

# **5<sup>th</sup> East Africa Internet Governance Forum - ( EAIGF )**

Jacaranda, Nairobi , Kenya  
17th-19th July 2012

**Report on IGF Burundi**

# Participants from Burundi at 5th EAIGF:

- Jérémie Hageringwe – ARCT
- Tharcisse Habonimana – ARCT
- Jonathan Gahamanyi – Youth
- Francis-Olivier Cubahiro – Youth
- Victor Ciza- National Coordinator

# Report on IGF Burundi

Victor Ciza

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# Report on IGF Burundi

- 1st IGF.BI : 1-2 september 2009
- 2<sup>nd</sup> IGF.BI : 16 august 2011
- 3rd IGF.BI : 12 july 2012

# IGF.BI 2011

- 1) The status of the infrastructure project fiber optic Internet, (CEO/BBS)
- 2) ICT and cyber security (Legal Advisor/ ARCT)
- 3) Progress report on National Policy for ICT Development (PNDTIC) – ICT Secretariat (SETIC)
- 4) ICT and Education: E-Learning – National High Institute of Public Administration - ENA
- 5) Presentation of the new ICT Chamber of Commerce: CSTIC
- 6) The IGF process –ISOC Burundi

# IGF.BI 2012

- Held in Bujumbura, 12 July 2012
- Convenor: ISOC Burundi
- Sponsors: CBINET & ENA
- Venue : ENA Premises
- Participants: 27
- Opening ceremony: Permanent Secretary/  
MTICPR, on behalf of the Minister in charge of  
ICT

# IGF.BI 2012

## Presentations

- IGF Developments update – Jean Paul Nkurunziza, Vice President ISOC.BI
- Optic Fiber Network construction Progress report – David Easum, CEO/BBS
- Cybersecurity issues & IPv6 – Félix Ndayirukiye, General Manager/CNI – NIC.BI
- The Emergence of Information Society in Burundi – Sabin Nikoyagize, Director General/ICT, Ministry TICRP

# IGF.BI 2012

## IGF Developments update

- This presentation aimed at putting the participants at the same level of understanding of the process having lead to the establishment of the IGF
- Those participants who joined the IGF for the first time could particularly learn about the internet phenomenon and origins since the 1970's, the role played by ISOC in the 80's-90's, the creation of ICANN, the WSIS, the birth of IGF with the WSIS – TUNIS in 2005 and the actions of the IGF during the past years since its establishment



# IGF.BI 2012

## IGF Developments update (Cont'd)

- The speaker reminded the audience that IGF term was extended for a new period of 5 YEARS: 2011 – 2015, to fulfill a number of objectives which had not been achieved by the end of the first term.
- The controversial issue of the control and the decision making body/bodies in the Internet matters was noted (e.g. Antagonism ICANN-ITU)

# IGF.BI 2012

## IGF Developments update (Cont'd)

- Recently, the European Parliament voted to reject the international trade agreement – ACTA, perceived as harmful to some fundamental rights in the digital environment – including freedom of speech
- This will certainly continue to be debated for some time as it seems to oppose conflicting interest among the various stakeholders
- The EA IGF stakeholders could share their understanding of what is at stake with ACTA and similar initiatives and express their views on what could be their position(s) in respect of these initiatives

# IGF.BI 2012

## BBS Progress report

- It was noted that the construction of the Fibre Network in Burundi started last April 2012 and that about 150 KM of trenches have been digged and fiber laid down
- The use of the high speed internet could start by the end of this year in Bujumbura, and later in April 2013 in some other major cities.
- BBS is still looking for an additional funding of US\$ 10 millions to cover the total cost of the investment estimated at about US\$ 25 million required for the construction and the operationalisation of the network

# IGF.BI 2012

## BBS Progress report (Cont'd)

- A concern of unfair competition, pricing, and potential conflict of interest was raised by the audience due to the current shareholding structure involving only few telecom operators
- Another area of concern was the capacity of the population of Burundi to efficiently make use of the investment made available to them given the level of education and purchasing power, as compared for instance, to the other member countries of EAC.

# IGF.BI 2012

## BBS Progress report (Cont'd)

- A 3rd area of concern was about the level of price per MB being charged to the end user located in Burundi as compared to the users of the other EAC countries, particularly those closer to the sea (i.e. Kenya and Tanzania). It was felt that the issue should be addressed at the highest political levels of our countries to find ways and means of treating equally the citizens/consumers of the EAC superhighway and applying the same price levels irrespective of the locations within the EAC boundaries

# IGF.BI 2012

## Cybersecurity & IPv6

- So far, cybersecurity had been addressed from the viewpoint of the legal and regulatory framework
- The 3rd IGF considered the practical and technical measures to be taken in order to ensure that cyberthreats and their effects could be avoided, mitigated or efficiently tackled
- This presentation focusing on the technicalities was found very helpful given that it was the first time the matter was addressed for many of the participants. It should be expanded in the next national IGFs to come.
- IPv6 subject was mentioned but will be also addressed more extensively in a specific workshop to be scheduled by end of this year

# IGF.BI 2012

## The Emergence of Information Society in Burundi

- It was noted as an unfortunate fact that Burundi at this stage is far behind the other EAC member states in terms of ICT development/ deployment and involvement in the new era of the Information Society
- However, the GoB has set up its National Policy of ICT Development (PNDTIC- French Acronym) 2010-2025 which should allow the country to catch up progressively and engage firmly in the information society opportunities leading to a sustainable and comprehensive development of its economy and society.
- Great efforts will have to be deployed consistently in all sectors and by all the stakeholders: government, private sector and civil society to bridge the gap in a reasonable period of time for the country to be viable in the EAC neighborhood.

# IGF.BI 2012

- Although the 3rd National IGF was attended by fewer participants than expected, the meeting was quite fruitful because of:
  - The quality of participants
  - The interest of the subjects addressed
  - The active participation of the attendees
- The level of female participation was too low and a special effort will be made to raise awareness for the urgent need of the women to be involved in the ICT sector and the information society issues for a wider opening and sustainable development of their businesses, and better contributing to the fight against poverty, disease and ignorance of our people.



# IGF.BI 2012

- The participants recommended to hold another national IGF meeting by the end of 2012 to raise awareness of the population in terms of ICT and the information society challenges and opportunities
- There was also and particularly a recommendation to raise awareness in the direction of youth with regard to the huge potential of employment offered to them in the ICT sector and the information society businesses

# IGF.BI 2012

- IGF.BI, in agreement with the Ministry in charge of ICT, offers to host EA-IGF 2013 in Bujumbura, Burundi

# IGF.BI 2012

- THANK YOU FOR YOU ATTENTION