AfICTA - Africa ICT Alliance

Secretariat Report

on

URL: http://www.aficta.africa/1st-econference

Submitted on July 25, 2018

Agenda			
S/n	**Time***	**Event**	**Duration**
1	10:00	**National Anthem of Nigeria** Opening remarks by **Jimson Olufuye,** fncs, CISA, CISM, CRISC, PRINCE2, PhD **CEO, Kontemporary Konsulting Ltd, Chair, AfICTA** **Moderator**	10mins
2	10:10	Presentation by **Engr. Saeed Mohammed** **Vice Chairman, EITESAL** - Egyptian IT, Electronics & Software Alliance Topic: ***Brief on the "1 Million jobs initiative by 2025*** "	10mins
3	10:25	Q & A	5mins
4	10:30	Presentation by **Dr. Ibrahim Isa Pantami,** FBCS, PhD **DG/CEO NITDA** (National Information Development Agency) Topic: ***Tackling incessant ICT Project Failure through effective regulations***	15mins
5	10:45	Q & A Session with Dr. Isa Ibrahim.	10mins
6	10:50	Presentation by **Dr. Isa Jalo, Director, AGIS** (Abuja Geographic Information System) Topic: ***Optimising Cadastral Services for African Development - the case of AGIS***	15mins
7	11:05	Q & A Session with Dr. Isa Jalo	10mins
8	11.15	AOB	5mins
9	11:20	Vote of thanks by **Mr. Paul Rowney, President ICT Professionals' Association of Namibia** **Co-moderator**	5mins
10	11:25	Closing remarks by **Dr. Jimson Olufuye, Chair AfICTA**	5mins

WELCOME ADDRESS

The first edition of AfICTA eConference was held online on Thursday 19 July, 2018, with theme: "Moving Africa forward with ICTs". The event began at exactly 10:00am Nigeria time with welcome address by the Chair of AfICTA, Dr. Jimson Olufuye followed by Nigeria National Anthem.

OPENING REMARK

Dr. Jimson Olufuye in his opening remark, appreciated all participants and invited guest speakers that graced the historical event. Some dignitaries present at the event include: the Director General of Nation IT Development Agency, Dr. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami PhD, FBCS, FIIM who was ably represented by Director ITIA, Dr. Usman Gambo; The Director of Abuja Geographic Information System, Dr. Isa Jalo; The Vice Chairman of EITESAL Egypt, Engr. Mohammed Saeed, The Chief Operation Officer of IDT and Project Manager

of AfICTA 1 Million Jobs Initiative; Mr. Hamed Yosry and The President of ICT Professionals Association of Namibia, Mr. Paul Rowney among others.

According to the Chair AfICTA, the eConference is an initiative that is expected to complement the impact of AfICTA annual summit that was first hosted in Lagos, Nigeria in 2013. The Egyptian ICT industry association and the government of Egypt hosted the second edition in 2014. The third edition took place in Johannesburg. The 4th edition was hosted by the ICT Professionals Association of Namibia with the support of the Namibian Ministry of ICT and last year the 5th edition was held in Nigeria by the ADD Consortium with the support of National IT Development Agency (NITDA). He said 6th AfICTA Summit would be hosted by the Computer Society of Kenya (CSK) in the beautiful city of Mombasa, from 8 - 9 October, 2018 with the theme: "*Making ICT Central to the Big 4 Agenda in Africa*".

INTRODUCTION

The first eConference focused on Nigeria and further information regarding the upcoming edition which would concentrates on South Africa would be communicated to the general public.

As the event progressed, the agenda was shared with participants shortly after which event moderation was transferred from Dr. Jimson Olufuye to the co-Moderator, Mr Paul Rowney.

Mr Rowney in his brief statements reflected on the vision of AfICTA "to fulfill the promise of the digital age for everyone in Africa" as reliant on the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders in the industry. He further highlighted some unique challenges of Africa which include: inadequate infrastructure, lack of Internet accessibility, insufficient IT jobs etc. that require immediate solutions, he afterward invited the first presenter.

