



## **DRAFT CHARTER v. 2 -26 March 2024**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Africa Internet Governance Task Force was created during the United Nations IGF in Japan with the sole aim of reviewing the current architecture of the Africa IGF particularly the Secretariat, the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), Operating Procedures, and their related functions.

## **TEAM COMPOSITION**

The team comprised of the following members:

1. Hon Alhagie Mbow	Chairperson	The Gambia
2. Tijani Benjeema	Vice Chairperson	Tunisia
3. Hon Neema Lugangira	Member	Tanzania
4. Lilian Nalwoga	Member	Uganda
5. Mohamed Farahat	Member	Egypt
6. Anriette Esterhuysen	Member	South Africa
7. Poncelet Ileleji	Member	The Gambia
8. Michel Tchonang Linze	Member	Cameroun
9. Thoko Miya	Member	South Africa
10. Mary Uduma	Member	Nigeria
11. Jacob Munodawafa	Member	Zimbabwe

## **WORK BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE**

In order to ensure the assignment is structured, the team was divided into three working groups. The following are the breakdown of the membership of each working group:

- **Secretariat Working Group**

1. Hon. Alhagie Mbow
2. Mohamed Farahat
3. Anriette Esterhuysen
4. Poncelet Ileleji
5. Michel Tchonang Linze
6. Thoko Miya
7. Lilian Nalwoga
8. Jacob Munodafa
9. Mary Uduma

- **MAG Working Group**

1. Lilian Nalwoga
2. Jacob Munodafa
3. Mary Uduma
4. Thoko Miya
5. Mohamed Farahat
6. Neema Lugangira

- **Operating Procedures working Group**

1. Tijani Benjeema
2. Thoko Miya
3. Mary Uduma
4. Poncelet Ileleji
5. Neema Lugangira

## **PREAMBLE**

The African Internet Governance Charter was requested by participants of the Fourth African Internet Governance Forum held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 8 September 2015. This document was developed online by the AfIGF Charter Working Group established by the African Union.

With the view to solicit and collect inputs and comments that would help improve the contents of this draft charter, the draft has been circulated among the various African Internet Governance stakeholder groups in the second week of September 2017 for a 3-week period, which ended on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The revised document was finalized by the Charter Working Group on 5 December 2017.

The Charter has been reviewed by a Task Force created in Kyoto during the Global IGF 2023. The result was a modification proposal that shall be posted to the wide AfIGF community for comments and finally adopted after inclusion of the community comments during the upcoming African IGF 2024 to be held on ...../2024

### **Chapter (1) Background, Principles and Objectives**

#### **Article (1): Background**

Building on the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals and considering the mandate given at the Second Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis (WSIS), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a United Nations led-activity initiated in 2006 as a global platform for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on prevailing and emerging issues on Internet Governance to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability, and development of the Internet.

As per Paragraphs 72 and 80 of the Tunis Agenda: “We ask the UN Secretary-General, in an open and inclusive process, to convene, by the second quarter of 2006, a meeting of the new forum for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue—called the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). The mandate of the Forum is to:

- I. Discuss public policy issues related to key elements of Internet Governance to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet;
- II. Facilitate discourse between bodies dealing with different cross-cutting international public policies regarding the Internet and discuss issues that do not fall within the scope of any existing body;
- III. Interface with appropriate inter-governmental organizations and other institutions on matters under their purview;
- IV. Facilitate the exchange of information and best practices, and in this regard make full use of the expertise of the academic, scientific, and technical communities;
- V. Advise all stakeholders by proposing ways and means to accelerate the availability and affordability of the Internet in the developing world;
- VI. Strengthen and enhance the engagement of stakeholders in existing and/or future Internet governance mechanisms, particularly those from developing countries;
- VII. Identify emerging issues, bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public, and, where appropriate, make recommendations;
- VIII. Contribute to capacity building for Internet governance in developing countries, drawing on local sources of knowledge and expertise;
- IX. Promote and assess, on an ongoing basis, the embodiment of WSIS principles in Internet Governance processes;
- X. Discuss, among other things, issues relating to critical Internet resources;
- XI. Help to find solutions to the issues arising from the use and misuse of the Internet, of particular concern to everyday users;
- XII. Publish its proceedings.

The term of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) was put in place initially for a five years duration (2006-2010);

Following the first five years of successful delivery of the mandate of IGF, the international community decided to extend the IGF mandate for another five years covering the period (2011-2015).

