

Africa Regional Consultation on the Implementation of WSIS+20 Outcomes: Operationalizing WSIS+20 and GDC

01-02 July 2026
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC)

Draft Programme of Work

Time	Sessions
DAY 1, Wednesday, 01 July 2026	
08:00 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:50	Opening Session Moderator: Economic Affairs Officer, Technology, Innovation, Connectivity and Infrastructure Division, ECA, Mr. Afework Temtime ■ Deputy, National Assembly, Benin – Hon. Alidjanatou Saliou Arekpa ■ Vice Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology Development (CSTD), Ms. Isabelle Lois (Virtual) ■ Director, African Centre for Statistics, ECA, Mr. Samuel Kobina Annim ■ Representative, Digital Economy Development, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia, Mr. Seyoum Mengesha
09:50 – 10:00	Group photo
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>
10:30 – 13:00	Session 1: Africa's 2035 Digital Implementation Roadmap: Operationalizing WSIS+20 and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) This session presents a technical assessment underpinning the Africa 2035 Digital Implementation Roadmap, grounded in the thematic mapping of the UNGA Resolution A/RES/80/173 across Africa's WSIS+20 realities, GDC objectives, and Agenda 2063 aspirations. It also introduces a unified national reporting template that allows Member States to monitor and report on WSIS Action Lines, GDC goals, including AI and DPI priorities, through 2035. Moderator: Senior Digital Advisor, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia - Dr. Abiyot Bayu

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	Presentations by ECA and ITU: ■ Presentation on the draft Report on Africa 2035 Digital Implementation Roadmap - Consultant, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Fola Odufuwa ■ Presentation on WSIS+20 2026 Roadmap - Strategy and Policy Coordinator at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Ms. Gitanjali Sah (Virtual) Discussion
13:00 –14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Session 2: Strengthening Regional–Global Linkages between WSIS, IGF, and the Global Digital Compact in Africa This session focuses on how Africa, through its Regional Commissions and Member States, operationalizes the WSIS+20 Outcome by strengthening the linkages between these interconnected frameworks and platforms. The discussion will emphasize WSIS as the implementation framework, translating GDC commitments into concrete actions, while the IGF’s permanent status ensures continuity of the multistakeholder model. Moderator: CEO, Kontemporary Konsulting, Member of the UN Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group 2025, AfICTA.africa Chairman, Nigeria, Dr. Jimson Olufuye Presentations: ■ Chief of Emerging Technologies, Innovation and Digital Transformation Section, ECA, Mr. Mactar Seck ■ Senior Advisor, Regional Office for Africa, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Ms. Christine Sund ■ African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) Secretariat Coordinator, Ms.Sorene Assefa ■ Head of Coordination Unit, UN Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET), Ms. Isabel De Sola Criado (Virtual) ■ Regional Vice President for Africa, Internet Society (ISOC), Dr. Dawit Bekele ■ Chief of Digital Development, Digital Cooperation, ICT Policies, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny (Virtual) Discussion
14:00 – 16:30	Session 3: Country presentation on WSIS+20 Outcomes Implementation (WSIS, GDC, AI & DPI) This session will feature presentations on progress made in implementing the WSIS+20 Outcome Document since its adoption. It will provide an opportunity for countries to share experiences, highlight achievements, identify implementation challenges, and exchange

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	lessons learned across the WSIS Action Lines, Global Digital Compact (GDC) commitments, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI). The discussion will also encourage reflection on national approaches, priorities, and coordination mechanisms to advance implementation and strengthen regional cooperation towards Africa's digital transformation objectives. Moderator: Founder and Chief Executive Officer Iken, and Former Chair AfICTA, Egypt, Engr. Hossam Elgamal ■ Data Networks Engineer, Ministry of ICT, Uganda, Ms. Gloria Noeline ■ Director Innovations, Ministry of Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Ghana, Mr. Emmanuel Ofori ■ Office of the Minister, Ministry of Information, and Communication Technology, Namibia, Mr. Efraim Paulus Discussion
16:30 –17: 00	<i>Coffee break</i>
DAY 2, Thursday, 02 July 2026	
09:00 –10:00	Session 3 continues: Country presentation on WSIS+20 Outcomes Implementation: - Advisor, Cybersecurity and Digital Infrastructure, Ministry of Digital Economy, DRC, Mr. Steve Tshimpe Muteba - Deputy Director of Telecommunications and ICT Regulation, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Cameroon, Mr. François Joseph Nnemeté BEYEME - CEO, Digital Economy Development, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia, Mr. Seyoum Mengesha - Deputy Director (Policy and Strategic Planning), Ministry of ICT, Postal and Courier Services, Zimbabwe, Mr. James Mutandwa MADYA (Virtual) - Acting Director General, National, Director of Corporate Planning and Strategy, Nigeria, Dr. Wariowei Dimie Shively Discussion
10:00 –10:30	<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
10:30 –11:30	Session 4: Africa Regional Dialogue on AI Governance: Road to Geneva This session follows up on the Africa Regional Dialogue on AI Governance held in Ethiopia on 27 April 2026. It examines how the thematic clusters of the Addis Ababa Declaration on AI Governance can serve as key pillars for a cooperative, human-centred approach to technology. The discussion will also highlight Africa's priorities for building inclusive and responsible AI ecosystems aligned with Agenda 2063. Moderator: Chief of Emerging Technologies, Innovation and Digital Transformation Section, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Mactar Seck

