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26/6/19

REPUBLIC OF KENYA




THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION

THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION
AND INNOVATION

REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION AT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE
INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS) FORUM, 2019

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| THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID | |
| DATE: 26 JUN 2019 | DAY: Wed. |
| BY: Hon. William Kisang Chairperson | |
| CLERK-AT THE-TABLE: M. Mwangi | |

DIRECTORATE OF COMMITTEE SERVICES
CLERK'S CHAMBERS,
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
NAIROBI

JUNE, 2019

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA LIBRARY

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA LIBRARY

1.2 Committee Membership

3. The Committee comprises of the following Members –

| No. | NAME | CONSTITUENCY/ County | POLITICAL PARTY |
|-----|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | The Hon. Kisang William Kipkemoi, M.P – Chairperson | Marakwet West | Jubilee |
| 2. | The Hon. George Macharia Kariuki, M.P - Vice Chairperson | Ndia | Jubilee |
| 3. | The Hon. Liza, Chelule Chepkorir, M.P. | Nakuru | Jubilee |
| 4. | The Hon. Alfah, O. Miruka, M.P. | Bomachoge Chache | Kenya National Congress |
| 5. | The Hon. Annie Wanjiku Kibeh, M.P. | Gatundu North | Jubilee |
| 6. | The Hon. Joshua Kimilu, Kivinda, M.P. | Kaiti | Wiper Democratic |
| 7. | The Hon. Marwa Kitayama Maisori, M.P. | Kuria East | Jubilee |
| 8. | The Hon. Mwambu Mabongah, M.P. | Bumula | Independent |
| 9. | The Hon. Maritim Sylvanus, M.P. | Ainamoi | Jubilee |
| 10. | The Hon. Mwangaza Kawira, M.P. | Meru County | Independent |
| 11. | The Hon. Jonah Mburu, M.P. | Lari | Jubilee |
| 12. | The Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanyanje, M.P. | Kilifi County | Orange Democratic Party |
| 13. | The Hon. Wamuchomba, Gathoni, M.P. | Kiambu County | Jubilee |
| 14. | The Hon. (Eng.) Mark Nyamita Ogola, M.P | Uriri | Orange Democratic |
| 15. | The Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P. | Dagoretti South | Jubilee |
| 16. | The Hon. Erastus Nzioka Kivasu, M.P. | Mbooni | New Democrats |
| 17. | The Hon. Innocent Momanyi Obiri, M.P. | Bobasi | People's Democratic Party |
| 18. | The Hon. Godfrey Osotsi Atieno, M.P. | Nominated | African National Congress |
| 19. | The Hon. Anthony, Tom Oluoch, M.P. | Mathare | Orange Democratic |

1.3 Committee Secretariat

The Committee is facilitated by a secretariat comprising of –

- (i) Mr. Nicholas Emejen Deputy Director Committee Services
- (ii) Ms. Ella Kendi Clerk Assistant III
- (iii) Mr. Ronald Walala Legal Counsel II
- (iv) Ms. Lorna Okatch Research Officer III
- (v) Mr. Abdirahaman Gorod Fiscal Analyst II

1.0 PREFACE

1.1 Mandate of the Committee

1. The Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation is one of the fifteen Departmental Committees of the House established pursuant to Article 124 of the Constitution of Kenya and Standing Order 216 of the National Assembly and mandated to:
 - (a) 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) Study the programme and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
 - (c) study and review all legislation referred to it;
 - (d) study, assess and analyse the relative success of the ministries and departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
 - (e) investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned ministries and departments as they may deem necessary and as may be referred to them by the House;
 - (f) vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204 (*Committee on Appointments*); and
 - (g) Make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.
 - (h) consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the House pursuant to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution; and
 - (i) Examine any questions raised by Members on a matter within its mandate.
2. In accordance with the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, the Committee is mandated to oversee – Communication, Information, media and broadcasting (except for broadcast of parliamentary proceedings), Information Communications Technology (ICT) development and advancement of technology and modernization of production strategies.