Recognizing that the arrangements of the first ten years of the IGF process worked effectively to make the Internet the highly robust, dynamic, and geographically diverse medium that it is today, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2015 resolved to extend the IGF mandate for another 10 years with its current mandate as set out in paragraph 72 to 78 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

The IGF, like the WSIS, has contributed to the achievement of internationally established development goals, and continues to streamline information and communication technologies (ICTs) as part of the implementation of the SDGs, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development (Resolution A/70/1). The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in 2015 by all Member States of the United Nations, which defines a 15-year plan to achieve these goals. The IGF is also aligned with this principle and will have to contribute to the success of the SDGs.

The African Internet community contributed significantly to the WSIS process and the implementation of its outputs, especially concerning Internet governance, hosting two global IGFs in Egypt (2009) and Kenya (2011).

Responding to a strong need to support and promote the consolidation of the ongoing activities related to Internet governance, in 2011, the African Internet community took the initiative of establishing the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF).

Presently, five sub-regional IGF initiatives are ongoing in Africa: the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF), the East Africa Internet Governance Forum (EAIGF), Forum sur la Gouvernance de l'Internet en Afrique Centrale (FGI-CA), the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF) and the North African Internet Governance Forum (NAIGF).

## **Article (2): Principles**

### **2.1 Fundamental Principles**

The AfIGF, in keeping with the global Internet Governance Forum, shall be:

1. Open - all entities, organizations, and participating institutions that are Internet governance stakeholders shall be free to join the forum.
2. Multi-stakeholder - At all points, efforts shall be made to encourage all categories of stakeholders to participate in the Forum actively.
3. Language Diversity - The AfIGF, to the measure of its capacity, shall strive to maintain language diversity based on the working languages of the African Union, in its operations. Given budgetary constraints at least English and French will be used.
4. Transparent - The stakeholders shall strive to be open in communications, in decisions, and in their implementations. A clear understanding of the Internet Governance process for sustainability in the engagement of all stakeholders shall be the aim of the AfIGF.
5. Free of charge - There are no registration/participation fees to participate in the AfIGF.

### **2.2 Other principles:**

- a. A united team spirit between AfIGF MAG and the AfIGF Secretariat with each has tasks and responsibilities as defined in this Charter with no hierarchy between the two.

## **Article (3): Objectives**

The specific objectives of the African Internet Governance Forum are:

- (a) To raise greater awareness and support user's capabilities in the field of Internet governance to ensure good preparation for African stakeholders to contribute and interact at the global level;

- (b) To ensure that Africa’s interests and voices in the Global Internet Governance Forum and at regional and international levels are well formulated, understood, and taken into consideration;
- (c) To develop a coordinated regional action plan and facilitate international exchanges on issues pertinent to Internet governance;
- (d) To boost and facilitate the participation of the African stakeholders in specialized regional and international forums on Internet governance;
- (e) To promote and encourage the establishment of national IGFs to create and maintain dialogues among all stakeholders on ICT for development issues and facilitate the countries’ participation in regional IGF processes as well as global IGF;
- (f) To promote access to information and knowledge, content development, and the use of African languages in cyberspace; and
- (g) To promote the use of ICTs and the Internet for accelerating the socio-economic development of the continent.

## **Chapter (2) AfIGF Annual Forum**

### **Article (4): Membership**

All citizens of all African Countries in the 5 African Sub-regions interested in Internet issues are de facto members of African IGF. The five African Sub-Regions are North, East, West, Central, and Southern Africa.

### **Article (5): Definition of the Annual Forum**

The African Internet Governance Forum is an annual gathering of all its members as defined in Article (4) of this charter to debate any issue related to the Internet and its governance and related policy changes and implementations within the African continent.

### **Article (6): Organization of the Annual Forum**

The African Internet Governance Forum shall be Convened Face to face each year, preferably in different countries from different African sub-regions, ideally on a rotational basis.

In case of financial shortages, outbreak of a pandemic globally and/or global travel restrictions, it may be held virtually using one of the online platforms for virtual meetings.

The Forum format, content, program, and all its substantive aspects are the responsibility of the AfIGF Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) defined in Article (7) of this Charter.

#### The AfIGF annual meeting

- Is chaired by the host country & the MAG Chairperson and supported by the Secretariat.
- Is organized in plenary and breakout sessions.
- May have

- Side events and pre-events organized according to guidelines established by the MAG.
- Exhibition organized by the host country according to the above Guidelines.
- Is free of charge: there are no registration or/and participation fees for the AfIGF annual event.

