Institut Panos Afrique de l'Ouest — The Panos Institute West Africa

With the support of the Open Society Institute of West Africa (OSIWA)

West Africa and the Internet Governance Forum

13 March, 2009

Within the framework of the workshop
Legal and policy frameworks for the information society in West Africa: issues and stakeholders' role
11 to 13 March 2009

Saly (Senegal), Hôtel Teranga et villas

→ Aim of the 3 day workshop : To raise awareness and promote multi-stakeholder discussion on key issues of the information society legal framework in West Africa, in order to contribute to the strengthening of national and regional processes in this area.

→ 13 March 2009: West Africa and the Internet Governance Forum

Internet governance has become a major question in international policy-making in the ICT sector. Africa has participated since 2006 in the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and many activities have been organized nationally, regionally and internationally, by the private sector, civil society, governments and international institutions. While different regions in the Nord or in Asia but also in Africa are organizing to participate in this process (East Africa held in October 2008 a meeting on this subject matter), West African countries are hardly mobilized to examine these issues. Sessions on this topic at the workshop will help to stimulate regional thinking on this issue. In addition, many African actors remain skeptical about the interest and impact of the international Internet Governance Forum process in Africa. While the fourth annual Forum meeting is being prepared on African soil in 2009 (Egypt), and the evaluation of the international process has just been launched by the United Nations, it is important that West Africa starts to examine its participation in, and the impact or interest of this process. While the fourth annual meeting of the Forum is being prepared in Africa in 2009, and the review of the international process has been launched by the United Nations, it is important that West Africa also launch its assessment and devise strategies that can help the region maximize interests from it

The day will be devoted to discussions on this issue (recall of the objectives, implementation process and stage, IGF themes, review of the impact and the involvement of West Africa, on the road to Egypt)

About 45 people from about 15 countries (mainly West African), representing, governments, CS, private sector and regional institutions (ECOWAS) are attending the meeting.

Agenda of the day on the IGF and West Africa

09:00 10:45	**Towards an assessment of the IGF in West Africa: - How did West Africa participate and what did it gain?** ▪ *Vladimir Radunovic*, Diplo Foundation : *The international process* - 15 mn ▪ *Maimouna Diagne Diop*, Director of ICT, Ministry in charge of ICTs and telecoms, Senegal, *Feedback from the India meeting* -15 mn ▪ *Ken Lohento*, PIWA: *African participation in the IGF* - 15 mn ***Questions – Debate***	
10:45 11:00	**Coffee break**	
11:00 12:30	**<u>PARALLEL SESSIONS</u>** **A/ Better Understanding Internet Governance Forum themes** ▪ *Vladimir Radunovic*, Diplo Foundation ▪ *Eddan Katz*, Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) ***Questions – Debate*** ***----*** **B/ National Internet Governance processes in West Africa : issues, way forward** ▪ *Brian Longwe*, Vice-Chair KENIC and Chairperson Kictanet, Kenya, About the Kenya and East Africa IGFs - *15 mn* ▪ *Emmanuel Edet*, NITDA, Nigeria, *Nigeria National IGF* - 15 mn ▪ *Maimouna Diagne Diop*, Director of ICT, Ministry in charge of ICTs and telecoms, Senegal, Toward the Senegalese National IGF - 15 mn ***Debates – recommendations***	*Jimson Olufuye*, President, ITAN Nigeria
12:30 13:30	**Lunch**	
13:30 15:00	**The road toward Charm- El-Cheikh 2009: what expectations and actions/ Closing remarks** ▪ Feedback from parallel sessions A – 5 mn ▪ Feedback from parallel sessions B – 5 mn ▪ Remarks from the Ministry in charge of ICTs of Senegal ▪ *Final communiqué on IGF in West Africa* ▪ Closing remarks form the Ministry in charge of ICTs of Senegal	*Ben Akoh*, OSIWA
17:00	**End**	