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THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

REPORT ON

THE COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATION BROADBAND FORUM HELD IN ABUJA -NIGERIA

FROM 15TH -19TH JUNE, 2015

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

28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2015

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## 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 2015 Commonwealth Telecommunication Organization Broadband forum held in Abuja -Nigeria from 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> June, 2015.

The Departmental Committee on Energy, information & Communication is 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; Fossil fuels exploration, Development of energy, Production of energy, Maintenance and regulation of energy, Communication, Information, Broadcasting, Information Communications Technology (ICT) development and management.

## 1.1 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
- 3. The Hon. Mohammed Elmi, MP
- 4. The Hon. James Rege, MP
- 5. The Hon. Edick Omondi Anyanga, MP
- 6. The Hon, Mithika Linturi, MP
- 7. The Hon. Zebedeo Opore, MP
- 8. The Hon. Aramat Lemanken, MP
- 9. The Hon. Athur Papa, MP
- 10. The Hon. Banticha Abdullahi, MP
- 11. The Hon. Daniel Kazungu, MP
- 12. The Hon. Esther Gathogo, MP
- 13. The Hon. Fathia Mahbub, MP
- 14. The Hon. James Lomenen, MP
- 15. The Hon. Aburi Mpuri, MP
- 16. The Hon. Joe Mutambu, MP
- 17. The Hon. Junet Sheikh, MP
- 18. The Hon. Cecily Mbarire, MP
- 19. The Hon. Mary N. Mbugua, MP
- 20. The Hon. Mati Munuve, 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 Githingi, 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

# 1.2 THE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The Committee nominated the following Members to attend the forum on behalf of the Committee.

- 1) Hon. (Eng). James Rege, MP -Leader of Delegation
- 2) Hon. Vincent Musau, MP,
- 3) Hon. Zebedeo Opore, MP
- 4) Hon. James Lomenen, MP

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

## 1.3 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **OBSERVATIONS**

- a. The Committee observed that the forum was important to Members of Parliament especially Members of the Committee on Energy, Communication and Information in enhancing and developing key skills in oversight and legislation.
- b. The observed that Broadband is a key resource that can leverage National development with respect to Information Communication Technology and requires strict and independent regulatiolatory framework.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a. The Committee recommends continuous relevant training and forums for Members of the Parliament in their sectors of Oversight and Legislations.
- b. The Committee recommends the need to develop clear regulatory frame work to protect the public resources like Broadband.

## 1.4 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 the Abuja 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 in ICT.

## 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

# 2.0 ABOUT THE COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATION ORGANIZATION

Commonwealth Telecommunication Organization based in London, UK is an international organization of 53 member commonwealth countries working to promote telecom and ICT related cooperation, It is the oldest and largest Commonwealth organization engaged in multilateral collaboration in the field of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs), and uses its experience and expertise to support its members in integrating ICTs deliver effective development interventions that enrich, empower and emancipate people within the Commonwealth and beyond.

Its mission is to promote, facilitate and guide members in using ICTs to deliver effective development intervention. The vision of the CTO is to be the preferred partner for governments, the private sector and civil society in delivering effective ICTs for development (ICT4D) in the Commonwealth and beyond.

The CTO seeks to work collaboratively with other Commonwealth bodies and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to build mutually beneficial synergies in the interest of its members, It also offers a strategic channel for member to influence the shaping of the global ICT agenda, advocate and reach consensus on policy and regulatory positions, form alliance and build relationships, It also provides private sector members with greater access to policy makers and raise awareness and promote priorities of current and future ICT4D initiatives.

The present strategy plan emphasizes six main areas, namely, broadband, especially mobile broadband for rural development including food security, Cyber security & Cybercrime, ICTs for people with disabilities, regulatory environments, including convergence and digital broadcasting switchover, the use of ICTs in education and youth and ICTs,

The CTO is governed by its Council, which consists of representative from all member countries. It is the highest policy making body of the CTO, It meets annually to examine the progress of the Organization and to suggest future programs.

# 3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM CTO BROADBAND FORUM IN ABUJA NIGERIA

- a) To Networking with international stakeholders Policymakers, regulators and private sector
- b) To comprehend and understand the future of mobile technologies and applications
- c) To assess and evaluate the latest funding and investment opportunities in ICTs across the Commonwealth
- d) To identifying opportunities in cloud services, e-Governance, open data, e-Commerce and mobile applications
- e) To discuss the impact of broadband on economic development.

The following session were attended by the Members of the Kenyan Delegation:

- 1. Overview Of The ICTs And Electronic Communications Sector
- 2. The Role Of ICTs In Development The Big Picture
- 3. Microsoft On Emerging Technologies
- 4. Influencing Global Decisions in ICTs :The role of International Organisations and FORA
- 5. Cyberspace Internet
- 6. How to implement effective regulatory tools and policies: The cases study of Universal service Fund
- 7. The best practices for accessible and inclusive technologies: The case study of Mpesa in Kenya

# 4.0 SUMMARY OF THE SESSIONS

#### OVERVIEW OF THE ICT AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR:

Participants were provided with an overview of the electronic communications sector and perspectives from Sweden on building innovative infrastructure. The main drivers of telecommunications regulation will be presented and discussed. ICT indicators will be discussed in relation to their impact on knowledge economies. Participants were also appraised the context of telecommunications regulation and Key ICT indicators, and overall impact on the national economy. This session was led by **Dr Marianne Treschow**, Former Director General, the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Treschow Consulting.

