COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CTSD)

Sixteenth Session
Geneva, 3 to 7 June 2013

Submissions from entities in the United Nations system and elsewhere on their efforts in 2012 to implement the outcome of the WSIS

Submission by

The Africa ICT Alliance

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 16th session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

**AfICTA Contribution to the WSIS Report 2013:
Establishment of the Africa ICT Alliance – AfICTA,
under WSIS Action Line C1 and C11**

Executive Summary

The Africa ICT Alliance – AfICTA was formed on May 1, 2012 by African private sector ICT leaders in recognition of WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11 on the role of ... all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development and the need for regional cooperation towards the achievement of the WSIS 2015 targets.

This development aims also at enabling access to information and knowledge (C3), promoting capacity and capability building (C4), building confidence and security in the use of ICTs through the sharing of best practices (C5); and engendering cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content development (C8).
Since its formation, AfICTA has actively participated in the Internet Governance debate in the Internet Governance Forum, Baku, Azerbaijan and in the WCIT-12 ITRs through comments submitted to the ITU on the subject matter - http://www.itu.int/en/wcit-12/Pages/public.aspx. It is also engaged in the International Chamber of Commerce Business Action in Support of the Information Society (ICC BASIS) and is participating actively in the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) constinuencies and programmes.

Introduction

On May 1, 2012, leading ICT private sector executives, ICT trade and professional associations in Egypt, the Gambia, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Tunisia formed the Africa ICT Alliance – AfICTA to provide a voice and a regional development platform for the ICT industry in Africa in line with the WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11. As at today, four other private sector-led ICT associations in Africa have joined AfICTA. They are Rwanda, Somalia, Namibia and Mozambique.

Vision

To fulfil the promise of the digital age for everyone in Africa.

Mission

To encourage multi-stakeholder dialogue and intra-African trade to foster accelerated ICT enabled development in Africa. Our mission is also to use cutting-edge innovative technologies including mobile, computing and satellite technologies to achieve an Information society in Africa.

Goals

AfICTA goals are to
1. Organise non-state ICT actors in Africa for effective local and continental advocacy by the year 2015

2. Create awareness and improve African digital literacy by 50% in collaboration with stakeholders by the year 2020
3. Create partnerships with the African Union and all the regional economic commissions towards the realization of the WSIS 2015 targets
4. Position more than 50% of African ICT professionals and experts in the business community, academic and technical community and civil society to be fully engaged in the global Internet Governance multi-stakeholder dialogues by 2015
5. Be the focal point for Africa ICT advocacy in the global digital economy
6. Promote business partnership between member's associations
7. Contribute to capacity and capability building by promoting best practices, encouraging regional projects, sharing data (skills, expertise, events, business announcements, exhibitions, seminars, etc)

Brief History

The Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA) was formed on May 1, 2012 by ICT industry leaders from Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, the Gambia, Egypt and Tunisia under the leadership of Dr Jimson Olufuye, former Vice-Chairman (Africa) for the World Information Technology & Services Alliance (WITSA), former President of the Information Technology (Industry) Association of Nigeria (ITAN) and CEO of Kontemporary. He is being assisted by Mr Adrian Schofield former President, South Africa Computer Society. ICT Associations in Rwanda, Somalia, Namibia and Mozambique have since joined the Alliance.

Executive Committee (EC)

Members of the EC of AfiCTA include:

Sn	Name	Designation	Country
1	Dr Jimson Olufuye	Chair	Nigeria
2	Mr Adrian Schofield	Vice Chair	South Africa
3	Eng. Tarek Abdel Monem	Treasurer	Egypt
4	Mr Poncelet Ileleji	Member	The Gambia
5	Mr Roger Latchman	Member	South Africa

Contact Information

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