ICT technologies and policies that have brought about social change and more importantly economic empowerment.

WSIS Forum 2019 was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mustafa Jabbar, Minister, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Bangladesh. The forum was co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, in close collaboration with all UN agencies.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the delegation for bestowing upon us the important task of representing Kenya in meetings crucial to the advancement of the country's development goals through leveraging on ICT.

It is therefore my pleasure to submit this report of the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation on the proceedings of the meetings of the WSIS 2019 Forum held in Geneva, Switzerland pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 199.

HON. WILLIAM KISANG, M. P. - CHAIRPERSON

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

The **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum** is a global United Nations (UN) multi-stakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Forum provides an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, while identifying emerging trends and fostering partnerships, taking into account the evolving Information and Knowledge Societies.

This report contains proceedings of WSIS 2019 Forum meetings that a delegation of the National Assembly comprising of members of the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation attended.

WSIS represents the world's largest annual gathering of the 'ICT for development' community. It provides an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, while identifying emerging trends and fostering partnerships, taking into account the evolving Information and Knowledge Societies. In follow up to the outcomes of the UN General Assembly Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes (Res. A/70/125) and with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Res. A/70/1), the WSIS Forum is constantly evolving and strengthening the alignment between the WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2019, WSIS celebrated the 10th anniversary of the establishment of WSIS Forum from April 8 to 12, under the theme "Information and Communication Technologies for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals". WSIS Forum provides a platform for a "just and equal information society" for all WSIS Stakeholders as set by the Geneva Plan of Action.

The WSIS 2019 Forum discussed the role of ICTs as a means of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, with due regard to the global mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UNGA Resolution A/70/1).

The WSIS Forum, each year encourages the participation of all stakeholders, governments, private sector, civil society, technical community and the academia to showcase innovative

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1.4 The Delegation to the WSIS, 2019 Forum

4. The Kenyan delegation comprised the Hon. Liza Chelule, MP & Leader of the Delegation, Hon. Mwambu Mabongah, M.P, and the Hon. Innocent Momanyi, MP. The Members were accompanied by Mr. Nicholas Emejen, Deputy Director, Committee Services.
5. As a result of its observations during the meetings attended, the delegation recommends that the National Assembly uses its oversight and legislative mandate to support the use of ICT in the provision of government services, taking into account the need to leverage on ICT for the future growth and development of the country.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The WSIS

6. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) is a United Nations-sponsored summit on information, communication. The first Summit took place in 2003 in Geneva and followed by the 2005 Summit in Tunis. The WSIS aims at bridging the global digital divide separating rich countries from poor countries by spreading access to the Internet in the developing world. The Summit established 17th May each year as World Information Society Day.
7. In 2001, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly approved Resolution 56/183 endorsing the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). The Summit was to discuss issues relating to information society opportunities and challenges. In the resolution, the General Assembly related the Summit to the United Nations Millennium Declaration to implement ICT through a multi-stakeholder approach to facilitate achievement of Millennium Development Goals.
8. The UN General Assembly resolution further gave International Telecommunication Union (ITU) the role of organizing the event in collaboration with other UN bodies as well as other international organizations and the host country. The resolution also recommended that preparations for the Summit be undertaken in an open intergovernmental Preparatory Committee – or PrepCom – that would define the agenda of the Summit, decide on the modalities of the participation of other stakeholders, and finalize both the draft Declaration of Principles and the draft Plan of Action.

2.2 The Geneva Summit, 2003

9. In 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland, delegates from 175 countries took part in the first phase of WSIS where they adopted a Declaration of Principles aimed at achieving an information society accessible to all and based on shared knowledge with the goal of bringing 50 percent of the world's population online by 2015. The Geneva meeting developed the WSIS Action Lines.