1ST PRESENTATION

AfICTA One Million Jobs Initiative

The first speaker; Engr. Saeed, Vice President of EITESAL Egypt who is also the Chair of the Committee on "AfICTA 1 Million Jobs Initiative" congratulated AfICTA Board for hosting its first eConference and presented a paper on "GO Africa" which elaborates the process of achieving the 1 Million Jobs Initiative by 2025 and the phases involved.

He said the initiative was conceived, considering the fact that Africa has not been able to leveraging conspicuous opportunities. He mentioned that one of the reasons Africans has the highest number of immigrants into Europe, Asia and other developed continents on the planet is the living standard, and opined that creating IT jobs that focus on Mobile Development, Web Development, Data Analytics, IoT, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence and Infrastructure jobs would bring succor to the teaming youths and positively enhance African development towards the realization of Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The Project Manager, Engr Ahmed Yosry completed the presentation on 1 Million Jobs by explaining project execution process.

Piloting Countries are:

1. Nigeria
2. Zimbabwe
3. Ethiopia
4. Namibia
5. South Africa
6. Kenya
7. Egypt (Head Office)

Phases of Execution

Fund Raising: The committee has contacted over 200 donor organisations for fund raising and once funds start coming in the next phase would be activated.

Market Research: There would be market research to the piloting countries for their unique needs in terms of jobs categories.

Local Offices: Offices would be established in each country identified but its head office would remain in Egypt.

Marketing and Media Campaign: The committee would adopt every possible means of promoting the project and mass media awareness would be made via social media campaign and top level events.

Creation of Mobile App for the Initiative: A mobile application would be developed to monitor its progress.

Training Programme: Based on the outcome of the market research above, expertise in the identified field would be engaged to conduct training exercise for beneficiaries of the jobs.

Jobs Creation: All the processes above would eventually lead to creation of relevant jobs.

AfICTA Chair appreciated EITESAL for all the necessary resources explored to ensure the progress of the initiative.

QUESTION & ANSWER

1. **Question.** What were the criteria considered while selecting countries for the first phase of the initiative? Mention the national coordinators?

   Answer

   Dr. Anthony said he might not be able to provide adequate answers to the question because the concept note and country selection have been done before his election to the board. However, he suggested that Nigeria been the most populous nation in Africa and being the home to AfICTA secretariat might be the reasons for Nigeria's

selection. Egypt being the driver of the initiative also justifies its inclusion and for the fact that other nations involved are also having representative on AfICTA board makes their inclusion justifiable.

Dr. Jimson also stated that economic rating index was part of the criteria considered.

Engr. Saeed later added more criteria considered in selecting countries as Demographic, Infrastructure, Economic Stability, Political Stability, Human Resources.

Please download the presentation.

2ND PRESENTATION

"Tackling Incessant IT Project Failure through Effective Regulation"

The Chair of AfICTA in his introduction, appreciated the DG NITDA, Dr. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami and NITDA for the high level support given to AfICTA in hosting its 5th Summit alongside e-Nigeria Summit in 2017. The Director General was unavoidably absent due to his investment tour to the Silicon Valley with the vice President of Nigeria but was ably represented by Dr. Usman Gambo, Director of ITIS - Information Technology Infrastructure Solutions.

Dr. Usman Gambo delivered the DG NITDA's high level speech on "*Tackling Incessant IT Projects Failure through Effective Regulation*". In his opening speech he reflected on the fact that Africa must come together so as to stand any chance in the world stage. He said though France won the recently concluded world cup, African factor brought about the victory as 3 out of the 4 wining goals were scored by their African indigenous players. He indicated his believe in AfICTA vision as it is the platform that unites IT stakeholders in Africa.

In his speech he mentioned that the International Data Corporation (IDC) in its 2009 report found that 25% of IT projects surveyed experienced outright failure, up to 50% needed substantial rework, and 20% - 25% do not provide Return on Investment (RoI) [Pucciarelli, Joseph C., Wiklund, Dana, 2009]. Furthermore, an insightful Gartner survey published in 2012 revealed that larger IT projects have increased risks of failure compared to small projects. The report concluded that overall, about 50% of IT projects fail.