### **Chapter (3) Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG)**

#### **Article (7): MAG Composition**

The MAG shall be composed of 22 voting members dispatched in this way:

- 20 members (4 from different countries of each of the 5 African sub-regions) selected by the Nominating Committee (NomCom) defined in Article (10) of this Charter among candidates from the 5 African sub-regions affiliated to all stakeholder groups (Governments, Private sector, Civil Society, Academia & technical community).
- 1 member appointed by the AUC.
- 1 member appointed by the UNECA.

Regional African organizations and Africa-based international organizations may also participate in the activities of AfIGF-MAG as observers.

The MAG members are all volunteers and should be affiliated to one of the multi-stakeholder groups, with due consideration of the gender, geography, age and stakeholder diversity as much as possible. They

- Will serve on a voluntary and pro-bono basis
- Will serve in their personal capacity but are expected to have extensive linkages with their stakeholder groups
- Are renewed by half to ensure continuity as longest serving members retire
- Have a term of two years renewable once
- Can re-apply after a pause of 2 terms after retirement

#### **Article (8): MAG Mission and tasks**

The main mission of the AfIGF Multi-Stakeholder Group (MAG) is to prepare and to hold the AfIGF annual forum inclusively, ensuring the diversity of participation (gender, geography, stakeholder, age).

Therefore, the MAG shall

- Develop an annual work plan of the AfIGF activities.
- Define the content of the annual Forum.
- Define the format and structure of the annual forum, as well as its agenda.



- In close collaboration with the Secretariat and host country, support the preparation of the annual meeting of the AfIGF.
- Reach out to the African Internet community to encourage wide and inclusive participation in the AfIGF process.
- Promote the annual AfIGF forum and work with the Secretariat to seek sponsors, partners, and collaborators who can help with funding.
- Report to the African Internet community all activities of the AfIGF through the AfIGF Website and social media platforms.
- Receive and approve inter-sessional activities of and from the AfIGF community.
- Select and appoint the members of the Nominating Committee among candidates who volunteer for this committee.
- Review proposals for the Charter amendments.

**Article (9): Selection of the MAG Members**

With Full consideration of Article (4) of this Charter, the selection of the new MAG Members shall be done in the following way:

- With Consideration of Article (7) of this charter, the number of new members must be ten (10) with no more than 2 members per Sub-Region.
- In close coordination with the AfIGF MAG Chair, the AfIGF Secretariat opens a call for MAG membership within 3 months before the termination of the sitting MAG term.
- The call for candidates remains open for 30 days.
- At the closure of the call for candidates, the AfIGF Secretariat undertakes the preliminary screening to eliminate non-eligible candidates and then transmits the new slate to the NomCom.
- The Nominating Committee (NomCom) defined in article (10) of this charter proceeds to the evaluation of the candidates as per the below criteria.
- The NomCom submits to the Secretariat the final list of selected new MAG members not later than 15 days before the date of the annual Forum.
- The composition of the renewed MAG is announced at the end of the annual forum by the NomCom Chair or the Secretariat.

To be eligible, each candidate for MAG membership must:

- Be citizen of and live in one of the 5 African Sub-Regions.
- Have the necessary expertise in the Internet Governance ecosystem and the related policy issues.
- Have participated in at least one of the Internet Governance Forums at the National, Sub-regional, regional, or global level.
- Not be a member of, or candidate to the Nominating Committee of the considered selection round.

- Have linkages or affiliation with the recognized IG stakeholder groups.
- All MAG members are supposed to attend all MAG meetings (Virtual and/or face-to-face) and actively participate in the annual forum.
- A MAG member who doesn't attend 75% of the whole number of meetings (Virtual and/or face to face) or 3 consecutive meetings is considered as an inactive member except in case of force majeure.

**Article (10):** Nominating Committee (NomCom)

- The NomCom is an independent committee tasked to select the 10 new members of the AfIGF Multi-Stakeholder Group (MAG) as part of the Half renewing process.
- It is composed of 05 volunteers (one per sub-region) appointed among nominees (including self-nominees) by the sitting MAG for a single selection round.
- As soon as the composition of the renewed MAG is announced, the NomCom is dissolved and won't have any further role.
- Members of the NomCom can be selected for no more than two consecutive selection rounds.