2.3 The Tunis Summit, 2005

10. The second phase of WSIS took place in 2005, in Tunis, Tunisia leading to an agreement on the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and the creation of the Internet Governance Forum.
11. The 2019 WSIS Forum was co-organized by international telecommunications Union (ITU), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Other collaborating institutions include United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO), UN Women, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Food Programme (WFP), International Labour Organization (ILO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), International Trade Centre (ITC), Universal Postal Union (UPU), United Nations Office and Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UN Regional Commissions.

3.0 THE OPENING CEREMONY

12. The WSIS 2019 Forum was held in Geneva, Switzerland on April 8 to 12, 2019. The opening ceremony began with opening statements from the host, co-organizers, partners and representatives of stakeholders WSIS.
13. During the opening Ceremony priorities of the WSIS Forum 2019 were set, bringing forth a range of subjects within the Global Information and Knowledge Societies with emphasis on the importance of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The WSIS Forum 2019 was therefore building on the outcomes of the UN General Assembly Overall Review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes (UNGA Resolution 70/125), which recognized the need of holding WSIS Forum on an annual basis and which called for a close alignment between WSIS and the SDG processes.
14. The WSIS Forum 2019 served as a platform for discussing the role of ICTs as an enabler and accelerators of the implementation of the SDGs and targets, with attention to the

international mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

15. The Opening Ceremony concluded with the handing out of the WSIS Prizes 2019 which were presented by Mr Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU. Eighteen WSIS Project Prizes were awarded. The awards were in recognition of successful initiatives by governments, private sector actors, civil society and partnerships between all stakeholders on implementation of WSIS outcomes. The winners were awarded for their tremendous efforts and achievements.

4.0 THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUES (HLD) AND FORUM

16. The delegation attended a number of High-Level Dialogues (HDL). The dialogues provide a unique combination of expert panellists and audience interaction on specific crucial topics within the mandate of the WSIS Forum.

4.1 An end to electronic waste: Building the e-waste coalition

17. The meeting was informed that e-waste is a growing multi-disciplinary issue with very little data available for a full comprehension of the problem posed by e-waste disposal. In addition, there is still a lack of interest and understanding of e-waste notwithstanding the fact that municipalities have for many years' landfilled e-waste. Municipalities and other interested groups, armed with knowledge on re-use, are turning to e-waste landfilled sites to mine for the valuable components. Participants noted that there is still a lack of knowledge from a public health perspective on the e-waste discussion. Participants further noted that there are enormous opportunities to scale up best practices, and create jobs and business along the supply chain and that e-waste should not be seen only as a menace but as a job creator and value grower.
18. The meeting noted that there is a greater understanding and recognition of the work and objectives of the E-waste Coalition, including recommendations for specific work streams. Further the participants agreed on the need for a continued discussion among governments, the UN, the private sector and other stakeholders on their role including partnerships in addressing the global e-waste challenge.

4.2 The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

19. The dialogue took stock of ongoing discussions and existing initiatives and studies on the ethical dimensions of Artificial Intelligence. The participants discussed possible recommendations so that Artificial Intelligence can contribute towards fundamental values that leave no one behind.
20. The meeting identified the following as Key areas for the development of an ethical AI-
 - (i) identifying challenges and risks associated with AI;
 - (ii) ensuring inclusiveness;
 - (iii) ensuring dialogue between government and other actors for the development of public policies;
 - (iv) Investment in research and development; and
 - (v) investment in training and AI literacy skills.
21. The forum identified the role of the media as a key stakeholder of the development of an ethical AI in order to ensure that counter-narratives concerning AI, its development, and use are put forward, as it concerns AI innovations from the global south, and the contribution of women and developing countries to AI's development.

4.3 ICT Accessibility: Inclusive communication for all

22. The meeting deliberated on accessibility of ICT by all and in particular persons with disabilities.
23. The meeting noted that accessibility of ICT by persons with disabilities is an intrinsic right (independent from the benefits their inclusion brings to society) and there is need to remove the barriers that hinder persons with disabilities from participating in digital societies and develop a coherent and complementary accessibility ecosystem (policies, legal framework, and regulations), accompanied with practical solutions in the form of standards, training and partnerships.
24. Further the meeting noted that ICT accessibility implementation requires the efforts of multiple stakeholders in society including government, the private sector, academia, civil society, and the media.
25. The representative of the European Commission stated that Spain is one of the countries with best practices in implementing legislation, regulatory measures and standards in ICT accessibility and development of accessible products and services. Spain's national

center for technology (in place for over 30 years), successfully provides public services to persons with disabilities and older persons, including advice, needs assessment, as well as assistive and accessible technologies to contribute to the independent life of persons with disabilities and older persons.