### 2. THE ROLE OF ICTS IN DEVELOPMENT THE BIG PICTURE:

This session explored the bigger picture and the role of ICTs in development, from their potential contribution to economic growth, to their role in education and health. There is nevertheless evidence that existing inequalities in society rather than reduce them, unless very careful policies are in place to ensure that the interests of the poorest and most marginalised are served. This is a key role for regulators, policy makers and Legislators. This session was led by **Professor Tim Unwin**, Secretary-General, and Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation.

### 3. MICROSOFT ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES:

This session focused heavily of the following:

- a. A mobile first/cloud first world secure cloud (cloud + cyber)
- Dynamic spectrum access for more efficient spectrum use. A UK approach of utilisation and ongoing pilots.
- c. An overview of the new and efficient compression technologies which can be utilised for broadcast and broadband

This session was led by **Adriana Mattei Director**, **Zetacast**, an independent technology consultancy **and Ken McCann** Director and co-founder, Zetacast, an independent technology consultancy.

# 4. INFLUENCING GLOBAL DECISIONS ON ICTS: THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND FORA:

This session described the international framework and agendas for ICTs; the key organisations involved; and behind-the-scenes decisions on issues such as standards or migration from analogue to digital broadcasting. Technical, political and economic drivers at an international level as discussed, drawing parallels with other sectors. The session was led by Marcel Belingue, Senior Manager, Head of Membership & Communications, Common wealth Telecommunications Organisation.

### 5. CYBERSPACE - INTERNET

Cyberspace encompassed the internet, mobile and fixed-line access, all the networked machine-to-machine communications and other networked communications that are beyond the World Wide Web and the content that runs through it. Cyberspace provides unparalleled access, helping us to bridge the digital divide while influencing every aspect of our economic and social activities. It is expected to grow from 2 billion to 4 billion users by 2020, many in developing countries. The way we govern cyberspace, ensure the security of the network, content and users and leverage it for socio-economic growth is a key challenge faced by many policymakers and regulators. This Presentation was done by Lasantha De Alwis, Director/Head of Operations Department & Corporate Secretary, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation

# 6. HOW TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE REGULATORY TOOLS AND POLICIES: THE CASES OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

This session explored the various arguments in favour of and against the use of universal service funds seeking to ensure that digital technologies are used as extensively as possible, particularly by poor and marginalised communities. Universal service and access funds have a lot to offer, the practical reality is often that their use

is fraught with difficulties and allegations of misappropriation of funds. This session will concluded with a discussion of possible alternative models to achieve universal access and service. Session was led by **Professor Tim Unwin**, Secretary-General and Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation.

# 7. THE BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE TECHNOLOGIES: THE CASE STUDY OF MPESA IN KENYA

Kenya's success in innovation has made it an example studied worldwide; especially the case of Mpesa, but it has also brought additional challenges, in particular the task of ensuring a competitive market for the future. It has also created investment opportunities, as network operator's work to gain efficiencies and find profitable advantages and niches, and as policymakers experiment with further innovations. With virtual network operators, a possible open-access 4G/LTE network and increased broadband capacity available, the Kenyan telecommunications sector seems set to continue its rapid evolution.

Kenya is set to capture more of the revenue and changing more lives, from M-Pesa for an additional reason – the underlying IT platform through which transactions pass was located in Kenya, but a new system has been developed and now be housed in Kenya. The mobile money market is dominated by Safaricom, which has a share of 72.4%. However, other players are trying to maintain a foothold as well. Airtel has the second-largest share, at 16.9%, with yu Mobile in third with 8%. Mobikash and Orange occupy the smallest slots with market shares of 1.9% and 0.7%, respectively (see analysis). Session was led by Mr. Joseph Tiampati, the permanent Secretary in the Ministry of ICT in Kenya government and it's important to recognise that that Members of the Kenyan delegation from parliament also participated heavily during this session.

## 5.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **OBSERVATIONS**

- c. The Committee observed that the forum was important to Members of Parliament especially Members of the Committee on Energy, Communication and Information in enhancing and developing key skills in oversight and legislation.
- d. The observed that Broadband is a key resource that can leverage national development with respect to Information Communication Technology and requires strict and independent regulatory framework.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- c. The Committee recommends continuous and forums and relevant training of Members of the Parliament in their sectors of oversight and legislations.
- d. The Committee recommends the need to develop clear regulatory frame work to protect the public resources like Broadband.

### 6.0 CONCLUSION

The broadband is said to be able to bring a significant shift in both connectivity and services, but more efforts are required by all stakeholders and policy makers to achieve wider broadband roll-out, equitable access and effective usage. This event further discussed issues of policy approaches and regulatory interventions needed to promote broadband, showcase cost-effective and efficient technologies, and examine successful business models while facilitating partnerships.

Commonwealth tradition is enriched by exchanging experience and insights on a vast variety of subjects, whether an opportunity or a threat, and many other ICT-related issues. This broadband forum brought together a rich pool of collective knowledge from across the Commonwealth. New areas of common interest are expected to be

discovered and to find fresh ideas and opportunities for exploiting the benefits of technology. There is also anticipation that the development of enduring networks and relationships for fruitful collaboration.

The explosive growth of the internet has revolutionized global access to knowledge, networks, business opportunities and expanding markets, transcending national boundaries. Widespread access to social media brings new immediacy to politics and governance, with elevated expectations of transparency and accountability.

Kenyan government through its representation in the forum has also taken lessons that should be implemented especially at a polity and legislative level to ensure that the target set by CTO is achieved by 2015.