



## 6<sup>th</sup> WEST AFRICAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

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**Theme "INTERNET GOVERNANCE FOR PEACE: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL  
STAKEHOLDERS"**

**July 3 – 5, 2013, Espace CRRAE-UMOA, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

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### **COMMUNIQUE**

**[Original version: French]**

We, participants of the 6<sup>th</sup> West African Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF), meeting in Abidjan, from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2013, representing the Internet governance initiatives of the following 13 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo; with the participation of the following international stakeholders: ITU, ICANN, AFRINIC, Google, UNIFORUM ZACR, Microsoft, ISOC Afrique, DIPLO Foundation, and FOSSFA ;

- Recalling the results of the previous editions of the West African Internet Governance Forum which were held respectively in Freetown, Lagos, Dakar and Accra,
- Considering the need to sustainably own the benefits of the Internet at the community level;
- Desirous, on one hand, to build an innovative, dynamic, prosperous, and united sub-regional Internet community and, on the other, a stable and secure Internet ecosystem,

#### **1) Elect to:**

- a) Have a WAIGF Chair, which will be occupied in rotation by the country hosting the annual edition of the forum.

The Chair of WAIGF 2013 is Côte d'Ivoire, until the 2014 edition of WAIGF.

- b) Continue discussions on providing WAIGF with a Secretariat.

## **2) Recommend:**

### **a) On the management of critical Internet resources**

- Outreach actions by stakeholders for migration to IPV6;
- Adoption and implementation of ccTLD development strategies;
- Capacity building of African elites in terms of DNS;
- Support of all stakeholders from West Africa to UNIFORM ZACR for the delegation of the dotAFRICA gTLD .

### **b) On Infrastructure, investment, and broadband access**

- The reinforcement of the resilience of Internet infrastructures and national cyberspaces;
- The creation of a competitive environment to ensure open access to international connectivity;
- The adoption of incentive measures for setting up of submarine cables in the sub-region;
- The establishment of a coordinated strategy for the deployment of broadband networks in West Africa;
- The establishment of national and regional IXPs;
- The increased involvement of ECOWAS countries in African initiatives for broadband satellite networks;
- The use of TV White Spaces.

### **c) On accessibility, diversity, and content**

- The tax exemption of ICT terminals so as to reduce the costs of their acquisition by the largest number of people;
- The implementation of e-government programs to enable the population to have access to online services of the Administration;
- The production and promotion of local contents, including in local languages, accessible to the handicapped.

### **d) On Internet governance for peace**

- The creation of conditions favorable for working remotely, online;
- The encouragement of innovation and business opportunities on the Internet;
- The promotion of cultures and geographic communities online;

- The compliance with multi-stakeholder approach for the development of the Internet;
- The encouragement of online communication between citizens and elected officials ;
- The encouragement of any civic initiative aimed at promoting peace and reconciliation via Internet;
- The active and increased participation of all the West African stakeholders in international meetings and instances on Internet;
- Support to youths in all initiatives of technological innovation;
- Openness and the availability of public information through Open Data.

**e) On cybersecurity**

- Establishment of national CIRTs and encouraging their participation the global cyber crime initiative - IMPACT;
- ECOWAS member states to transpose community legal instruments on cybersecurity;
- Countries to adopt the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity;
- Transmission of a digital culture to children and parents;
- Elaboration and implementation of outreach programs on cybersecurity;
- Adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach against cybercrime;
- Cooperation of national platforms in cybercrime control ;
- The optimal use of INTERPOL tools and services of in cybercrime control.

**f) On the protection of users online**

- The promotion Internet codes of conduct and the adoption Internet Users' Charters;
- The reinforcement of online confidence needed to build up a digital economy;
- The coordination, at the regional level, of national initiatives on the protection of online users; and
- The development of multi-stakeholder partnerships in online user protection.

Abidjan. July 5, 2013

WAIGF 2013

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