26. Speakers during the meeting emphasised the importance of standards in ICT accessibility and their implementation. They noted the need to have international standards in ICT accessibility to ensure that globally websites are accessible for all persons, including for persons with disabilities. In order to bring about global ICT accessibility, the meeting highlighted the need to build awareness, normalize disability, and make it part of everyday conversation. The meeting further observed that for ICT accessibility implementation to be successful, persons with disabilities need to be involved in all aspects and stages while recognizing the diversity within ‘persons with disabilities’ as a group.
27. Finally, the meeting noted that achieving ICT accessibility requires the engagement of all stakeholders including persons with disability, a clear accessibility ecosystem, and awareness raising.

4.4 What would it take to trust AI?

28. The issue of trust in AI is revolves around ensuring that AI technologies help address humanity’s most critical social, economic and environmental concerns. The panellists discussed the role that their organizations/sectors can play in developing systems, policies and safeguards that help build trust in AI.
29. The panellists discussed the core policy imperatives that are central to building safeguards to ensure trust in AI. The role of AI in contributing to international peace and security as well as its potential to transform the cyber security landscape was deliberated upon. The meeting also discussed on the Digital inclusion, child protection, and issues relating to ethics, transparency, accountability and data.
30. The meeting further discussed issues related to protecting rights, ensuring security, privacy, transparency and accountability, legislation and regulation, emphasizing education and skills development, increasing community awareness, building infrastructure and connectivity, and international multi-stakeholder collaboration to help AI deliver on the 2030 agenda.
31. The participants noted that AI technologies hold a deep promise to drive progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They further noted that AI technologies

are expected to play an important role in fast-tracking progress towards attainment of SDGs. While appreciating the potential of AI's in helping address many of humanity's most critical social, economic and environmental issues, the panellist observed that the issue of trust is central to ensuring that AI's deliver in advancing the 2030 Agenda.

5.0 INTER-ACTIVE FACILITATION MEETINGS

5.1 The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICT for development

32. The meeting discussed the need for governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society, the academia and other relevant stakeholders to be aware of the tremendous impact of new technologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Participants urged public policy makers to prepare public institutions to take advantage of the ongoing transformation by building capacities needed for institutions and officials to harness the rapid technological changes for public service delivery.

5.2 Collaborative regulation for digital transformation

33. The meeting was informed that collaborative regulation, telecommunication/ICT regulation, should focus on competition and consumer protection, integration of economic development, equitable prices for consumers, and access for all. The meeting called upon Governments to ensure that they have the tools by which they can have a constructive and collaborative dialogue among all regulators from all sectors.

34. The meeting reiterated the importance of regulations as key instruments to enable markets and countries to build the digital economy. The meeting noted that the biggest issue in Africa and a majority of developing countries is broadband deployment. Countries need to address fiscal issues and incentives in order to facilitate manufacturing and broadband deployment to aid in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

35. Participants noted that in order to develop quality regulations, governments should be transparent in the process, consult and collaborate with multiple stakeholders including consumers so that they can commit to a common vision and goal. Regional collaboration on ICTs to break across silos and instead build bridges with other countries and regions to bring investment and development is critical for trade and investment and infrastructure development.

5.3 New teaching approaches for higher learning in the digital era.

36. The Session focused on how to capacity build by using ICTs to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030.
37. The meeting noted that the main purpose of teaching is to inspire students to develop critical thinking and research skills. They further noted that while traditional method of teaching can be efficient, it limits the instructor as to what students can learn. Teachers therefore need continuous training on new technologies both in ICT and non-ICT areas.
38. The meeting observed that the traditional higher education is under increasing competition from other forms of learning and knowledge production and therefore there is need to modernize pre-university education system by adapting curricula to new ICT tools and interactive technologies so as to prepare students for university education system.

