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THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

REPORT OF THE 2014 AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ATU) CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES HELD IN ZIMBABWE FROM 8TH- 12TH JULY 2014

Clerk's Chambers
Parliament Building
Nairobi

March 2015

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Energy, Communication and Information Report of 2014 African Telecommunication Union (ATU) Conference of Plenipotentiaries Held In Harare-Zimbabwe from 8th -12th July 2014

1.0 PREFACE

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of the Members of the Departmental Committee on Energy, Communication and Information, and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 216, it is my pleasure to present to the House the Committee's Report of the 2014 African Telecommunication Union (ATU) conference of Plenipotentiaries held in Harare Zimbabwe from 8th -12th July 2014.

The Departmental Committee on Energy, information & Communication is one of the twelve Departmental committees of the National Assembly established under *Standing Order 216* whose mandates are as follows pursuant to the *Standing Order 216 (5)* which outline functions of the Committee as being:

a) To investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments;

b) To study the programme and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness of their implementation;

c) To study and review all the legislation referred to it;

d) To study, access and analyze the relative success of the ministries and departments measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objective;

e) To investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned ministries and departments as may be deemed necessary, and as may be referred to it by the House or a Cabinet Secretary;

f) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order No.204 (Committee on appointments); and

g) To make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation.

In accordance with Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, the Committee is mandated to consider:-

a) Fossil fuels exploration
b) Development of energy
c) Production of energy

d) Maintenance and regulation of energy
e) Communication
f) Information
g) Broadcasting
h) Information Communications Technology (ICT) development and management

2.0 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee on Energy, Communication and Information was constituted by the House in May, 2013 comprising of the following Members:

1. The Hon. Jamleck Kamau, EGH, MP.............................Chairperson
2. The Hon. Jackson Kiptanui, MP ....Vice –Chairperson
3. The Hon. Mohammed Elmi, EGH, MP
4. The Hon. James Rege, MP
5. The Hon. (Eng) Nicolas Gumbo, MP
6. The Hon. Mithika Linturi, MP
7. The Hon. Aramat Lemanken, MP
8. The Hon. Athur Papa, MP
9. The Hon. Banticha Abdullahi, MP
10. The Hon. Daniel Kazungu, MP
11. The Hon. Esther Gathogo, MP
12. The Hon. Fathia Mahbub, MP
13. The Hon. James Lomenen, MP
14. The Hon. Aburi Mpuri, MP
15. The Hon. Joe Mutambu, MP
16. The Hon. Junet Sheikh, MP
17. The Hon. Kanini Kega, MP
18. The Hon. Mary N. Mbugua, HSC, MP
19. The Hon. Mati Munuve, MP
20. The Hon. Zebedeo Opore, MP
21. The Hon. Nicholas Ngikor, MP
22. The Hon. Onesmus Njuki, MP
23. The Hon. Rachael Amolo, MP

24. The Hon. Roba Duba, MP
25. The Hon. Ndungu Gethenji, MP
26. The Hon. Vincent Musau, MP
27. The Hon. William Kisang, MP
28. The Hon. Richard Tongi, MP
29. The Hon. Moses Kuria, MP

3.0 INVITATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE

The Energy, Communication and Information Committee were invited through Communication Authority of Kenya and the Ministry of Information Communication and Technology to attend the ATU conference on Telecommunication.

3.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The Conference objectives were as follows:

i. To develop and expand Telecommunications and Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) throughout the African continent

ii. To consolidate the advancement and realization of the social and economic development of the people of Africa through ICT and telecommunication

iii. Knowledge sharing in Information, Communication and Technology

iv. Sharing experiences in Communication and Technology

3.2 THE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The Committee nominated the following to attend the conference its behalf.

1) Hon. Mati Munuve, MP –Leader of Delegation

2) Hon. Kanini Kega, MP

The delegation was accompanied by **Mr. Amos K. Sikweya** as the Secretary of the Delegation.