The speech also enlisted and fully examined causes of IT projects failure. "However, the general view is that IT projects fail because of inadequate resourcing, exceedingly aggressive timelines, Over/Underestimated costs, overlooked requirements, inadequate risk assessment, poor governance and human errors"

Other causes include:

a) Inadequate Planning.

b) Poor Stakeholders Management
c) Inadequate Skilled Manpower
d) Using IT as a vehicle for corruption

National IT Development Agency has the mandate to develop, regulate and provide advisory support towards the development of information technology so as to transform Nigeria into a knowledge-based economy. Therefore, NITDA has embarked on counter-active measure to ensure the percentage of IT project failure in Nigeria is reduced to the barest minimum.

One of the measures adopted by NITDA according to the speech was to reverse the ugly trend of project failures by constituting an IT Projects Clearance Committee. The Committee is comprised of professionals from various disciplines who meet weekly to evaluate proposed projects from MDAs, engage such MDAs where necessary and determine if such projects need to be reworked, improved or approved without any objection. He added that over 100 projects have been submitted and evaluated thus far by the Committee. Please download the document.

QUESTION & ANSWER

1. **Question 1**. The guidelines for registration of IT service providers provides that all applicants must have at least one of its principal officers registered with the Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria (CPN). For those not members of CPN but have international IT certifications, such as Cisco and Microsoft certifications, can those certifications not be accepted as a proof of competence? (Dr. Nwosu Anthony)

   Dr Gambo's response.
   There is a regulation by government that makes it mandatory for service provider, IT Contractor to have at least one of its members certified by CPN. The government also engaged CPN to regulate the sector by registering and effectively license professional and cooperate bodies that wish to provide services to the MDAs. He added that an interim license would be given to individuals or organizations that don't have CPN certification so they can be registered.

2. **Question 2.** How can NITDA assist AfICTA in its 1m jobs initiative, which aims at training and equipping our unemployed youths with core IT skills and certifications that would enable them to take advantage of job opportunities locally and internationally?. (Dr. Nwosu Anthony)

   Answer.
   Two out of NITDA's seven agenda (Capacity Building and Digital Job Creation) are directly in accordance with AfICTA 1 Million Jobs Initiative and as such, collaborating with AfICTA in the initiative would be of great advantage to NITDA's realization of its mandate. He said NITDA has over the years created a lot of digital jobs through its IT hubs across the country. He expressed his joy towards Nigeria

being part of the selected countries for the 1st phase of the project and further asked for the criteria used for the selection.

3. **Question 3.** What are the requirements for Registration of IT Company with NITDA and the time frame? (Mr. Muyideen Oyelakin)

   Dr. Gambo's response.
   - Company registering must be legally registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission.
   - Time frame depends on the time of submission. He said though competency is been verified, yet NITDA ensures prompt response to every application. Once the applicant's competencies have been verified, NITDA licenses the applicant and such license is renewable FoC every 2 years.

3RD PRESENTATION

"Optimising Cadastral Services for African Development- the Case of AGIS"

The presentation began shortly after question and answer session for Dr. Usman Gambo. Dr Isa Jalo congratulated AfICTA for its 1st eConference and looked forward to many of its kind.

He discussed on how AGIS was conceived as a result of the decision taken by Government of the Federation in 2004 to embark on a complete computerization of the cadastral (survey data) and land registry of the FCT and the level of successes recorded within ten years of its establishment in Land Administration and other land related departments of the FCT.