5.4 The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICT for development

39. The meeting noted the need for governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society, the technical and academic communities and other relevant stakeholders to be conscious of the impact of new technologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
40. The participants acknowledged Data as the CORE asset of digital transformation. The collection of data is critical in the achievement of development however there is need to collect the right data and not all data. The meeting noted the growing concern over security of data and the need for Multi-dimensional regulations to protect data security and privacy issues, especially those triggered by emerging technologies.

5.5 Culture for a sustainable digital environment

41. The meeting noted that the use of ICTs when linked with cultural heritage and the diversity of cultural expressions advances social cohesion and employment through cultural and creative industries and preservation and transmission of cultural heritage.
42. The meeting observed that cultural and creative industries are increasingly using ICT leading to increased digitization of cultural content and heritage thus helping protect culture, making it more widely accessible, and preserving it for future generations. The increasing use of ICT has allowed marginalized groups to be engaged, share traditional knowledge to foster social cohesion.

6.0 CLOSING CEREMONY

43. The WSIS Forum 2019 came to a close on Friday, 12th April, 2019. The closing remarks were made by the ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao and the WSIS 2019 Forum Chairman, Mustafa Jabbar.
44. The participants expressed appreciation of the WSIS Process and gratitude for strengthening relations between various WSIS Stakeholders that offered a unique chance for information exchange and sharing different practices.
45. The ITU Secretary-General thanked all participants of the WSIS 2019 Forum and welcomed them to the WSIS Forum 2020.

7.0 OBSERVATIONS

The delegation having participated in various Sessions of the WSIS 2019 Forum, observed THAT -

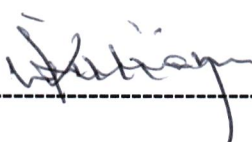
- 1) The use of ICTs when linked with cultural heritage and the diversity of cultural expressions can be used to advance social cohesion and employment through cultural and creative industries and preservation and transmission of cultural heritage.
- 2) Data is the new age critical asset in digital transformation. There is however need to secure data through Multi-dimensional regulations to protect data security and privacy issues, associated to emerging technologies.
- 3) Trust in AI revolves around ensuring that AI technologies help address humanity's most critical social, economic and environmental concerns. There is need to develop systems, policies and safeguards that help build trust in AI.
- 4) ICT accessibility is still a serious challenge and its implementation requires the effort of all stakeholders including government, the private sector, academia, civil society, and the media.
- 5) E-waste is a growing multi-disciplinary issue across the world and that there is need to tap into e-waste to create jobs and value addition. There is need for the UN, the private sector and other stakeholders to engage in addressing the global e-waste challenge.

8.0 WAY FORWARD

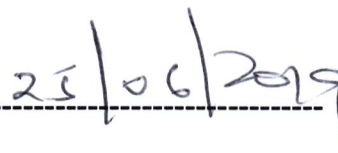
The Committee having considered the observations of the delegation which participated in various Sessions of the WSIS 2019 Forum, recommends THAT -

- 1) The Government through the Ministry of ICT and Ministry of Education to invest in building capacities needed for institutions and officials to harness the rapid technological changes for efficient public service delivery.
- 2) The Ministry in charge of ICT to formulate policies, regulations and legislation on data protection through a transparent process of consultation and collaboration with multiple stakeholders.
- 3) The Government should fast-track implementation of its Digital Literacy Programme (DLP) and allocate more resources to enhance access to ICT in education and all education institutions. The Ministry responsible for education should develop and adapt curricula to new ICT tools and interactive technologies so as to prepare students for emerging technologies.
- 4) Understanding the growing challenge of e-waste in the world, the Ministry responsible for Environmental Matters should develop a policy on e-waste management including tapping into e-waste to create jobs and value addition.

