WSIS Progress Report from the Private Sector Perspective

Jimson Olufuye

(fncs, ficma, c.ITP, PRINCE2, CISA, CISM, CRISC, PhD)

Chairman, Kontemporary® Konsulting Ltd

Founder & 1st Chairman, AfICTA

Chairman, AfICTA Advisory Council

@

2021 Annual Africa Regional

Review of WSIS Implementation

Djibouti, 22-24 December

Talking Points

- Introduction

- About AfICTA

- AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

- Conclusion

working together towards **2025**

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

Introduction

- To know more about me, you can google **Jimson Olufuye**

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

working together towards 2025

About AfICTA

- Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA) is a concerned private sector led alliance of ICT Associations, Multi-national Corporations, Companies, Organizations and individuals in the ICT sector in Africa.

- **www.aficta.africa**

working together towards 2025

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

About AfICTA

Vision

- Our vision is to fulfill the promise of the digital age for everyone in Africa.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

working together towards 2025

About AfICTA

Mission

- Our mission is to encourage multi-stakeholder dialogue fostering accelerated and ICT enabled development in Africa and the use of cutting-edge innovative technologies including mobile, computing and satellite technologies to achieve an Information society in Africa.

working together towards
2025

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
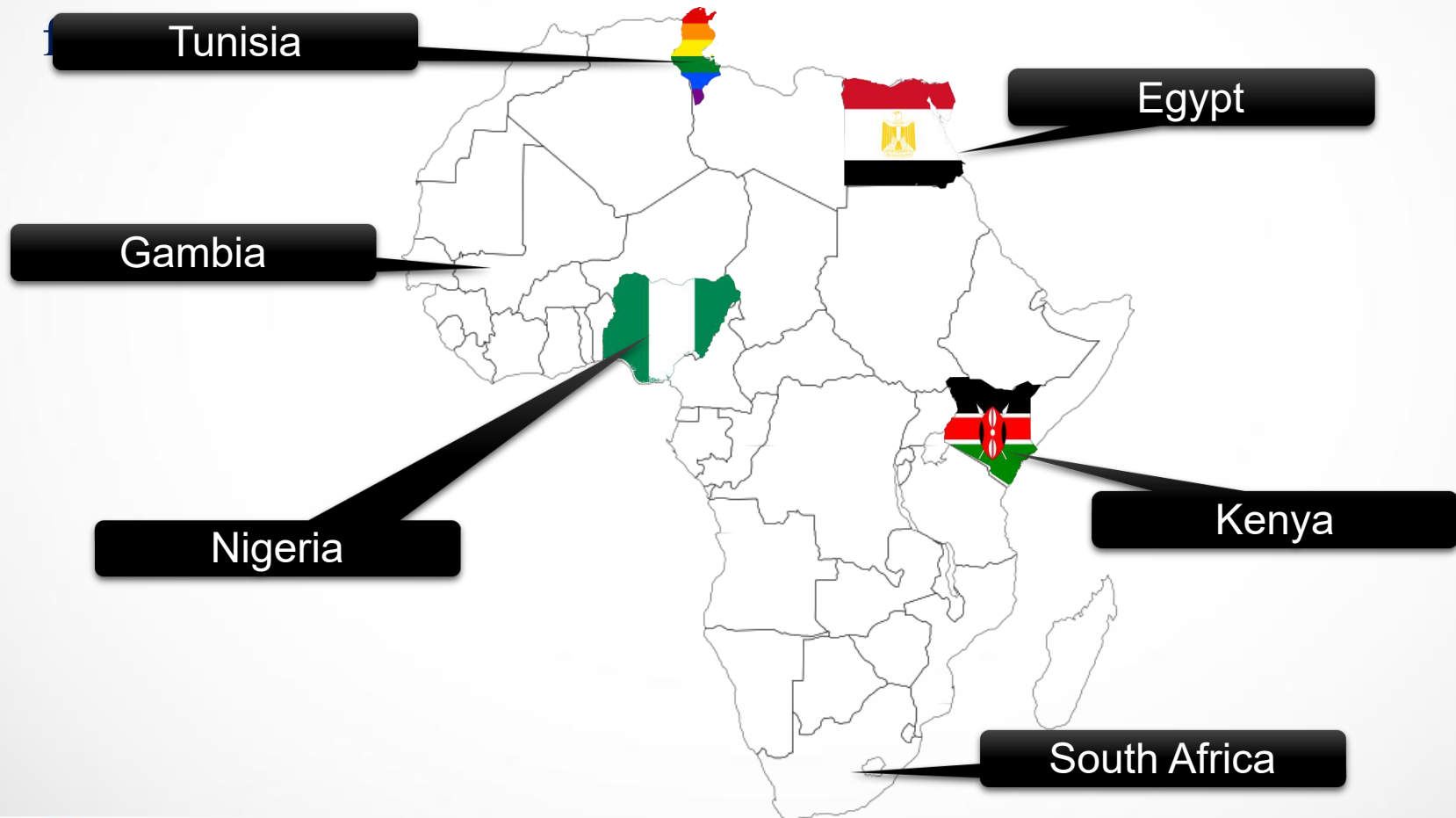Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

Our Goals are to:

- Organize non-government ICT stakeholders in Africa for effective local and continental advocacy

- Be the focal point for Africa ICT advocacy in the global digital economy.

