5th WEST AFRICA

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

FACE TO FACE FORUM

MIATTA CONFERENCE CENTER, FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

2ND -4TH JULY 2012

Contents

INTRODUCTION

The West Africa Internet Governance forum , 2012 was the fifth session of its kind. In this forum, representatives from internet stakeholders share their experiences, milestones and experiences that create an understanding of the regions position in the technology world, at a global view.

In 2012, the stakeholders gathered in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 2nd -4th of July 2012 , at the Miatta Conference center.

The occasion was graced by , the Vice President of the republic of Sierra Leone, the Minister in-charge of the Information and Communication and other top level government representatives. This was the highest government official to have been present at the forum, since its inception.

The regional representatives covered , The Gambia(represented by two Officials from the Ministry of Information Communication and Infrastructure, representative from Information Technology Association(ITAG) and the WAIGF National Resource Person) , Nigeria(represented by the president .ng), Burkina Faso(represented by the WAIGF national resource person), Benin(represented by an official from the government) Liberia(represented by the WAIGF national resource person) Cote d' Ivoire (represented by the IG-project cordinator Cote d' Ivoire)and the FOSSFA ,IG-Cordinator.

At national level the ISOC Sierra Leone, took lead and were actively involved, which is also the core national IGF forum.

The discussions were spread out into thematic themes, namely:

-Internet Governance in West Africa, country coordinators experiences (general)

– Internet Governance for development

– openness , Security and Privacy

– Access and diversity and

– Managing the Critical Internet resources

Translation was present at the forum, which catered and ensured full participation and inclusion of the francophone.

PARTNERS:-

West Africa IGF 2012,face to face forum was made possible by the support of :-

- The Government of Sierra Leone,

– Ministry of Information and Communications (SL),

– The Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA),

– Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN),

– Internet Society, Africa Bureau (ISOC),

– UNIFORUM ZACR,

- Sierra Leone Internet Governance Forum (SLIGF),

- Internet Society Sierra Leone Chapter (ISOC SL),

- National Telecommunications Commission Sierra Leone (NATCOM)

this was done, through finances, in kind and expertise.

FOSSFA, through partners raised the funds to ensure that the regional representatives were present, took care of the local travel (to and fro airport), accommodation and dinners, the national team took care of the local travel (to and from conference venue-hotel), venue and lunches.

The forum:-

Registrations of the participants was the first event, that signified the beginning of the regional face to face forum 2012. the local organizers SLIGF used the opening occasion to show a mini documentary of IG that was created by the Diplo Foundation.

 The first session was chaired by the deputy director general of NATCOM, Mr. Kallon. He begun by giving a briefing on NATCOM and its role within the IGF as a regulatory body in Sierra Leone and its commitment to continue working with SLIGF. Following was the Chairperson , SLIGF , Mr. Mansaray who mentioned, that the national IGF , had taken place the week before and discussions were centered around e-commerce, education (e-learning, research and development) ,health (e-health and tele-medicine), democracy – the FOI(freedom of information bill), election etc , this communique' was presented to the Vice President for further deliberations and way forward.

In the Ministers' speech, he highlighted on , the landing of ACE Submarine Cable, the formation of the SALCAB mentioning that it will increase economic and social activity in the country.

The Vice President welcomed the delegates and officially endorsed the forum. In his keynote address(speech uploaded to th website) highlighted on : - ICT Policy formation, he touched on the Internet Speed, stating that a difference is about to be experienced, the Fiber Submarine Cable, already landed, and testing is going and could likely be switched on

towards the end of the year on this he mentioned cyber Security, as a real threat in the country and the region and more awareness campaign need to be done and training, concerning this.

With a few question and answer from the platform , the forum was declared open and successful deliberations , among the participants.

In the next session, the FOSSFA ,IG- coordinator chaired the session , she begun by reminding the participants , that in the next two and a half days , we will deliberate on the Internet development in West Africa, however the WAIGF is not a decision making body, hence we will have a communique' at the end of this session that will be a pointer to all the stakeholders in encouraging the efforts and best practices into further development and involvement within the region, the continent and at a global level. She also reminded the forum that , all the Internet stakeholders have an equal representation and no one is above the other, or no comment/remarks are more important than the next.

In this session the country coordinators gave an overview of the national IGF process in their respective countries.

Sierra Leone- Mr. Sarh Gborie

The National WAIGF Coordinator For Sierra Leone gave a brief account of the IG developments in Sierra Leone especially since they just ended their National IG prior to the regional forum that the Sierra Leone government was hosting. The ISOC Sierra Leone Chapter President also gave a detailed outline of all the activities that The Local ISOC Chapter is doing in Sierra Leone to spearhead Internet Development and growth.