SIGNED: _____



DATE: _____



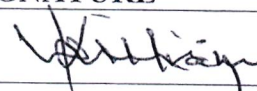
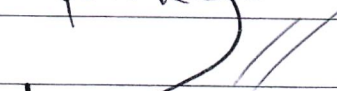
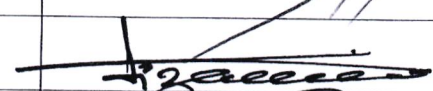
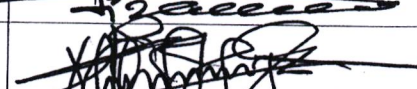





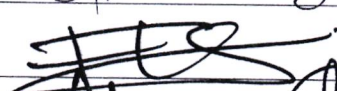
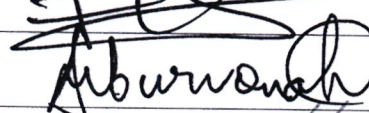
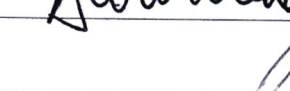
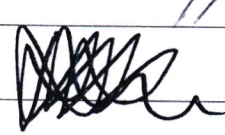
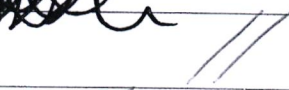

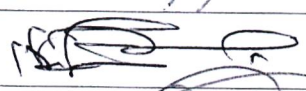

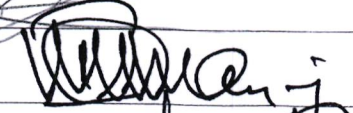
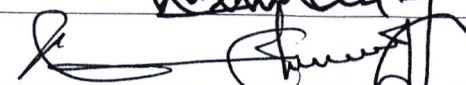
HON. WILLIAM KISANG, MP – CHAIRPERSON

**THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION INFORMATION
AND INNOVATION**

THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION AND INNOVATION

MEMBERS ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 25/06/2019 TIME: From 10:40am To: 1:10pm VENUE: 11th Floor, Postech
 AGENDA: Adoptio- of two reports on foreign travel (USA, Geneva).

| NO. | NAME | SIGNATURE |
|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Hon. Kisang, William Kipkemoi, M.P - Chairperson |  |
| 2. | Hon. George, Macharia Kariuki, M.P - Vice – Chairperson |  |
| 3. | Hon. Liza, Chelule Chepkorir, M.P. |  |
| 4. | Hon. Alfah, O. Miruka, M.P. |  |
| 5. | Hon. Annie Wanjiku Kibeh, M.P. |  |
| 6. | Hon. Joshua Kimilu, Kivinda, M.P. |  |
| 7. | Hon. Marwa Kitayama Maisori, M.P. |  |
| 8. | Hon. Mwambu Mabongah, M.P. |  |
| 9. | Hon. Maritim Sylvanus, M.P. |  |
| 10. | Hon. Mwangaza Kawira, M.P. |  |
| 11. | Hon. Jonah Mburu, M.P. |  |
| 12. | Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanyanje, M.P. |  |
| 13. | Hon. Wamuchomba, Gathoni, M.P. |  |
| 14. | Hon. (Eng). Mark Nyamita Ogola, M.P. |  |
| 15. | Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P. |  |
| 16. | Hon. Erastus Nzioka Kivasu, M.P. |  |
| 17. | Hon. Godfrey Osotsi, Atieno, M.P. |  |
| 18. | Hon. Innocent Momanyi, Obiri, M.P. |  |
| 19. | Hon. Anthony, Tom Oluoch, M.P. |  |

Signed: Ella Kendi -  Date: 25/6/2019
 Committee Clerk

Signed: Date:
 Director, Committee Services

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MINUTES OF THE 23RD SITTING OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION AND INNOVATION HELD IN 11TH FLOOR PROTECTION HOUSE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS ON TUESDAY 25TH JUNE, 2019 AT 11.30AM.