The NomCom Members are selected according to the following procedure:

- With consultation of the AfIGF MAG Chair, the AfIGF Secretariat opens a call for candidates for the NomCom membership within 6 months prior to the termination of the sitting MAG term.
- The call for candidates remains open for 30 days.
- At the closure of the call for candidates, the secretariat and the sitting MAG Chair proceed to the evaluation of the candidates as per the criteria outlined in the previous article, and select the top 5 to form the new NomCom.

To be eligible for the NomCom membership, candidates must:

- Be a citizen of one of the five African sub-regions.
- Have the necessary knowledge of Internet Governance issues.
- Not be a member of the MAG or candidate for MAG membership,

**Article (11):** MAG Leadership

The MAG members shall select a Chairperson and a Vice-Chair among themselves, taking into consideration a reasonable rotation among the five African sub-regions as well as gender, stakeholder and country diversity.

The MAG Chair is responsible-inter alia- of:

- Convening the Annual African IG Forum with the support of the Secretariat.
- Convening the MAG teleconferences or face-to-face meetings.
- Chairing all the meetings and the teleconferences of the MAG.

- Forming specific committees from the MAG members when necessary to undertake specific tasks.
- Represent the AfIGF in UN IGF MAG meetings, Open Consultations and regular NRIs calls convened by the global UN IGF Secretariat.

The MAG Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in all his tasks. He/she replaces him/her when absent or having any temporary or permanent impediment.

The Chairperson and Vice chairperson

- Shall respectively have a term of Non-renewable 2 years. They cannot be nominated (Self-nomination or nomination by other MAG members) for their current positions for a second consecutive term.
- With full consideration of the first item of this article, and after a pause of at least (two) completed terms of the MAG following the completion of their term, they can be nominated again for the same position
- Shall not be citizens of the same sub-region of the current MAG Chair.
- When possible, they would be from different gender and different stakeholder affiliations.
- For any task, The MAG Chair can delegate whom he/she finds appropriate from the MAG members to replace him/her.
- The position of Chairperson is rotated in accordance with the provisions of our 5 sub-regions. It cannot be renewed in a sub-region unless the rotation is complete.

#### **Article (12): Voting System**

All MAG decisions shall be taken by consensus. Nevertheless, if consensus can't be reached

- all normal matters that need collective MAG's decisions, shall be adopted and approved according to the simple majority vote system by MAG members (50% of MAG members +1).
- Very important matters that need collective MAG decisions such as the modification of the charter shall be adopted and approved by the MAG members according to the two-thirds majority vote system (15 MAG members voting Yes).

### **Chapter (4) AfIGF Secretariat**

#### **Article (13): Hosting Institution**

The ECA will host the African IGF Secretariat for two years until the end of 2025, working closely with the African Union Commission (AUC) to coordinate with member states in implementing the African IGF Secretariat's mandate and the African MAG. In early 2026, discussions will be held to decide the hosting arrangement for the future.

The secretariat of the African IGF is expected to provide the following:

- The salaries of core Secretariat staff, in particular, the Coordinator of the Secretariat.
- Communications and other running costs of the African IGF Secretariat.
- Office facilities as needed.
- Develop (with the Secretariat) a budget for the Secretariat every year.
- Provide transparent and detailed financial reporting on the operations of the Secretariat to the MAG and the broader AfIGF community and all supporters/sponsors.
- Support the Secretariat in its relationships with other processes and institutions as needed. Refer to Section 5 for more detail in this regard.

Aside from the hosting institutions that are expected to provide some basic financial support for the operations of the AfIGF Secretariat, there can be more “supporters” of the Secretariat. This support can take the form of financial contributions, or in-kind support such as hosting and covering the salary and linked costs of one or more African IGF Secretariat team members.

Additional financial and in-kind contributions will be mobilized by the Secretariat and the MAG from development partners interested in supporting the success and sustainability of the AfIGF.

An AfIGF Support Fund can be created and managed by the Secretariat to provide support for participation in the annual event as well as for other elements of the IGF ecosystem in Africa. The possible sources of this Fund can come from:

- Voluntary contributions of African and international organizations;
- Contributions from individuals and businesses; and
- Contributions from the AfIGF meetings host country.

#### **Article (14): Role and Responsibilities**

The overall role of the AfIGF Secretariat is to, work with the MAG, host countries, and other relevant structures, support the organization of the African IGF and related events such as the Africa School on Internet Governance and the African Youth IGF.