Gambia- Mr. Poncelet Ileleji

- The Gambia representative from the Ministry of Information Communication and Infrastructure gave a detailed account of the second IG in the Gambia that took place in February 2012 . He elaborated on developments that has taken place, within the country, in terms of IG and touched on various governmental initiatives.   The communique' was drafted and can be found in the website:- www.waigf.org

Nigeria- Mrs. Mary Uduma

–   Nigeria has not been able to hold an official national IGF , but different meetings/conferences have been held within the country to discuss the internet development in the country , with different stake holders and efforts are being made to ensure a consistence

Cote d'Ivoire- Ms. Mireille Houndji

 The national IGF ,is named IGICI (Initiatives for Internet Governance in Cote d'Ivoire).IGICI is an association whose creation was driven and proposed by the telecommunication regulator. It is composed of resource persons from all sectors: private, public and civil society. Its 2nd forum for Internet governance will be held in the month of August 2012.

Liberia- Mr. Abdullai Kamara

–   the national IGF ,has not taken place this year , but plans are under way to ensure that it happens , before the global IGF.

Burkina Faso- Mr. Idrissa Bourgou

   –   discussions among the stakeholders are ongoing and the planning and updates, will be shared once there are concrete decisions made. The national IGF ,is expected to take place before the end of the year.

Benin- Mr. Kossi Ammenssiou

–   Benin joined the WAIGF last year and attended the regional forum, held in Nigeria. Plans are ongoing to ensure a successful national IGF, in the the month of October 2012 and the communique and report will be made available then.

The next session was chaired by Gambia- Mr. Poncelet Ileleji

Here countries gave their overview of the Internet governance for development and the broadband.

- In this session, the Africa Coast to Europe Cable was key in discussion, and the various preparations thats are ongoing, awaiting it implementation before the end of the year 2012. Sierra Leone has put in place measures and are currently doing tests, before they officially turn on the cable.

– Issues of local content was also discussed, it was noticed that there was very little local content from the region, with Nigeria leading, making strides to cover this gap. participants were encouraged to be creative and use their time wisely by developing meaningful and educative content and not wait until the cable lands, as it may be too late.

– On infrastructure, the participants discussed on the governments ensuring that it is done, in all the regions of the country and not just concentrate on the cities/urban areas.

– On training , the participants shared their concern on training for the young people on better use of the social media and hoe they can use it to enrich their lives, as well as educate their peers.

– The session did not end, without the mention of cyber security and since there was a different session that would cover this topic, the day's session, came to a close.

The Second day's session's discussed the theme Security, Openness and Privacy and later discussions surrounding the theme Access and Diversity.

The session on (SOP) was chaired by Mr. Ileleji – who picked up the discussions surrounding cybersecurity , that had come up, the day before.

– The 411, constant emails of fraud, that are said to have originated from the region, it was felt that this matter should be dealt with st the level of individuals involved and not perpetuated at a national or regional level, as this has injured the reputation of these countries and sould not be taken lightly. Government representatives, were encouraged to look further into this matter and have a regional stand, that should be shared at the continental and global level.

– Mrs. Uduma, the president of Nigeria .ng, mentioned the actions that are being put in place to clean up the Nigeria e-space , to ensure security and selling of the country code Top Level Domain.

–   Ms. Okite , the FOSSFA, IG-Cordinator shared the presentation forwarded by the common wealth.It was unanimously agreed that countries will pursue this initiative and engage commonwealth's assistance with the cyber laws, more especially for fast and effective regime of international cooperation for fast and effective investigation and prosecution as the region works towards restoring its dignity in the e-world.

At the end of this session it was unanimously agreed that;

a) regarding Openness and privacy and the law, self regulation is key to openness based in countries respective laws and hence it was encouraged that cyber laws need to be domesticated based on best practices.

 - The next session Access and diversity , moderated by the FOSSFA, IG Coordinator, discussions was zeroed around the need for developments of local Internet Exchange points (IXP), that was felt would encourage creation of local content and would keep the traffic local, which would reduce the costs of interconnection and in the long run reduce the traffic/Internet costs altogether.

In Benin, mentioned the representative Mr. Kossi , the government has built community – based centers ,to promote access.

–   The francophone 's representatives (Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Benin), instigated the discussion around the barrier created by languages. It was noted that over the years, English has remained a denominating language in the e-world and even within the region, despite having different languages, it was encouraged that the region use both languages in all its websites and reporting.