4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 OBSERVATIONS

a. The Committee observed that the African states have embraced ICT sector development and have appreciated it as a major booster for employment creation and service delivery in the public sector.

b. The Committee further observed that there is a major ICT gap in legislative, policy and regulation in the African continent, which can promote the African business environment.

c. The Committee observed that most African states had candidate for the upcoming International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to be held on the 20th October - 7th November 2015 in Busan-Korea.

4.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

a) The Committee recommends that the government should invest in developing the ICT sector growth with friendly policies, regulations and legislations to promote global competiveness.

b) Governments should promote public service delivery by embracing ICT with respect to E-governance.

c) The Committee further recommends a moral support, to the African candidates with a view to winning the forth coming international telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulatory Board elections this will assert the African voices and representation in the ITU.
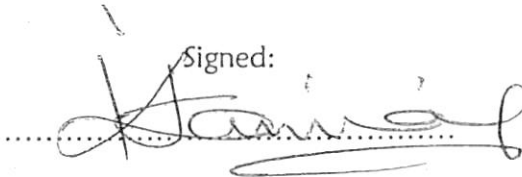
5.0 ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The delegation is grateful to the Honourable Speaker and the Liaison Committee for authorizing the visit, as well as the office of the Clerk for providing the necessary logistical and technical support. The delegation also wishes to express its appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the staff of the Kenya Embassy in Zimbabwe for all the support given before and during the visit.

The Committee also acknowledges the Communication Authority of Kenya and the Ministry of Information Communication and Technology for working in close partnership with the committee to enhance knowledge and the digital agenda of the country.
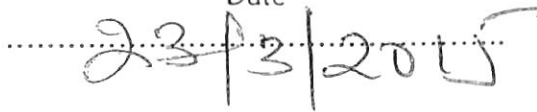
HON. SPEAKER,

It is my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Committee to table this report pursuant to provisions of the National Assembly Standing Order 199.

Signed:

THE HON. JAMLECK KAMAU, EGH, MP
Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Energy,   Communication and Information

Date
23/3/2015

6.0 ABOUT THE AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ATU)

The 2014 African Telecommunications Union (ATU) Conference of Plenipotentiaries (CPL-14) and related meetings was hosted by Zimbabwe at Rainbow Towers Hotel in Harare from 3 to 10 July 2014. Howerver the Members of the parliamentary Committee attended sessions from the 8th -12th July 2014.

The Conference was officially opened by the Hon. Vice President Joyce Mujuru on the 10th of July 2014. The Hon. Vice President called on African countries to remain united and develop the much needed capacity to effectively harness the potential of ICTs in improving the social and economic transformation of African people.

She also encouraged the African region to field one candidate during the elections for ITU's Deputy Secretary General position at the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) in Busan, South Korea so as to avoid diluting the region's vote.

6.1 ATTENDANCE

The Conference was attended by 33 out of the 44 member states of the African Telecommunications Union. Eleven (11) Ministers and Deputy Ministers from Burkina Faso, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Chad, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya and Niger attended the Conference. Ten non-African countries such as China, Japan, Kyrgyz, Korea, Poland, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and USA also attended as observers.

The Kenyan delegation comprised of the following:

Name	Position	Organisation
Dr. Fred Matiang'i	Cabinet Secretary	MOICT
Mr. Francis Wangusi	Director General	Communications Authority of Kenya
Dr. Jane Munga	Research and Policy Advisor	MOICT
Mr. Rodney Omari	PA to Cabinet Secretary	MOICT
Mr. Wilbert Choge	Board Director	Communications Authority of Kenya

