocols as a viable solution to strategy implementation. It was proposed governments should focus more on regulatory functions rather than being service providers.

Noting that during the e-Government panel, experts and consultants shared best practices and case studies from different countries. They discussed and analyzed solutions to help improve government processes, services offered to citizens and building external interaction with non-governmental institutions. Governments & societies need to be aware of the technologies and e-Government services and benefits before using it. **African governments should engage more with the private sector to work on e-Government solutions with real impact for citizens.**

Noting that e-Agriculture experts shared initiatives and projects on how the use of ICT has boosted agriculture management and productivity, it is further crucial to optimize e-Agriculture to engender food security in Africa.

Recalling that throughout the connecting Africa with broadband session, subject matter experts discussed how African citizens and states could benefit from broadband for socio-economic growth and development. Increasing broadband penetration and adoption is imperative for a sustained African socio-economic development.

Noting in the Internet Governance/Cyber Security session, discussions focused on the impact of cybercrime on Africa’s growing economies. Measures in the form of legislation, policies and guidelines were recommended to address inherent risks. As Africa’s legacy platform is not yet developed, there is less risk compared to developed countries. However, this does not member countries can ignore the importance of developing an effective national cyber security strategy.

Therefore

Based on the in-depth discussion during the summit,

Starting with the theme of the summit “fostering a smart Africa”, and

Believing in the need of a higher quality citizen capability required for sustainable growth,

We, the participants of the Africa ICT Alliance “AfICTA” Summit in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on November 3 to 5, 2014 for the 2nd AfICTA Summit 2014 hereby agree and declare as follows:

1. Challenges our countries are facing underscore the need to embrace a multi-stakeholder approach to articulating and promoting ICT strategies and policies in the continent.
2. There is a need to adopt strategies, policies, and programs to foster knowledge-based economies in our countries. We are encouraging private and civil society organizations to motivate their governments to adopt such strategies and policies.
3. There is a need to update and reinforce regulations as needed to foster progress.
4. The African continent needs special e-education plans to boost the transformation of African societies to knowledge-based economies. There is a need to integrate ICT in the curricula and provide all schools with broadband Internet connection.
5. Africa is facing severe health problems. The health services delivered to rural areas will be substantially improved using e-health technologies. Tele-medicine is capable of providing e-health solutions over the cloud. Moreover, medical education could be substantially improved using cloud based remote courses.
6. E-Agriculture is a means of bridging the gap between food supply and demand. There should be collaborative work to overcome challenges such as low crop yield, fertilizer distribution, water scarcity and severe climate changes through effective e-management and e-learning solutions.
7. E-Government is still far from being applied on a large scale in many African countries. Efforts should be geared towards providing dividend of democracy to citizens through effective and metrics driven e-Government services.
8. The mutual cooperation between business associations is essential and business to business match-making events are to be organized and enhanced on regular basis.

i.ii Gratitude

We would like to express our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to His Excellency Eng. Atef Helmy, Egypt Minister of Communication & Information Technology (MCIT) and Eng. Hussein Elgueretly, CEO of Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA) of Egypt for being EITESAL/AfICTA's strategic partners and sponsors as well as for their valuable contribution that ensured the success of AfICTA Summit 2014. We also wish to thank Mr. January Yusuf Makamba, the Deputy Minister of Communication, Science and Technology, United Republic of Tanzania, Mr Ato Getechew Negash, State Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Minister of ICT Djibouti Ali Hassan BAHDON and representatives of the Ministry of ICT Benin, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and the IT Development Agency of Nigeria.

The sincere effort of Eng. Hossam Elgamal, AfICTA Board member and Dr Mohammed Shedeed (MD EITESAL) in managing the Summit was remarkable. They pursued the dream and made it come to fruition.

We would also like to seize this opportunity to express our appreciation for all the efforts exerted by EITESAL's executive team leading to the success of the Summit. Not to forget the support and collaboration provided by Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Business Constituency (BC)-ICANN, National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) and many other organizations to enrich the Summit.

We would also like to recognize the sincere and valuable role of the MCIT's International Relations Directorate.

Finally, we wish to thank the board of AfICTA for the overall organizational success assurance for the Summit.

The Summit Report

1.0 Preamble

The 2nd Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance – AfICTA Summit 2014 was held from 3rd to 5th November, 2014 at the InterContinental City Stars Hotel Cairo Egypt. The event was jointly organized by AfICTA and the local host association member Egypt Information Telecommunications, Electronics, and Software Alliance (EITESAL). The Summit was held under the auspices of Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Arab Republic of Egypt, His Excellency, Eng Atef Helmy.