–   Mr. Idrissa, the WAIGF national resource person, Burkina Faso , gave an insight about access with a different view on , the case of a landlocked country and the arrangements that have to be made with other countries in the region inorder to have accessible and reliable Internet connection.

–   on accessibility for person's with disability , there was no firm confirmation, whether governments in the region have taken this into account when it comes to computers with special features, voice software's for the blind and even accessibility of the government websites ,by person's with disability. The moderator encouraged the participants, to take

the initiaves and ensure that all persons within the community is utterly taken care of , in the e-world. She mentioned the WAI(Web accessibility Initiative) (www.w3.org) as a good starting point.

– On the MDG, it was noted that since it is three years away to its deadline, the countries shall evaluate their current position and advise. It was unanimously agreed that it is imperative that all the countries within the region meet these goals or and request for help, where necessary.

– In closing the moderator briefed on the upcoming continental and global IGF's. The Africa IGF, was launched during the global IGF , held in Kenya in 2011. the first face to face forum will be held in Cairo, Egypt , 3rd -4th October 2012. AfIGF Secretariat is within the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)office and it is a virtual office. The contact person is ,

Makane Faye (Mr.)
ICT Policy and Development & E-Application Sections
ICT and Science and Technology Division
United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
P.O. Box 3001 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

– For further information: - http://afigf.uneca.org/

- On the global IGF, Ms. Okite, mentioned that planning was on track, workshops had been selected by the MAG and soon the IGF secretariat will make public the workshops to be presented at the 7th global IGF , to be held in Baku.

Concerning the visa application, to Baku, bearing in mind that , there are only two Azerbaijan Embassies in Africa, she said that this had been discussed by the azerbaijan delegation during the MAG meeting, held in Geneva in May and a resolution will be posted soon to the local website (www.igf2012.com) and the global IGF website (http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/).

Concerning the WAIGF representative to the global Forum, the FOSSFA, IG-Cordinator , said , WAIGF must be represented in the global forum, there is a regional forum, session ,whereby WAIGF is to present its deliberations that

took place during it face to face forum. Preference is given to the host country representative , followed by any other regional representative, who was present during the face to face forum. This will be discussed in the following days, as preparations continue and the dates grow nigh .

It was a very stimulating day as participants engaged into vibrant discussions on the days' theme's , with firm conclusion, the need for more local content, self regulation and more collaboration within the overall Internet ECO System in the various countries of West Africa.

The day ended with a cocktail at the Office, sponsored by SLIGF.

The last days session begun with discussion on Critical Internet Resources, chaired by the Mr. Mansaray, the SLIGF chairperson.

–   Mr. Koffi Fabrice, UNIFORUM ZACR, opened the day by showing a video of UNIFORUM's model and gave a detailed presentation on the dotAfrica project that it is pursuing. UNIFORUM has made an application sent to ICANN to manage the Africa Top Level Domain, the Africa Union has supported this application. The presentation also captured UNIFORUM's work within the .co.za and it success, for all to see UNIFORUMS capability to turn around the continent, if granted the capability.

–   The second presentation was made by Mrs. Uduma of Nigeria, on behalf of Ms. Anne Rachel Inne of ICANN. It elaborated on the new generic Top Level Domain, it encouraged more engagement by the African's in the ICANN and its processes, participants were encouraged to get involved and apply for the ICANN meetings, that is open to all Internet stakeholders.

–   The third presentation was made the Mr. Adrian , the ISOC SL, chairperson , he focused more on the ISOC SL , projects and plans to engage the younger generation on safer and more engaging ways to use the internet .

Question and answer session covered questions on how to get engaged, into the ICANN process, the benefits of the Africa Top Level Domain to the continent and how engaging the ISOC SL, is or plans to be in the grassroot level.

All questions were answered by the presenters and further discussion will continue on these issues online.

The last session saw all, the participants engaged into drafting the WAIGF 2012 COMMUNIQUE'. The Chaiperson SLIGF, Mr. Mansaray read the 2011 communique'.   All rapporteurs involved in the 5th WAIGF brought in their reports and excerpts from the reports that met general consensus and were added into the WAIGF 2012 communique' . After two hours of deliberations the communique' was ready, in presence of a practising lawyer, proof reading to ensure that the language is acceptable, the communique was to be availed to all present participants for ten days, for any further addition/edition before being published.

The chairperson, SLIGF, Mr. Mansaray read the communique' which was seconded and passed .

The FOSSFA, IG-Coordinator , thanked all the participants, the host and the regional representative for a vibrant and successful IGF and encouraged, further discussions online and wished all the best to the countries that are planning their national IGF's.

Most heartfelt gratitude went to the chairperson , SLIGF , the WAIGF national Coordinator Sierra Leone and the ISOC SL.