It has the following specific responsibilities:

- Provide administrative, logistical and organizational support to the AfIGF-MAG. This includes meeting support e.g. assisting the MAG chair to develop agendas, collating and circulate papers, prepare and circulate minutes, etc. and scheduling and organizing MAG meetings and other meetings as needed.
- Ensure effective financial and administrative coordination and logistical support for the African IGF process and for the organization of the annual AfIGF event.
- Promote the AfIGF activities at global, sub-regional and national levels.

- Together with the AfIGF MAG, develop and implement a multi-year strategic plan and budget for the African IGF every two years.
- In consultation with the host institutions and the AfIGF MAG develop an annual budget for the AfIGF Secretariat every year.
- Develop a TORs – using the existing documents as a base - for hosting the AfIGF.
- Sign TOR with the AfIGF MAG in line with work expectations and accountability structures within each term.
- Put out a call for expression of interest to host the annual IGF and identify and follow up with potential hosts. The call for the following year’s hosting needs to be announced and published during every year’s annual IGF.
- Support the selection and appointment process of MAG members when MAG rotation takes place.
- Develop and maintain active email lists, the African IGF website and act as a knowledge management hub for the AfIGF, including by documenting experiences, best practices, innovative ideas, expertise, and resources available at sub-regional and national IGFs.
- Represent the AfIGF in UN IGF MAG meetings, Open Consultations, and regular NRI calls convened by the global UN IGF Secretariat.
- Represent the AfIGF on the global NRI list maintained by the UN IGF Secretariat.
- Keep the AfIGF MAG up to date with decisions that emerge from the UN IGF process.
- Coordinate the production of, and submit the AfIGF annual report to the UNIGF Secretariat, collaborators, partners, sub-regional MAG coordinators and sponsors including the government stakeholder group (African States). This report should consist of a) a narrative report and b) a detailed financial report.
- Coordinate the finalisation and communication of any AfIGF outcome documents.
- Support the MAG in drafting its annual advisory report to the AfIGF community.
- Provide all necessary financial and narrative reporting to sponsors/supporters/funders of the AfIGF on yearly basis or when needed.

**Article (15): AfIGF Secretariat Composition**

The AfIGF Secretariat shall be kept as small as possible but should include at least the following positions:

- Coordinator
- Desk officer
- Communications officer (The maintenance of the AfIGF website can be outsourced and a service level agreement (SLA) established with the AfIGF Secretariat. Part of the SLA would be to host, maintain and update the site. The hosting can also include generic email addresses for the Secretariat that can be reassigned if individuals in the Secretariat change).
- Finance officer

- Other positions that could be filled from time to time, as needed, include:
  - Seasonal volunteers.
  - Interns and fellows (for example selected from participants in the African School on IG).
  - If possible these volunteers or interns should receive a stipend.

**Article (16): Relationship between the Secretariat and the MAG**

- The AfIGF Secretariat shall work collaboratively throughout the year with the MAG including during the period where there is also intensive collaboration with the host of the annual event.
- The MAG should be made aware of the AfIGF Secretariat’s terms of reference. These terms of reference should be clear and precise.
- The AfIGF Secretariat will record MAG meeting attendance and apologies which should be sent in advance.
- The AfIGF Secretariat will facilitate the organizing of MAG meetings as well as meetings with AfIGF inter-sessional processes such as national and sub-regional IGFs (NRIs), Dynamic Coalitions, Youth IGF Initiatives, Best Practice Forums and Policy Networks.
- The AfIGF Secretariat will exchange information with the MAG and make available the database of members and participants to the MAG if needed. The MAG should also consistently share information with the Secretariat.
- The AfIGF Secretariat and the AfIGF MAG should, to the best of their abilities, keep each other informed of all information and activities related to digital governance in the region.

**Article (17): Relationship with other bodies/institutions in the AfIGF ecosystem**

In the course of its work the African IGF Secretariat will collaborate with several other organizations, networks, structures and processes. The AfIGF Secretariat, should, with everyone it works with, maintain the following:

- An approach that is respectful and that allows for open sharing of ideas, discussion and debate.
- Open communications and being considerate of the multitude of perspectives and opinions among AfIGF stakeholders.
- Emphasis on working in a manner that maximizes collaboration, transparency, accountability and inclusion with respect for diversity and gender balance.

**Article (18): Relationship with Sub-regional and National NRIs**

The Secretariat shall

- Facilitate awareness-raising among (and about) NRIs and encourage stakeholder participation in NRIs, and of NRIs in regional internet governance matters.

