

IGF 2022: Workshop on Cybersecurity for Development in the 4IR

Tuesday 29 November 2022 from 10.00-11.00 (EAT)

Venue: ECA Conference Room (CR3)

On 5 July 2012, the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) adopted by consensus a key resolution on promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet (UN Doc. A/HRC/20/L.13). The protection of citizens' right is a security concern affirmed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948. Therefore, the need to assure online security (*a.k.a. Cybersecurity*) of citizens cannot be over-emphasized.

Today, more than 5.07 billion people around the world use the internet with billions of devices (Systems, sensors and actuators) operating autonomously in the 4IR (more than 25 billion devices are currently connected according to Gartner and the World Economic Forum (WEF)), the pervasiveness of online risks is expected to rise geometrically in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) thereby underscoring the importance of comprehensive security measures online to assure trust and confidence and thus enhance continuous and sustainable development envisaged by world leaders with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 and the African Union (AU) 2063 Agenda: The Africa We Want.

Hence, Cybersecurity is a concern to all stakeholders; government, the private sector, the civil society, the technical and the academic communities and the youths in the multi-stakeholder Internet ecosystem. For a region like Africa which is the least digitalised region of the world, at the heart of the challenge lie two important inter-related considerations: trust and security. According to, Interpol's African Cyberthreat Assessment Report in Africa, cybercrime [reduced GDP within Africa by more than 10%](#), at a cost of an estimated \$4.12 billion in 2021 implying weakness in cybersecurity maturity affects per capita income which affects all. More than 90% of African businesses are operating without the necessary cyber security protocols in place. In Nigeria and in 2021, 80% of convictions by the Economic and Financial Crime Commission was related to cybercrime. The country suffers more than 800 million cyberattacks with financial losses amounting to more than US\$500 annually. Similarly, South Africa and Kenya lose annually about US\$573 million and US\$36 million respectively to cybercrime. In summary, the key challenge of cybersecurity in Africa is lack of professional assessment of the top-down and bottom-up vulnerabilities and the necessary will and determination across sectors to address the vulnerabilities.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in conjunction with the Government of Togo and with the participation of African Heads of Government and Representatives organised the 1st African Cybersecurity Summit in Lome on 23-24 March, 2022. The Summit produced the *Lome Declaration* leading to the establishment in Lome of the *African Centre for the Coordination and Research in Cybersecurity* (ACCRC). As a follow-up, UNECA commissioned a Research into Cybersecurity as an imperative for Development in the 4IR.

It is in this context that the UNECA will organize a side-event to review the Outcome of the Research into Cybersecurity for Development in the 4IR. It is expected that the result of the Research will spur all stakeholders, governments in particular to take national Cybersecurity maturity seriously to enhance GDP per capita and general national economic development towards the achievement of the SDGs 2030 and Africa 2063 Agenda.

DRAFT AGENDA

Session Moderator: **Mr. Mactar Seck**, UNECA

Time	Speaker	
09:50 – 11.00	Online Registrations & Login	
	Welcome Remarks	
11.00 – 10.15	Mr. Jean-Paul Adam, Director Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, UNECA Minister of ICT Congo	
10.15: 10:45	Session 1: Setting the scene: Presentation	
	Speaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cybersecurity Report: Discussants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Toyin Oloniteru, Spindlar Cyberlaw Centre • Mr AbdulHakeem Ajijola, Chair , AU Cybersecurity Group Dr Robinson Sibe, Digital Footprint Ltd <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GFCE 	
10:45– 10.55	Discussion	
10.50-11.00	Conclusion and Closing Remarks Mr. Mactar Seck , UNECA	