2.0 Background

The Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA) is a private sector-led alliance of ICT associations, multinational corporations, companies, organizations and institutions in the ICT sector in Africa. It is composed of members from 19 African countries including, Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, Tunisia, the Gambia, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Namibia, Niger, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda, Benin, Morocco, Libya, Djibouti and Ghana. In its mandate of fulfilling the promise of the digital age for everyone in Africa, AfICTA held its 2nd summit in Cairo, Egypt, following the success of the 1st Summit which took place in Lagos, Nigeria on May 29 – 30, 2013.

3.0 Objective

The summit was aimed at fostering a “smart” Africa able to proffer ICT enabled solutions to numerous challenges African states face in their aspirations for progressive economic, social and cultural development.

4.0 Participation

The dignitaries at the event included the Honourable Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Arab Republic of Egypt, His Excellency, Eng Atef Helmy, Mr. January Yusuf Makamba, the Deputy Minister of Communication, Science and Technology, United Republic of Tanzania, Mr Ato Getechew Negash, State Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Dr. Jimson Olufuye, The Chair of Africa ICT Alliance – AfICTA, Eng Hussein El-Gueretly, CEO ITIDA, Dr Hazeem El Tahawy, EITESAL Chair, Dr Shedeed, EITESAL CEO, Eng Hossam Elgamal Vice Chair EITESAL. The International organizations that sent their delegations to the event were ASOCIO, NEPAD, African Telecommunication Union and ICANN. Also in attendance were the Coordinator of NEPAD Africa Dr Edmund Katiti, Mr Markus Kummer, former Chair of IGF and now ICANN Board member; ICANN Global Engagement Lead Patrick Jones, Internet Hall of Fame inductee, Nii Quaynor of Ghana, Mr Adrian Schofield, AfICTA Vice-Chair, Mr Roger Latchman WITSA Deputy Chair & AfICTA Board member; other board members in attendance include from Nigeria Engr Lanre Ajayi and Engr Tola Sogbesan, and from Kenya Dr Waudu Siganga and from Rwanda Mr Clement Uwajeneza; others are top ICT players and policy makers in more than 18 African nations and over 200 delegates from across Africa were in attendance.

5.0 Day 1

5.1 Welcome Addresses

In his welcome address the AfICTA Chair, Dr Jimson Olufuye said "being a nation of the past and of the future, he is delighted that Egypt is hosting AfICTA Summit 2014 with the theme '**Fostering a Smart Africa**'". He said, as it is already well known, the 21st Century belongs to Africa, the 2nd largest continent in the world with more than 1.1 billion people. And that, based on International Telecommunication Union (ITU) statistics, close to 30% of Africans are on the Internet. He said, Internet penetration is growing at 45%, and we are close to 100% teledensity and over \$100b infrastructure projects (in the area of broadband, electricity, and transportation) are currently ongoing across Africa. Dr Jimson emphasized that, **Africa is growing and it MUST continue to grow smart to boost intra-African trade which is currently below 8%.**

Please review his full speech here:

http://aficta.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=246%3Amessagefromthechair&catid=52&Itemid=311

Speaking also at the opening ceremony, the Minister of ICT Eng Helmy welcomed all participants heartily to Egypt and underscored Egypt's commitment to building bridges of brotherliness, cooperation and collaboration across Africa towards a smart Africa that delivers a better life for her people. He said "It is a major focus of the government of Egypt to engage the rest of Africa where it rightly belongs and to foster regional cooperation with the private sector for improved job creation and better intra-African trade for the benefit of all Africans".

Earlier, Engineer Hossam Elgamal the Chair of the Organising committee and AfICTA Board member; and the Chair of EITESAL welcomed all and expressed their delight to host Africa in collaboration with MCIT & ITIDA. They expressed gratitude to all sponsors and in particular ICANN, the IT Development Agency Egypt, officials of the International Relations Department Ministry of Communication and IT and H.E. Eng Atef Helmy, the Minister of CIT.



5.2 Panel Discussions

There were panel discussions on Day 1 immediately after the opening ceremony and after lunch. They were:

- (i) High Level Panels on e-Governance panel
- (ii) e-Health panel
- (iii) e-Agriculture panel
- (iv) e-Education panel
- (v) Industry Development panel
- (vi) Connecting Africa with the broadband panel
- (vii) Internet Governance and Cyber Security panel

i. High level Panel

This panel was chaired by AfICTA Chair, Dr Jimson Olufuye. In the panel were: Dr Hussen Elgueretly – CEO, ITIDA – Information Technology Industry Development Agency Egypt, Dr Hazem El Tahawy, Chair EITESAL, Eng El Mamud, former Minister of Communication & IT, Egypt, Mr January Yusuf Makamba, Deputy Minister of Communication, Science and Technology and Mr Stan Singh of ASOCIO.