PRESENT

1. **Hon. William Kipkemoi, M.P.** -Chairperson
2. Hon. Maritim Sylvanus,MP
3. Hon. Mwangaza Kawira, M.P
4. Hon. Anthony Oluoch, M.P.
5. Hon. Wamuchomba Gathoni, M.P
6. Hon. Joshua Kimilu Kivinda, M.P.
7. Hon. Innocent Momanyi Obiri, M.P
8. Hon. Godfrey Osotsi Atieno, M.P
9. Hon. Erastus Nzioka Kivasu, M.P
10. Hon. Jonah Mburu, M.P
11. Hon. Liza Chelule Chepkorir, M.P
12. Hon. Marwa Kitayama Maisori, M.P
13. Hon. Alfah O. Miruka, M.P

APOLOGIES

1. Hon. George Macharia Kariuki, M.P. -Vice- Chairperson
2. Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P
3. Hon. Annie Wanjiku Kibeh,M.P
4. Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanyanje, M.P
5. Hon. Mwambu Mabongah, M.P
6. Hon. (Eng.). Mark Nyamita, M.P

IN ATTENDANCE

Secretariat

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Ms.Ella Kendi | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 2. Ms.Lorna Okatch | - | Research Officer III |
| 3. Mr.Simon Muinde | - | Audio Officer |
| 4. Mr.Albert Atunga | - | Serjeant at arms |

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/97: PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at thirty-six minutes past eleven o'clock followed by a word of prayer.

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/98: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The agenda was deferred to the next meeting.

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/99: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION AT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS SHOW

The Committee considered and adopted the report on Participation to National Association of Broadcasters Show held in Las Vegas having been proposed by Hon. Maritim Sylvanus, MP and seconded by Hon. Erastus Kivasu, MP. The Committee adopted the report with the following observations and recommendations; -

The Committee observed that-

1. The Radio Broadcasters were facing various digital challenges due to the improved technologies. To overcome the technological challenges, there was need for the broadcasters to understand the importance of metadata for online radio/streaming, consider developing and retaining their own brand by mixing local content with national/international content to remain relevant in the digital world and maintain their audience.
2. Digital radio has improved audio quality, more efficient use of spectrum and a multitude of additional services, and that several Countries have switched to different digital radio technologies. Norway was the first country in the world to switch to digital radio and that it adopted Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) standard. The United Kingdom adopted the DAB standard and is using three National multiplexes.
3. The 5th Generation (5G) cellular network technology sits poised to reshape entire industries, and in particular media, entertainment and traditional content delivery models. 5G promises high data rates, low latency, network slicing, virtualization, Broadcast V2X (Vehicle to everything) services.
4. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) are very useful for newsgathering in broadcasting. UAVs may be used for situational awareness, rapid deployments into inaccessible areas, delivery tools in challenging locations, journalistic verification and assessment tools.

The Committee recommended that -

1. The Kenyan Broadcasters should embrace technology and re-innovate themselves to maintain their competitive position. Online streaming helps radios to attract and retain listenership and creation of strong personality.

2. The Ministry in charge of Information Communication and Technology to consider developing the digital radio framework, associated policies and regulations on Digital Radio. Digital radio helps radios to stay competitive taking into consideration the changing consumer demands for more choice, more personalized services and interactivity.
3. The Communications Authority of Kenya to consider setting up a spectrum, policies and conducive technological environment to enable 5G deployment in the Country.
4. The Kenya Civil Aviation Authority to come up with regulations on the use of UAVs in the broadcasting/media sector.