Ms. Grace Munjuri	Board Director	Communications Authority of Kenya
Hon. John Munuve Mati	MP-Energy, Communication and Information Committee	National Assembly
Hon. Kanini Kega	MP-Energy, Communication and Information Committee	National Assembly
Mr. Amos K. Sikweya	Clerk Assistant -Parliament	National Assembly
Mr. John Omo	Director/Legal Services	Communications Authority of Kenya
Mr. Stanley Kibe	Director/Frequency Spectrum Management	Communications Authority of Kenya
Mr. Samuel Kipng'etich Rotich	Asst. Director/Human Resource Management	Communications Authority of Kenya
Mr. Jacob Chepchieng	Asst. Director/Expenditure and Treasury Management	Communications Authority of Kenya
Ms. Rachel Alwala	Asst. Director/Communication & External Affairs	Communications Authority of Kenya
Ms. Stellar Wawira	Legal Officer	Communications Authority of Kenya
Mr. Daniel Obam	Communications Radio Technology Expert	National Communications Secretariat

At the peak of the Conference, over 400 delegates mainly from the African continent and some from other continents graced the occasion. United Nations (UN) specialized agencies, such as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU); AU agencies such as PAPU, ITU Regional Office for Africa; Regional Groups such as CITEL, CEPT, RCC and Arab Group; Regional Economic Communities (RECs) such as SADC and COMESA; the academia such as AFRALTI and ESATIC, public and private telecommunications enterprises, and the media also attended the Conference.

7.0 THE CONFRENCE SESSIONS

The Conference was divided into four (4) meetings namely:

> 7.1 The Special / Extraordinary Session of the Administrative Council of ATU, held from 3 to 4 July 2014, which discussed the report of the Administrative Council to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on activities of the Union from 2010 to 2014, adopted the audited accounts of the Union for the period 2010 to 2013, adopted the

Strategic Plan and Budget of the Union for the period 2015 to 2018, considered amendments to the ATU Constitution and Convention of 1999, approved the Scale of Contributions for Member States and Associate Members for the period 2015 to 2018, discussed the location of the Seat of the Union, and approved 15 African Common Proposals to the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (ITU PP-14).

7.2 The 2nd African Preparatory Meeting (APM) for the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14), held from 7 to 8 July 2014, saw African resolving to speak with one voice at the forthcoming ITU Plenipotentiary Conference on electing the ITU Executive who include the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Directors of Bureaux and Council Member States. Zimbabwe supports the only candidate for the Secretary General position, Mr. Houlin Zhao. For the position of Deputy Secretary General, Africa had five (5) candidates. However, during the Conference, some withdrew and Africa was left with Nigeria and Mauritania. Sixteen (16) African countries are vying for the thirteen (13) positions reserved for Africa in the ITU Council. From Southern Africa and only South Africa is vying for an ITU Council position.

7.3 The Meeting of the Conference Preparatory Committee for CPL-14 held on 9 July 2014 that prepared the Annotated Agenda for the Conference of Plenipotentiaries that was going to be held the next day.

7.4 The 4th Ordinary Session of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) Conference of Plenipotentiaries (CPL-14) was finally held on 10 July 2014 to discuss the way forward for the African Telecommunication Agenda and a the following resolution was arrived at; that :

8.0 RESOLUTION

On common desire to develop and expand Telecommunications and Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) throughout the African continent in order to consolidate the advancement and realization of the social and economic development of the people of Africa in what became known as the Harare Declaration, which is as follows:

8.1 THE HARARE DECLARATION

The Harare Declaration of the 4th Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the African Telecommunications Union:

"We the Plenipotentiaries of the African Telecommunications Union (the Union) convening in Harare, the Republic of Zimbabwe, on 10 July, 2014:

1. **Declare** our common desire to develop and expand telecommunications / information and telecommunications technologies (ICTs) throughout the African continent in order to consolidate the advancement and realization of the social and economic development of the people of Africa;

2. **Commit** to the Constitution and Convention of the Union and its objectives;

3. **Affirm** that Telecommunications / Information and Communication Technologies are key to Africa's development and economic competitiveness in the attainment of the African developmental goals and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

4. **Acknowledge** that ICTs have the potential to impact positively and sustain development at both national and continental levels. Additionally, it reduces the social and economic differences and the widening gap between the "haves" and "have-nots" at the level of individuals, countries, regions and as well as gender;