The panel key points are listed below:

1. Embracing of ICT is key for the competitiveness of any nation
2. Innovation powered by appropriate policy framework is imperative. The policy should ensure the linking of industry with academia for optimal results
3. Technology is easy to acquire and nations and organizations should invest in ICT infrastructure
4. Policy should be mindful of ICT in government, transparent use of Universal Service Fund and eWaste handling
5. Africa should work together

ii. E-Health

Chaired by Adrian Schofield, the panel was composed of Dr Wael Abdul Aal, MD, Co-founder & CEO, Telemedicine International; Dr Sally Misr of El-KhairFoundation; Dr Hani Farouk of the World Health Organization and Dr Hasham El Deah, President Electronic Research Institute.

Summary outcome of the deliberation include:

1. Mobile Health (mHealth) should be number 1 focus for data collection, patient information and treatment
2. Cost effectiveness of solutions is very important because majority of needs are in the bottom segment of the social pyramid
3. Data and information security is important to safeguard critical data
4. Nations should evolve a sustainable Health Strategy with good governance framework
5. Personal Health (pHealth) is important and it is achieved with good awareness campaign

iii. e-Education/e-Learning Panel

At the e-Education/e-Learning Panel the following contributions were made:

- Africa is challenged in terms of infrastructure and penetration, but it is no longer an excuse!
- The idea now is Digital Bridge/Spread against old thinking of Digital Divide.
- There is a pressing need for data to be available detailing impact assessment of e-learning contribution to Students knowledge acquisition and utilization
- E-learning has been well utilized in Egypt and the Government is piloting several projects to engage students and private sector to develop solutions.
- There are issues of total buy-in on the part of parents to be convinced that students actually utilize the Internet for learning and not just for social engagement.
- Zambia is now opening up the process to engage stakeholders in collaborative efforts.
- Benin is yet to see the big picture but report from the attendance of 2014 AfICTA Summit will go a long way in leading the track.
- African ICT developers should increase their coding engagement as the concept of e-learning is becoming bigger.
- African Countries are encouraged to cross-fertilized ideas and not attempt to reinvent the wheels; successful solutions elsewhere can be replicated.

iv. Internet Governance, Cybersecurity & Broadband connectivity Panel

The panel was chaired by Eng Hossam El-gamal (Egypt) and featured Segun Olugbile, (Nigeria), Dr. Sherif Hashem (Egypt), Mr. Yusuph Kileo(Tanzania), Dr. Ahmed Elhefnawy (Egypt). Below are key points of their deliberations:

- In Africa more and more people are using the Internet which is considered a great developmental opportunity and also a huge threat if crimes committed in it are not frontally tackled.
- It is very important to consider the impact of cybercrimes on the economy as a whole, the measures that have to be taken to mitigate them
- There are a number of available advanced cyber security tools that can be deployed to mitigate cybersecurity incidents at the national level
- It is crucial to develop national strategies and policies to govern the Internet and cybersecurity issues.
- There are only 15 African countries that have either implemented or are currently drafting cybercrime legislations
- Every African country should enact legislation to deter cybercrime
- The importance of cyber security is stemming from the fact that personal data is shared online and it should be protected. Without appropriate legislation there would be no protection.

Connecting Africa with broad band

- Internet traffic has increased tremendously in Africa in recent years and there is an urgent need to scale access to boost economic productivity.
- The introduction of broadband will play a huge role in the development of Africa and all its countries

- Broadband is quite crucial for e-commerce, e-learning etc and the creation of more jobs and opportunities
- Nigeria already has a broadband plan in place with projection of 30% penetration by 2018. A number of other countries in Africa are focused on similar broadband plans.
- With the expansion of the broadband access in Africa, the need for effective governance of the Internet becomes more imperative.
- African governments and the private sector are enjoined to collaborate effectively to fast-track broadband deployment and benefits to the people.





5.3 MOU signing @ Welcome Dinner

As part of highlights of Day 1 event, AfICTA signed an MOU with its counterpart in Asia – ASOCIO during the welcome dinner to establish a framework of cooperation between the two organizations. The Computer Society of Kenya also signed an MOU with EITESAL to enrich relationship between the two organizations.