The 5th WAIGF came to close after the WAIGF IG coordinator read the final 5th draft communiqué that was drafted to all participants present and informed the gathering that the draft 5th communiqué will be available for comments and reviews online by all those present in person at the 5th WAIGF session in Freetown, Sierra Leone for ten days prior to the communiqué being released,

The forum was called to a close at 4PM, 4th July 2012 and a group photo taken.

Recommendations: -

1. It was recommended that the national IGF's to take place , within the first quarter of the year and the regional face to face forum to be concentrated within the second quarter of the year. This will enable rich discussions surrounding most recent happenings/developments and discussions in the countries.

2.   Implementation of the concept and methodology of the Cross-Networks Synergy as part of the development and implementation of infrastructure projects.

3.   Creation of the WAIGF Secretariat, with inclusion of the regional bodies.

The forum was called to a close at 4PM, 4th July 2012 and a group photo taken.

The communique' is available at www.waigf.org

Program:-

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">**WEST AFRICA INTERNET GOVERNACE FORUM 2012**

Venue: Miatta Conference Centre

Date: 2nd -4th July 2012

Theme: '_Promoting the Multi-stakeholder Model for further Internet Development in Africa'_</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">**Day 1 -**

Theme: Opening Session</td></tr>
<tr><td>8:00- 9:30</td><td>Registration</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>9:50</td><td>Arrival of the Vice President</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>10:00</td><td>Opening Prayers</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>10:05</td><td>Introduction of Chairman</td><td>Mr. Mohamed Bangura

Director General National Telecommunications Commission (NATCOM)</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:10</td><td>Chairman's Opening Remarks</td><td>Mr. Seray Timbo

Chairman National Telecommunication Commission</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:20</td><td>Overview of the Internet Governance Forum</td><td>Alhaji Salieu Mansaray</td></tr>
</table>

		Chairman Sierra Internet Governance Forum
10:35:11:00	Welcome Address	Honourable Ibrahim Ben Kargbo Minister of Information and Communication
11:00-11:30	Launch & Keynote Address	Hon. Alhaji Chief Sam-Sumana Vice President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
11:30-:11:45	**BREAK**	**BREAK**
**Session 2:** **Moderator- The Gambia**	
12:00- 13:00	Internet Governance in West Africa, National & Regional Experience	WAIGF country coordinators
13:00- 14:00		*Lunch*
14:00-15:00	Internet Governance for Development Regional and Country experiences	
15:00-16:30	Open discussion on Broadband in WA (Government, Telcom and Regulators)	WAIGF National coordinators Representatives
16:30- 17:00		**Coffee break**
**Facilitator:- Burkina Faso**	

17:00- 18:00- Open discussion on the days' presentation(s)

Day 2:

Theme for day 2 : Openness Security and Privacy ,Regional and Country experiences

Session 4: Regional National Experiences and initiatives

Facilitator:- Ms. Rachel-Inne - ICANN

09:10- 10:30	Reporting from the Open discussion (Representative)	
	UNECA	UNECA
	Cote d' Ivoire	Ms. Mireille Houndji
	Common Wealth	Common Wealth
Coffee break- 10:30- 11:00		
	Gambia	Mr. Amadou Nyang
	Nigeria	Nigeria
12:00- 13:00	*Q& A*	
	Open discussion	

13:00- 14:00	Lunch	
Session 5:	**Access and Diversity – Regional and country experiences**	
Facilitator:- UNECA		
14:00 – 14:10	Overview (UNECA)	
	Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone
	Benin	Benin
	Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso
	Gambia	Gambia
	Q & A/ Open discussion	
16:00- 16:20	*Coffee Break*	
16:20- 17:30	Update on the Africa IGF Update on the global IGF	
19:00- 21:00	Social/ Networking Dinner	
	Day 3:	
	Theme for day 3: Managing the Critical Internet Resources , Regional and country experiences	
	Facilitator :- Liberia	
09:00 – 09:10	Reporting from the Open Discussion (Representative)	

	UNIFORUM	Mr. Koffi Fabrice (Regional)
	ICANN	ICANN
	ISOC	ISOC
Q & A		
11:00-11:20	*Coffee Break*	
Facilitator: Sierra Leone		
11:20- 12:20	Presentation of the Communiqué	Sierra Leone
12:20 – 12:30	Vote of Thanks Announcement	
12:40 – 13:00	Closing Remarks	
13:00- 14:00 Lunch		
14:00 – 19:00	*Sierra Leone Tour*	

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PATNERS, FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT THROUGH THE YEARS:-