Dr. Jalo through his presentation discussed the 3 steps involved in land titling as land application, plot sourcing and the intelligent sheet. He further compared manual record keeping system adopted before AGIS operations were computerized. Dr. Isa Jalo submitted that computerizing the process has enhanced time management, ease of land allocation and has also managed some bottlenecks like unattended applications, multiple allocations, unclear situations in land allocation, mismatches in land use, encroachments on rights-of-way, property boundaries , misuse of public properties, forgeries of land documents, illegal allocations from "Parallel Office", inefficient revenue generation and collection.
It is also expedient to examine how AGIS has over the years contributed to the internally generated revenue of the capital territory via its automated systems which have eliminated middle men and as such discouraged bribery and corruption. Dr. Jalo spoke more on revenue collection via automated billing process. In addition, he listed some other products of AGIS as

1. Computerized Land Allocation processes
2. Computerized C of O productions
3. Computerized Cadastral Data for the FCC
4. Computerized Cadastral map production for the FCT

5. Digital Street guide map for FCC, etc.
6. Revenue Collection and remittance

Some other sessions of the presentation were considered. Please download the presentation.

QUESTION & ANSWER

1. As a stakeholder who acquired a land property through task force allocation before AGIS's establishment, who has also done the recertification as requested by AGIS but still doesn't know the status of the property, who should such stakeholder approach to express concern and where can the property's status be genuinely confirmed? (Mary Uduma: wrt Asokoro)

   Answer
   Dr Isa Jalo said as a result of manual system of land allocation adopted before AGIS came to being, there were multiple land allocation whereby more than an individual fight for a portion of land. He said if the land titling Mary Uduma has is genuine and since the recertification was done, she should either write to his office or the customer service in AGIS then present her documents for review. (wrt Asokoro)

2. In the case of land encroachment by estate developers in Lugbe, who should such stakeholder approach to express concern? (Mary Uduma: wrt Lugbe)

   Answer
   Lugbe has been included as part of the main city of Abuja bearing phase-4 and it's declared the planning zone and that shows no recertification can be done until all the previously allocated properties have be fully integrated into the system. (wrt Lugbe)

3. What incentives/opportunities are available for the private sector to take advantage of the huge data being generated by AGIS? (Dr Nwosu Anthony)

   Answer
   Private sector can partner with AGIS in terms of accessing data like street name, house number and some other land related information. He added that there is also an ongoing scheme for mass housing that gives opportunity to real estate developers to collaborate with AGIS. He said some organizations from private sector have utilized these opportunities and AGIS welcomes others who would want to explore them.

4. AfICTA's application for land in Abuja has been pending since 2014. How can your office assist AfICTA to secure land in Abuja for its office development? (Dr. Nwosu Anthony)

Answer
Since there is acknowledged application document, AfICTA should write to the honorable Minister of FCT as reminder, specifying land type and usage with relevant document attached.

5. Regarding an advert on the media called "Oga Landlord" which went viral and many people bought into for land allocation which ultimately led to disappointment for many applicants. What advice can your office give? (Read by Dr. Jimson Olufuye)

Answer
Dr Jalo was not clear on the advert in question, he then asked for further clarification. Dr Jalo then advised the general public never to subscribe to buying land from any individual or organization as the right to allocate or sell land in FCT is solely of the FCT minister.

6. In a case whereby a land allocation given to an applicant falls on a quarry, what is the step to take to claim the land? (Read by Dr. Jimson Olufuye)

Answer
He said it's possible the quarry existed before land allocation and if otherwise, complaint letter should be directed to the honorable minister of FCT for consideration.

AOB
Some of the questions treated above were further answered by concerned individuals

Vote of Thanks
Mr. Rowney utilized the opportunity to appreciate all the distinguished guest speakers for their robust speech and presentation: DG NITDA, ably represented by Dr. Usman Gambo, Director AGIS, Dr. Isa Jalo, and further thanked all the sponsors of the event: NITDA, AGIS, ATCON, MainOne, Whogohost, Dotengee, ICT-PAN, IITPSA, ITA, MeoCloud Technologies, Afenoid, Diamond Security, Wav Technologies, Kontemporary Konsulting, Chace System for being part of 1st AfICTA eConference success.

The final words came from the Chair AfICTA as he further thanked all the guest speakers, members present, sponsors and participants. He reiterated that the upcoming eConference would focus on South Africa and that general public would be well informed. AfICTA Summit 2018 which would be the 6th of its kind would also hold in Mombasa Kenya from October 8-9, 2018.

The event ended @ 12:12 pm (GMT +1)

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