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	■ Director of Innovation Directorate Ministry of Communication, Digital Technology and Innovation, Ghana, Mr. Emmanuel Ofori ■ Member of East Africa Legislative Parliament Assembly, and Chairperson of the East African Parliamentarians for Internet Governance, Uganda, Hon. Jaqueline Amongin ■ CEO, Kontemporary Konsulting, Member of the UN Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group 2025, AfICTA.africa Chairman, Nigeria, Dr. Jimson Olufuye ■ CEO, Africom Technology PLC, Ethiopia, Mr. Baheru Zeyenu ■ Executive Director, Women Be Free, Benin Ms. Clara Gninou Discussion
11:30 –13:00	Session 5: The Africa Union Data Policy Framework Implementation Roadmap, Challenges and Opportunities This session aims to review progress made by Member States and Regional Economic Communities in implementing the African Union Data Policy Framework (AUDPF) , highlighting key achievements, persistent challenges, and emerging priorities. The discussion will focus on translating policy commitments into practical implementation actions that strengthen national and regional data governance ecosystems, enable digital integration, and support inclusive socio-economic development across Africa. Particular attention will be given to capacity development , policy harmonization, cross-border data cooperation, ethical and trusted data use, and alignment with continental digital transformation priorities. Moderator: Director Innovations, Ministry of Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Ghana, Mr. Emmanuel Ofori ■ Data Networks Engineer, Ministry of ICT, Uganda, Ms. Gloria Noeline ■ Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Afework Tentime ■ Senior Program officer, African Union Development Agency (AUDA - NEPAD), South Africa, Ms. Christelle Onana (Virtual) ■ Head of Data Policy, Data Governance in Africa, GIZ-African Unicon, Ethiopia, Mr. Dominic Orr ■ Group Senior Director at Wingu Africa Group Data Center, Eng. Teshome Worku Discussion
13:00 –14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 –15:00	Session 6: Advancing Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for the Implementation of the Africa 2035 Digital Implementation Roadmap This session will examine how partnerships can support Member States in operationalizing the roadmap, strengthening national capacities, and utilizing the Unified National Reporting Template for monitoring WSIS, GDC, and IGF processes. The discussion will also identify collaborative mechanisms for technical assistance, financing, knowledge-sharing, and regional implementation support.

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	Moderator: Member of East Africa Legislative Parliament Assembly, and Chairperson of the East African Parliamentarians for Internet Governance, Uganda, Hon. Jaqueline Amongin ■ Principal Information Technology Officer, Eastern Africa Community (EAC), Dr. Daniel Murenzi (Virtual) ■ Head, AI made in Africa, GIZ African Union Office, Mr. Abraham Kuuku Sam ■ Head of Pan-African Institutions, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Google, Kenya, Ms. Pren-Tsilya Boa-Guehe ■ Director, Stakeholder Engagement & Operations for Africa, ICANN, Mr. Yaovi Atohoun (Virtual) ■ Expert at the Center for African Studies, HSE University, Moscow, Mr. Nikolai Golovko Discussion
15:00 – 16:00	Session 7: Launch of Key Initiatives and Technical Materials Moderator – PA to the Minister, Ministry of Information, and Communication Technology, Namibia, Mr. Efraim Paulus • The African Leaders’ Forum on DPI (ECA, ODET) - Senior Advisor on Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation, UN, Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET), Mr. Mehdi Snene (Virtual) • The Government AI Campus – (ECA-Google, Apolitical) - Head of Pan-African Institutions, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Google, Kenya, Ms. Pren-Tsilya Boa-Guehe • The 2026 E-Governance Handbook (HSE University, ECA) - Expert at the Center for African Studies, HSE University, Moscow, Mr. Nikolai Golovko • Optimizing Africa’s ICT Tax Regimes Towards Economic Growth and Job Creation (ECA) - Researcher, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Ms. Mariamawit Ayele Discussion
16:00 – 17:30	Closing session This session will discuss and review the draft declaration on WSIS+20 Outcomes Africa Implementation, articulating Africa's common position and alignment with the GDC. Moderator: Economic Affairs Officer, Technology, Innovation, Connectivity and Infrastructure Division (ECA), Mr. Afework Temtime

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	Presentations: ■ WSIS+20 Outcomes Africa Implementation, Key Messages Discussion
	Closing Remarks - Summary
17:30	<i>Closing refreshments</i>