- Promote constant improvement in African digital literacy in collaboration with stakeholders.

- Create partnerships with the African Union and all the regional economic commissions towards realizing global sustainable development targets for Africa

- Support effective dialogue between members and policy makers.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

working together towards
2025

Our Goals are to:

- Mobilize the core leadership 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.

- Promote business partnerships between members and their associations' members.

- Contribute to capacity development by promoting best practices, encouraging regional projects, sharing data (skills, expertise, events, business announcements, exhibitions, seminars).

- Organize an annual regional summit for knowledge sharing and cross-African advocacy.

working together towards
2025

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication
Technologies Alliance

Formation of AfICTA

Africa Information and Communication Technologies Alliance (AfICTA) was formed on May 1, 2012 by ICT industry leaders

Tunisia

Egypt

Gambia

Nigeria

Kenya

South Africa

www.aficta.africa

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

working together towards 2025

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance

AfICTA @ 9 (today) has covered 35 countries in Africa

AfICTA @ 9 Has Covered

1. Algeria
2. Benin
3. Burundi
4. Somalia
5. Botswana
6. Congo
7. Chad
8. Cameroon
9. Côte d'Ivoire
10. DR Congo
11. Ethiopia
12. Egypt
13. Gambia
14. Gabon
15. Ghana
16. Kenya
17. Lesotho
18. Libya

19. Liberia
20. Mauritius
21. Morocco
22. Mali
23. Namibia
24. Niger
25. Nigeria
26. Rwanda
27. Senegal
28. South Africa
29. South Sudan
30. Sudan
31. Tanzania
32. Tunisia
33. Uganda
34. Zambia
35. Zimbabwe

https://aficta.africa

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

To become a member

Simply register here:

- **https://aficta.africa/membership/join-aficta**

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015
2025 working together towards

Membership Benefit

- Advocacy and Liaison with National Governments in support of member initiatives
- Identification of Business Opportunities
- Conducting Research
- Supporting to raise funding for Start-ups through match-making programmes
- Strengthening the African Brand
- Partnering with Stakeholders (e.g Universities/Civil Society/ICT Users)
- Product and Service Endorsements on a continental Level
- Providing membership services
- Events and Development Programmes
- Opportunities in global Organisation (e.g. WITSA, ICC-BASIS, ICANN, ITU, UN)

working together towards
2025

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance

We are active in/partner with:

- ICANN-BC: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers Business Constituency
- WSIS: World Summit on Information Society
- CSTD: UN Commission on Science & Technology for Development
- ITU: International Telecommunication Union
- IGF: Internet Governance Forum
- African IGF
- West African IGF
- Nigerian IGF

working together towards 2025

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance

We are active in/partner with:

- **ICC-BASIS: International Chamber of Commerce Business Action to Support Information Society**
- **UNECA**
- **AUC**
- **African Governments where we have members**
- **A4AI: Alliance for Affordable Internet**

2025 working together towards
World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

As we know, there are 11 WSIS Action Lines (AL) from C1 to C11.

AL C1: *The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development;* and it is being facilitated by ECOSOC/UNRCs/ITU;

AfICTA: Establishment of AfICTA in 2012 noting the gap in Africa of Continental Private sector engagement in WSIS. AfICTA has thus been proactive as a concerned private sector led organization in WSIS, CSTD, ITU, IGF etc.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015
2025
working together towards

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

AL C2 is on *Information and communication infrastructure* being facilitated by ITU;

AfICTA: Members have been involved in building robust fibre rings around and within Africa up to the and first mile. They're also at the forefront of building and rolling out data centres, IXPs across Africa. They're at the forefront of investment in 5G roll-out and in other 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies.

2025
working together towards

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

AL C3: *Access to information and knowledge* being facilitated by ITU/UNESCO;

AfICTA: Unprecedented number of private players have invested in ICT enabled education across all levels (primary, secondary and at tertiary institutions) with e-Learning being common site thereby providing access to important information and knowledge. Challenge is the slow pace of recognition of these institutions by concerned authorities. AfICTA also established an Information Hub, **https://aficta.africa/info-hub/** to provide country by country access to vital business information to investors.

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015
2025
working together towards

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

AL C4: *Capacity building (development)* by UNDP/UNESCO/ITU;

AfICTA: Apart from interventions mentioned in AL C3 above, AfICTA through its quarterly webinars and annual Summits has been developing capacities for business and other stakeholders to further play their roles in the realization of our vision, mission and the attainment of our goals.