- Develop a calendar for the year that reflects which NRIs will take place where and share this calendar publicly.
- Maintain contact details of all African NRIs and keep these details updated as they do change from time to time.
- Foster on-going multilateral and multi-stakeholder discussion on Internet issues with NRI bodies.
- Assist NRIs in raising awareness and provide advice to them on implementing their initiatives.
- Establish a process that encourages the inclusion of young people in internet governance.
- Establish a process to ensure gender balance in the participation in all NRI processes.

**Article (19): Relationship with UN IGF Secretariat**

The AfIGF Secretariat should maintain regular communication with the UN IGF Secretariat on its activities.

- They should participate in all calls and meetings (virtually or in person) of the UN IGF MAG and UN IGF Secretariat, including Open Consultations, MAG meetings, involve young people regularly in the IGF process in the African region, encouraging them to participate in all youth initiatives.
- Facilitate and support the establishment of Youth IGFs in countries with national and sub-regional NRIs and NRI calls as well as the annual global IGF and any other preparatory meeting that the UN IGF convenes.

**Article (20): Relationship with African Youth IGF (AfYIGF)**

The Secretariat shall

- Involve young people regularly in the IGF process in the African region, encouraging them to participate in all youth initiatives.
- Facilitate and support the establishment of Youth IGFs in countries with national and sub-regional NRIs.

**Article (21): Relationship with the host of the annual Forum**

- The AfIGF Secretariat and the MAG chair must be the main points of contact with the host country and should always keep one another copied in all communications with the host country/organization representatives.
- Applications for hosting the annual AfIGF must be evaluated by a committee set up by the Secretariat and the MAG (based on clear criteria and a transparent process established beforehand).
- The hosting agreement must be signed by the host country and the institution that hosts the AfIGF Secretariat.

- The host country and the date for the annual IGF should be known no less than 6 months before the event takes place.

**Article (22):** Relationship with the IGF Parliamentary Track

- Support the activities of the IGF Parliamentary Track at the African IGF collaborating with the UN IGF Secretariat and African members of parliament.

**Article (23):** Relationship with African School on IG (AfriSIG)

- The AfIGF secretariat will provide support to the AfriSIG organisers and, as needed, to the host country in the convening of the annual AfriSIG.
- AfriSIG participants are expected to attend the AfIGF and volunteer as needed.
- The AfIGF Secretariat needs to provide timely information to the host country with regard to the support they are expected to provide for AfriSIG in line with the host country agreement.
- AfriSIG will be asked to share outcome documents and other information on the annual event with the AfIGF secretariat.

**Article (24):** Relationship with other institutional partners

Beyond UNECA and the AUC, the AfIGF secretariat will have to:

- Negotiate and maintain collaboration with other regional organizations from time to time. This will include sharing calendars and pooling certain activities of the institutions concerned with AfIGF initiatives.
- Organise, in collaboration with MAG AfIGF, consultation and working sessions on the region's digital development prospects.
- Develop and enter into agreements (including Memorandums of Understanding) with partners, if needed. The host organisation of the AfIGF Secretariat will sign these agreements. The MAG will be consulted and kept informed regarding such agreements. AfIGF.

### **Chapter (5):** Charter Amendment

**Article (25):** Charter amendment process

- Any member, as defined in Article 4 of this charter or group of members of the AfIGF community, including AfIGF MAG members can submit a proposal for the AfIGF charter amendment to the AfIGF Secretariat.
- The proposal for amendment should include the name of the member(s) who suggested the amendment, the reasons for it, the article(s) to be amended, and the required amendment whether by addition, deletion, or modification.
- The secretariat transmits the proposal to the sitting MAG for review.



- The MAG shall form a review committee, composed of 05 MAG active members, tasked to review the proposal for a charter amendment. It is up to the committee members to determine the method of their work.
- The MAG shall determine a specific period for the review committee to achieve its work; under any circumstances, the period shall not exceed 3 months from the date of its formation.
- The review committee shall submit their report to the entire MAG members for the final decision on whether to accept the amendment proposal, modify or reject it.
- Proposals for the charter amendment should be accepted by two-thirds of MAG members to be submitted to the AFIGF community.
- If the MAG finds it relevant, the proposal shall be submitted to the AFIGF Community through the AFIGF mailing list for discussion.
- The upcoming AFIGF forum shall adopt the proposal as is, adopt it with modification(s), or reject it.