5. **Emphasize** the significance of the spread of ICTs in order to benefit humanity, achieve transition in the human activity and enhance social interaction among people in their daily lives, thus contributing to increased confidence in the future;

6. Stress on the role of the Union, in the development of ICTs on the continent, and its role in guaranteeing Africa's singular voice at international forums in matters relating to ICTs;

7. Reiterate the significance of Union's role in the development of the ICT infrastructure on the continent, including the many activities in networks and services;

8. Call for the close relationship between the Union and the African Union, the significance of their full cooperation, mutual support, and their integration in the field of ICTs as well as the regional and International organizations and other specialized institutions in this field;

9. Pledge to support the Union Strategic Plan as well as those of Member States on the African continent;

10. Commit ourselves to maintain assessment and follow up on the progress in bridging the digital gap, taking into account, the steps already initiated towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals including evaluation of the impact of investment in ICTs, and the international cooperation endeavours in building the information society;

11. Further commit ourselves to provide all support and encouragement and the possible assistance to the Union, and to meet all our obligations, vis-à-vis timely payment of contributions, to enable it to effectively and fully realize its aims, goals and objectives;

12. Seek tirelessly to enhance the full access to ICTs, at low cost irrespective of place, to guarantee the equitable distribution of ICT services for the benefit of communities, and to bridge the digital divide while creating digital opportunities for all; and

13. Dedicate ourselves to mobilize human and material resources to increase the use of ICTs for the purpose of development in order to achieve the agreed plans to build the information society on the African continent".

8.2 THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF A COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE OF MUROMBEDZI (RURAL –ZIMBABWE)

1. African Telecommunications Union (ATU) delegates had an opportunity to witness the launch of the Murombedzi Community Information Centre (CIC) by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, President R.G. Mugabe, in Zvimba Communal area on Friday the 11th of July 2014.

2. The event was attended by over 7000 people, including Senior Government officials in the Government of Zimbabwe, and local leadership, including the Kenya Delegation which was led by the Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication and Technology Dr. Fred Matiangi the Hon. Mati Munuve, MP and Hon. Kanini Kega, MP who are also National Assembly Member of the Energy, Communication and Information Committee and Communication Authority of Kenya.

3. The Murombedzi CIC has generated a lot of interest with local people getting access to internet, printing, photocopying, scanning, binding, gaming, laminating and training facilities at one central location. To date one thousand (1000) people from the local community have been trained at this Centre.

4. In his address, His Excellency, President R.G. Mugabe expressed his Government's commitment to giving every community a connection to the digital world by setting-up at least one Community Information Centre (CIC) in each district of Zimbabwe. He however strongly advised nations including Zimbabwe, to guard against Cyber threats and Cybercrime content that collectively seeks to destabilize our culture and wellbeing. Our people particularly children and the youths should be protected from accessing harmful sites.

5. His Excellency, President R.G. Mugabe also invited other private sector players, international players and cooperating partners, in the spirit of

public-Private Partnership, to come and contribute towards the development of African countries.

9.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS
9.1 OBSERVATIONS

a. The Committee observed that the African states have embraced ICT sector development and have appreciated it as a major booster for employment creation and service delivery in the public sector.

b. The Committee further observed that there is a major ICT gap in legislative, policy and regulation in the African continent, which can promote the African unity.

c. The Committee observed that most African states had a candidate for the upcoming International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulatory Board elections to be held in Busan, Korea between 20th of October and 7th of November, 2014.

9.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

a. The Committee recommends that the government should invest in developing the ICT sector growth with friendly policies, regulations and legislations to promote global competiveness.

b. Governments should promote public service delivery by embracing ICT with respect to E-governance.

c. The Committee further recommends a moral support, to the African candidates with a view to winning the forth coming ITU elections this will assert the African voices and representation in the ITU.