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/100: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION AT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (WSIS) FORUM, 2019

The Committee considered the report and adopted it having been proposed by Hon. Innocent Momanyi, MP and seconded by Hon. Liza Chelule, MP. The report was adopted with the following observations and recommendations:-

Committee observed that -

- 1) The use of ICTs when linked with cultural heritage and the diversity of cultural expressions can be used to advance social cohesion and employment through cultural and creative industries and preservation and transmission of cultural heritage.
- 2) Data is the new age critical asset in digital transformation. There is however need to secure data through Multi-dimensional regulations to protect data security and privacy issues, associated to emerging technologies.
- 3) Trust in AI revolves around ensuring that AI technologies help address humanity's most critical social, economic and environmental concerns. There is need to develop systems, policies and safeguards that help build trust in AI.
- 4) ICT accessibility is still a serious challenge and its implementation requires the effort of all stakeholders including government, the private sector, academia, civil society, and the media.
- 5) E-waste is a growing multi-disciplinary issue across the world. There is need to tap into e-waste to create jobs and value addition. There is need for the UN, the private sector and other stakeholders to engage in addressing the global e-waste challenge.

Committee Recommendation

- 1) The Government through the Ministry of ICT and Ministry of Education to invest in building capacities needed for institutions and officials to harness the rapid technological changes for efficient public service delivery.
- 2) The Ministry in charge of ICT to formulate policies, regulations and legislation on data protection through a transparent process of consultation and collaboration with multiple stakeholders.
- 3) The Government should fast-track implementation of its Digital Literacy Programme (DLP) and allocate more resources to enhance access to ICT in

education all education institutions. The Ministry responsible for education should develop and adapt curricula to new ICT tools and interactive technologies so as to prepare students for emerging technologies.

- 4) Understanding the growing challenge of e-waste in the world, the Ministry responsible for Environmental Matters should develop a policy on e-waste management including tapping into e-waste to create jobs and value addition.

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/101: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Inquiry into the state of operations at Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC);**

It was resolved the Committee to discuss the terms of reference of the inquiry during the next meeting on Thursday 27th June, 2019. Further, it was noted that there was urgent need for the Committee to intervene to ensure KBC is restructured to make it commercially viable.

2. **Digital Literacy Programme inspection visits:** The Committee resolved to reschedule the visit to Dagoretti South to the financial year 2019/20. The secretariat was tasked to prepare a schedule of visits to different counties on mid -July, 2019.

3. **Involvement of the Committee in ICT related functions:** The Committee Members expressed their disappointment over the failure by the Ministry to invite the Members to the launch of the Ajira Youth Programme and the commissioning of the revamped Rivatex textile factory in Eldoret. It was emphasized that there was need for the Ministry to involve the Committee as it oversees the Ministry including allocation of budgets to the all projects. The Chairperson promised to follow up the matter with the Principal Secretary.

4. **Operations of the Telkom Kenya:** The Committee deliberated on the operations of Telkom Kenya and it was indicated that Telkom is majorly owned by private equity firm (60 percent) while the Government of Kenya owns 40 percent stake. Further, the Committee noted that-

- i. There was a proposed merger between Airtel Kenya and Telkom Kenya and that the details of the merger were not clear;
- ii. Telkom Kenya had sold several towers to an American Tower Corporation for an undisclosed amount and sale agreements;
- iii. There were no clear details on the management of the National Optic Fibre Backbone (NOFBI) by Telkom Kenya; and
- iv. There was a report done by the Committee on Public Investment (PIC) on Privatisation, recapitalisation and restructuring Telkom Kenya's balance sheet, and the House had resolved that the Government to reconsider privatisation of

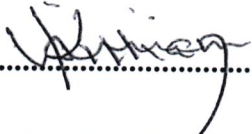
Telkom Kenya and the restructuring of its balance sheet, however, five years down the resolution has not been implemented by the Ministry of ICT.

The Committee resolved to invite the Cabinet Secretary to give details on the operations of the Telkom Kenya.

5. **Mobile loan Apps:** The Committee noted that there was an increase on loan mobile apps in the market. It was emphasized that there was need for the implementation Committee to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations of the report on the inquiry into the state of competition in the telecommunication sector as this will ensure that the fintech firms are regulated by Central Bank of Kenya.

MIN.NO/NA/CII/2019/102: ADJOURNEMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at ten minutes past one o'clock.

SIGNED..........DATE 25/06/2019

HON. WILLIAM KISANG, MP - CHAIRPERSON