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

AL C5: *Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs* by UNCTAD;

AfICTA: Our active participation in the ICANN ecosystem has enabled us to remain focused on strengthening confidence, security and resiliency of the Internet. As a private sector concern in Africa, we use this opportunity to oppose any form of new moves to impose new Internet Protocols (IP) regimes on the world as it is being proposed for the 2022 ITU Plenipotentiary.

working together towards **2025**

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

AL C5: *Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs* by UNCTAD;

AfICTA: ... Question is, why fix what is not broken? We urge our govts not to support any move that would disorient the TCP/IP based open Internet in which we have invested heavily and that has continued to foster innovation and create wealth for our people.

2025 working together towards

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication Technologies Alliance

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C7: *ICT applications namely*

– e-Government by UNDP/ITU, e-Business by WTO/UNCTAD/ITU/UPU, e-Learning by UNESCO/ITU/UNIDO, e-Health by WHO/ITU, e-Employment by ILO/ITU, e-Environment by WHO/WMO/UNEP/Habitat/ITU/ICAO, e-Agriculture by FAO/ITU, e-Science by UNESCO/ITU/UNCTAD,

AfICTA: We commend govts across Africa for their e-Government/digitization initiatives and a number of AfICTA members have been involved in diverse roll-outs.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C7: *ICT applications ...*

...We recommend that the momentum be sustained and in the process should avoid expensive and unsustainable solutions that would be discarded in the future.

Members solutions on e-Learning, e-Health, e-Employment, e-Agriculture etc have continued to transformed digital landscape across Africa.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C8: *Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content* by UNESCO

AfICTA: While we appreciate several government initiatives to promote local contents, the actual coordination of the implementation process is key to success. Innovative solutions through Artificial Intelligence are being locally developed to enhance Africa's cultural diversity and identity and linguistic diversity. With this development are Intellectual Property concerns. African governments need to help to protect indigineous IPs in this regard.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

working together towards
2025

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C9: *Media* by UNESCO

AfICTA: Members are involved in changing the face of the Media. We provide training for jounalists to use new media and also provide crucial information/tools for them to effectively play their roles. As we are all aware, we are now news makers but let's make the news constructively for peace to reign in our communities and avoid fakenews.

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C10: *Ethical dimension of the Information Society* by UNESCO/ECOSOC

AfICTA: While the private sector believes in self-regulation and governance, we however call on governments to ensure through smart regulations that **no matter the level of advancement in AI, AI products must remain accountable to humans.**

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

C11: *International and regional cooperation* by UNRCs/UNDP/ITU/UNESCO/ECOSOC.

AfICTA: We collaborate and cooperate with our counterparts outside Africa in Asia, Europe and in North America through the signing of joint statements on the need for WTO IT agreements to be sustained for free flow of Information across borders without taxation which otherwise could bring chaos to the already chaotic supply chain challenges around the world among others issues.

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

WSIS (20) targets:

We are also helping out seriously on the (20) WSIS Targets viz

- connecting all villages with ICTs and establish community access points but much depends on govt policies in this direction.

- connecting all secondary schools and primary schools with ICTs but much depends on govt policies in this direction.

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

WSIS targets:

- connecting all scientific and research centres with ICTs but much depends on govt policies in this direction.

- connecting all public libraries, museums, post offices and archives with ICTs ...

- connecting all health centres and hospitals with ICTs...

- connecting all central government departments and establish websites...

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

WSIS targets:

- adapting all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the Information Society, taking into account national circumstances but much depends on govt policies in this direction...

- ensuring that all of the world's population have access to television and radio services...

- encouraging the development of content and to put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet...

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

WSIS targets:

- ensuring that more than half the world's inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach and make use of them. Thanks to cooperation, more than 50% of the world now have access to ICTs (Internet).

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

Much of the WSIS ALs and target are subsumed in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Based on this fact, we are concerned that many organizations in Africa responsible for SGDs and ICT development/regulation are not in sync with their implementation strategies. If this trend continues, we can expect that by 2030 Africa would have missed the realization of the SDGs.

World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

2025
working together towards

AfICTA
Africa Information & Communication
Technologies Alliance

AfICTA WSIS Progress Report

A measure to know if indeed we are on the right tract is the availability of joint Annual National Reports of implementation Agencies to indicate progress on the SDGs for all to review and follow-up.

Conclusion

The private sector in Africa is a partner in progress with government to creating wealth and taking our people out of poverty. We are partners towards the realization of the WSIS ALs and SDGs.

However, it is clear that if the government does not move to provide the enabling environment (AL C6) nothing would move. Therefore, the imperative of multi-stakeholder engagement in policy formulation and implementation cannot be over-emphasized on our road to SDGs 2030.

working together towards
2025
World Summit
on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

Conclusion

AfICTA commends UNECA for her steadfast commitment and sustained engagement towards nurging all stakeholders in Africa particularly governments to stay the course towards the WSIS AL Implementation and the realization of the SDGs.

Afterall, it is in our interest and in the interest of our people (children in particular) to realise the set goals.

Let's do it and get it done together!

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015
working together towards 2025

Thank you...

jolufuye@kontemporary.net
Data: +2348165012368
www.kontemporary.net.ng
@jolufuye