Dr Jimson Olufuye (l) for AfICTA & Mr Stan Singh (r) for ASOCIO @ the MOU signing ceremony



Dr Jimson Olufuye (l), H.E. Atef Helmy, Minister of CIT, Egypt (m) & Mr Stan Singh (r) @ the AfICTA-ASOCIO MOU signing ceremony



Dr Hazem Tahawy, Chair EITESAL (l), Dr Waudu Siganga, Chair CSK (r)
Standing behind are: Kenya Embassy Official in Egypt & H.E. Atef Helmy

6.0 Day 2

6.1 Workshop: DNS Workshop

The DNS Workshop took place on the 4-5 November, 2014. At the workshop, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, ICANN discussed the modalities of building a sustainable Domain Names Business in Africa and the Middle East. For more information please, see:

http://aficta.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=245%3Aicannnews&catid=35%3Alatest-news&Itemid=243



(l-r): Jimson Olufuye, Eng. Hesham El Alaily, NTRA Exec. President, Pierre Dandjinou



l-r, Manal Ismail NTRA, Baher Esmat ICANN, Pierre Dandjinou

6.2 Tour of Smart Village and Visit to Cairo ICT

While the DNS Workshop continued, a section of the delegates were taken on a tour of the Smart Village and the Cairo ICT Show with lunch with the Minister of Communication and Information Technology.

7.0 Day 3

7.1 AfICTA AGM

The AfICTA AGM took place in Cairo Egypt @ InterContinental City Stars Hotel Cairo where they discussed the way forward for AfICTA. Some of the decisions reached included:

- i. Review of AfICTA vision, mission & goals available on the website
- ii. Review of the Constitution to admit individuals into AfICTA who are from the private sector
- iii. Acceptance of the proposal from Mr Adrian Schofield for South Africa to host the next AfICTA Summit in Johannesburg on 31 August to 4th September, 2015.



On the top table from l-r: Hossam El Gammal (2014 Summit Chair - Egypt), Lanre Ajayi (Nigeria), Roger Latchman (South Africa) Jimson Olufuye (Chair – Nigeria), Clement Uwajenezza (Ag. Secretary, Rwanda), Waudu Siganga (Kenya), and Tola Sogbesan (Nigeria) and Felix Ndayirukiye (Burundi) in the front row

7.2 Business Matchmaking

The summit also featured B2B meetings after the AGM while the DNS Workshop continued. In the meetings participants were able to meet and discuss with pre-arranged Egyptian counterparts collaborative business ventures of mutual benefit. A number of deals and agreements were reached. Details are available here:

http://aficta.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=236:the-aficta-summit-2014&catid=35:latest-news&Itemid=311



Business Matchmaking Between Egyptian & Africans' ICT Companies' Representatives

7.3 Dinner Party/Award Night

A Gala dinner was hosted for all delegates. During the dinner, the following deserving personalities were given awards:

1. AfICTA's conferment of Patron to Eng Atef Helmy, Minister of C&IT, Egypt for his strong support towards the success of AfICTA Summit 2014
2. Chairman Award to Eng Hussein El-Gueretly, CEO ITIDA Egypt for his strong support towards the success of AfICTA Summit 2014
3. Chairman Award to Eng Hossam El-Gamal, Chair, AfICTA Summit 2014 for his exemplary service that ensured the success of AfICTA Summit 2014
4. Africa ICT Champion 2014 Award to Chris Uwaje, Chair Mobile Solutions Ltd and former President ITAN & ISPON Nigeria; for his pioneering ICT Development work in Africa, Nigeria in particular and for his award winning Mobile Solution, the Malaria Destroyer Game

Pls see details here:

http://aficta.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=247%3Asummitdinner&catid=35%3Alatest-news&Itemid=243



AfICTA's Award of Patron to Eng Atef Helmy, Minister of C&IT, Egypt for his strong support towards the success of AfICTA



Chairman Award to Eng Hussein El-Gueretly, CEO ITIDA Egypt for his strong support towards the success of AfICTA



Chairman Award to Eng Hossam El-Gamal, Chair, AfICTA Summit 2014 for his exemplary service that ensured the success of AfICTA Summit 2014



Africa ICT Champion 2014 Award to Chris Uwaje, Chair Mobile Solutions Ltd and former President ITAN & ISPON Nigeria; for his pioneering ICT Development work in Africa, Nigeria in particular and for his award winning Mobile Solution, the Malaria Destroyer Game.



Minister of C&IT, Eng Atef Helmy (middle), AfICTA Chair, Dr. Jimson Olufuye and other AfICTA Board members in a group photograph at the AfICTA Summit 2014 in Cairo Egypt

8.0 Conclusion

Overall, participants concluded that it was a fruitful summit. Everyone looked forward to utilizing and implementing the knowledge and links gained to further the ICT sector in Africa and foster a “smart” Africa.