

The composition of the Bureau which was elected in May 2002 in Bamako is as follows:

President:

- Mali

Members:

Countries

- Cameroon
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Tunisia

Civil Society

- M. Olivier Nzepa, Anais Network, Cameroon
- M. M. Masmoudi, Arab Union of NGOs SHABAKA, Tunisia
- Mrs Lynn Wanyeki, Femnet, Kenya

Private sector

- Anne Rachel Inne, African Enterprise Network, Niger
- Mouhamet Diop, Next Senegal

Rapporteur

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

The Bamako Bureau held its first meeting on the continent from 22 to 24 May 2003.

The following members have attended the meeting:

Cameroon:	Mr Olivier Nana Nzepa, Ms Eboumbou Patience, Mr Essiane Ella Justin ,	Civil Society, Government, Government,
Mali:	Mr Mamadou Diallo Iam, Ms Hawa Konaté, Mr Lassana Fofana, Mr Ousmane Bamba,	Government, President , Government, Government, Government,
Rwanda:	Mr Pius Ndayambaje, Mr Pierre Haguma,	Gouvernement, Gouvernement,
Senegal:	Mr Mouhamet Diop	Private Sector,
Tunisia:	Mr Mustapha Masmoudi Mr Jalel Chelba	Civil Society, Government,
Gambia:	George Christensen	Civil Society, Observer ,
ECA:	Makane Faye	Secretariat of the Bureau.

- South Africa's delegate cancelled her participation at the last minute because of unforeseen sad event.
- Government delegates from Senegal did not attend because of earlier commitments outside the country.
- Mr Ridha Guellouz from Government of Tunisia could not attend because of flight connection problems.

The meeting focused on the two Draft documents, which were received from PrepCom 2: the Declaration of Principles, and the Plan of Action. The Bureau decided to give more attention to the Draft Action Plan as Africa is expecting visible and tangible actions to be implemented in the continent to help us join the Information Society.

The Bamako2002 Bureau stated the following points:

1. the Bamako2002 Bureau thanks the members of Sub Committee 2 for the compilation they have made and the exhaustive job done,
2. it assessed that developing countries in general, and those from the continent in particular, need and are expecting valuable and concrete ICT programmes, pilot projects to tackle the daily tasks and problems our populations are facing,
3. our countries need sub regional, regional and country programmes and/or pilot projects in ICT applications in different sectors such as, education, health, connectivity, governance, hygiene, small and medium business enterprises, commerce, agriculture, environment, etc..., to be implemented and executed in a 2 to 5 years time.
4. the Bamako2002 Bureau proposes that entities of the United Nations system be identified to help implement these programmes and pilot projects in our 5 sub regions.
5. sub regional and regional entities could be also identified and included in the formulation, the implementation and the execution of such programmes and pilot projects,
6. the Bamako2002 Bureau proposes that a Digital Solidarity Funds be created as proposed by President Abdoulaye Wade to finance the programmes and pilot projects,
7. the Bamako2002 Bureau proposes that local and regional banks should be involved in financing sub regional and regional ICT programmes and pilot projects at national and sub regional levels,
8. infrastructure programmes and pilot projects could be negotiated and developed at regional, sub regional and national levels to minimize cost,
9. the Bamako2002 Bureau reaffirms that these ICT programmes and/or pilot projects should include all stakeholders: public and private sector as well as civil society actors,
10. mechanisms and criteria for selecting projects among regional sub regional and national ICT proposals must be set with transparency and equity.
11. mechanisms of accessing funds for these initiatives must also be set in transparency, equity and total democracy.
12. the Digital Solidarity Fund must be run by a board of members coming half from developing countries, half from developed countries. Its secretariat must also be built in the same way.
13. ICT programmes and pilot projects should have:
 - a. Clear and transparent criteria of selection,
 - b. clear and realistic objectives,
 - c. clear time period for their conception, elaboration, implementation and evaluation
 - d. clear and measurable indicators to assess later their actual impact,
 - e. clear assignment of responsibility to implementing staff.
14. the board of the Digital Solidarity Funds should be under the umbrella of the WSIS Preparatory Secretariat.
15. Audit and evaluation of the Digital Solidarity Funds must be scheduled.

The Bamako2002 Bureau decided to give tangible examples of what an ICT regional, sub regional, or national programme and/or pilot project could look like. The following two project sheets could be amended for use in different sectors.

Example 1:

Sub regional ICT Infrastructure development Initiative for 4 mainland countries of West and Central Africa.

Project Title: Optical Fibre Backbone for mainland Countries in West an Central Africa.

Project Identification Number: AA/001/INF_001

Résumé: Starting from Senegal at SAT3 optical fibre node, this project aims to lay an optical fibre cable from Dakar (Senegal) to N'Djamena (Tchad) to give a substantial bandwidth to 4 African Countries of the mainland. The cable will start in Dakar, (Senegal) pass by Kayes, Bamako, Segou, Mopti (in Mali), Bobo Dioulasso, Ouagadougou, Dori (in Burkina Faso), Niamey, Maradi, Zinder, Nguigmi (in Niger), N'Djamena, Abeche, (Chad), and end to Maiduguri (in Nigeria). A large band access facility is given to those countries where Internet connectivity is a main constraint to ICT development.

Main Objectives:

1. to provide large bandwidth access to mainland countries which are Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger, and boost ICT development in target countries,
2. to promote private sector small and medium enterprises in ICT services,
3. to decrease ICT access prices and promote visibility on the web of target countries.

Region: Africa
Sub Regions: West and Central Africa
Country (ies) involved: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger
Implementing Agency(ies): ITU and Countries National Telecom Companies.
Periods of:

- Conception: 3 months
- Implementation: 3 years,
- Evaluation: 3 months
- Final Report: 2 months.

Cost in Local Currency: X XXX millions CFA Francs.

Cost in US Dollars: Y YYY millions US Dollars.

Financial Support from: Digital Solidarity Funds, World Bank, European Union and African Development Bank.

Equipment: XXXX

Expected Results:

- Connectivity available for target countries, with large band access for the ICT community,
- Opportunity for boosting ICT application activities in target countries,
- ICT small and medium size business promotion, and Internet services availability in target countries.

Possible Indicators:

- Number of kilometres of optical fibre available in each country and in total, Bandwidth available, number of mobile and fixed phone lines, of main telephone lines per 100 inhabitants, added by country,
- Number of Internet Service Providers obtained and amount of income generated by ISP and phone operators per country,
- Number of Internet users and Web pages created by country, Etc...

Example 2:

Awareness in AIDS/HIV pilot project for youth in different schools.

Project Title: Youth AIDS/HIV awareness pilot project.

Project Identification Number: BB/001/APPI_001

Résumé: The Southern hemisphere of Africa is strongly concerned by any action for youth awareness in AIDS/HIV infection, transmission, means of avoiding the infection, programmes of fighting and how to provide support to infected people.

ICTs could provide a strong opportunity to fulfil these goals adequately by setting a network between 50 colleges inside the whole country and operate it by a team of some national experts in AIDS/HIV issues with a group of youngsters from the target group.

Main Objectives:

1. to set a youth network through a computer network entirely devoted to AIDS/HIV awareness among 50 colleges widespread in the whole country.
2. to operate the Youth Network with them and support from a national experts group.
3. to produce multimedia programmes to be operated interactively with the youth group.
4. to reduce risks of AIDS/HIV spread among young students.

Region: Africa
Sub Region: Southern Africa,
Country: Hopeland,
Implementing Agency: WHO, ONUSIDA, ECA
Periods of:

- Conception: 3 months,
- Implementation: 2 years,
- Evaluation: 2 months,
- Final Report: 2 months.

Cost in Local Currency: X XXX Millions Hopeland Dollars

Cost in US Dollars: Y YYY Millions US Dollars

Financial Support: from Digital Solidarity Funds, National Bank of Hopeland, World Bank.

Equipment: Computers, network accessories, communication software, ...

Expected Results:

- AIDS/HIV awareness among young students from 50 colleges in the country,
- Infection reduction among young college students,
- Solidarity of young students towards infected people instead of rejection.

Possible Indicators:

- Decrease in infection rate,
- Stated awareness of college students.