



Concept Note and Draft Programme

Cybersecurity in Kenya: Strategizing for the Future Thursday, 12 March 2020, Laico Regency Hotel, Nairobi

Introduction

The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) in partnership with Global Partners Digital (GPD) with the support of the government of the United Kingdom is pleased to host a Roundtable meeting on **Cybersecurity in Kenya**, which will take place on Thursday, 12 March 2020 at the **Laico Regency Hotel** in **Nairobi**.

Meeting Objective and Expected Outcome

The main objective of the meeting is to provide a platform for information sharing on confidence-building measures by various stakeholders working on various cybersecurity initiatives in Kenya. The second objective is to create an opportunity for the stakeholders to identify strategic actions and actors to lead on key initiatives that are critical for ensuring cybersecurity in Kenya. The expected outcome is a more connected, informed and strategic set of stakeholders working on cybersecurity in Kenya.

Context

Over the past few years, cybersecurity discussions have continued to occupy important positions in the internet governance landscape, not only locally, but across the globe. The increasing adoption of computers, the use of online and cloud-based platforms, and the increased linkage and connectivity of devices not only in local area networks, but also through the internet continue to increase the challenges to information and network security.

Locally, reports from Kenya's Cybercrime Unit indicate that the country lost 16.9 billion shillings (\$165 million) through hacking in 2016.¹ According to a report by Serianu, the cost of cybercrime in the country had risen by 68.5% to \$295 million in 2018.² Regionally, data from 2017 indicate that the estimated cost of cybercrime in 2017 was \$99 million in Tanzania, \$67 million in Uganda and \$3.5 billion in Africa.³ The country needs to find ways to address the challenges such as the: insufficient technical, investigation, prosecutorial and judicial capacity of law enforcement agencies; low levels of public awareness on security; outdated laws, policies and strategies; weak internal security practices and standards in key institutions; poor detection and reporting of attacks; and, weak coordination among relevant agencies, industries and institutions.

This state of affairs led KICTANet to collaborate with the GPD to jointly develop a project in an attempt to address the apparent short-comings in the cybersecurity environment. Since 2017, KICTANet has been implementing a cybersecurity project with the main aim being to promote openness, inclusivity and transparency in ICT policy and legislative processes in Kenya. As part of this initiative, it contributed to the development of the draft National ICT Policy 2016, Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Bill, 2017; supported the strategic engagement of key stakeholders through a series of cybersecurity workshops in March and November 2019; convened dedicated sessions on

¹ Kenya Revenue Authority 'lost \$39m to hacker', BBC News. See: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-39351172>

² Kenya Cybersecurity Report, Serianu. See: <https://www.serianu.com/downloads/KenyaCyberSecurityReport2018.pdf>

³ Africa Cybersecurity Report 2017, Serianu <https://www.serianu.com/downloads/AfricaCyberSecurityReport2017.pdf>

cybersecurity during each of the Kenya Internet Governance Forums in July 2017, July 2018, and August 2019; engaged in high-level policy advocacy at the 2018 International Telecommunications Union Plenipotentiary Conference, the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE), the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security, and the UN-mandated Open-Ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of ICTs in the Context of International Security (OEWG).

In November 2019, KICTANet launched a policy brief “*Kenya’s Cybersecurity Framework: Time to Up the Game!*” documenting the issues of concern and the strategic actions that could be adopted moving forward. This brief, calls for the establishment and implementation of an effective policy, legal and institutional framework to anticipate, detect, respond and combat cyber threats, and build resilience in the country. Dubbed the “6 - P’s”, the brief calls upon all the stakeholders to **Prioritize** cybersecurity, put in appropriate **Policies**, invest in **Preparation**, put the **People** at the centre of cybersecurity initiatives, promote **Partnership** among multistakeholders, and ensure there is **Political Will** to achieve targets.

Cybersecurity is everyone’s responsibility. It should not just be of concern for the government, but should be a priority for the private sector companies and groups, the technical community, academia, civil society groups and other non-governmental actors given its enormous implications for information security, critical infrastructure, economic prosperity, public safety as well as their relations with other countries. All relevant stakeholders in the country therefore need to come together to identify, develop and promote cutting edge strategies, designed to ensure confidence and integrity in local information systems through effective measures. A multistakeholder approach recognizes the essence of public participation, and is designed to ensure that cyber-policy making processes are open, transparent, inclusive and value-based.

This roundtable therefore, seeks to provide a platform for discussion, information sharing and strategic thinking to ensure that national priorities are in sync with the country’s Vision 2030 goal of becoming a regional ICT hub.

Attendees

Attendees will include relevant 90 local actors drawn from government, including key agencies and departments, private sector companies and groups, the technical community, academia, civil society groups and other non-governmental actors.

About the Organizers

The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) is a non-profit organization, which acts as a multi-stakeholder platform for individuals and institutions interested and involved in ICT policy and regulation. The network aims to act as a catalyst for reform in the ICT sector in support of the national aim of ICT enabled growth and development.

Global Partners Digital (GPD) is a social purpose company dedicated to fostering a digital environment underpinned by human rights and democratic values. It works by making policy spaces and processes more open, inclusive and transparent, and by facilitating strategic, informed and coordinated engagement in these processes by public interest actors. The roundtable is part of its project on “Promoting an inclusive and value-based approach to cyber policymaking in the Commonwealth” which is funded by the government of the United Kingdom.

Programme		
Time	Session	Facilitators
0800 - 0830	Arrival and Registration	KICTANet
0830 - 0845	Welcome and Introductions	Grace Githaiga, <i>KICTANet</i>
0845 - 0900	Overview of Workshop Objectives	Victor Kapiyo, <i>KICTANet</i>
0900 - 0915	Keynote Address	William Kisang, <i>MP, Chair, National Assembly ICT Committee</i>
	Session 1: Confidence Building Measures <i>Ali Hussein, Moderator</i>	
	<i>Question - what is your stakeholder group doing, planning for the year and what support do you need from stakeholders?</i>	
0915 - 0930	Government	Experts Joseph Nzano, <i>Communications Authority, KE-CIRT</i> Evans Ombati, <i>National Cyber Command Center (NC3)</i>
0930 - 0945	Academia	John Walubengo, <i>Multimedia University</i>
0945 - 1000	Telecommunications Sector	Fiona Asonga, <i>TESPOK</i> Agnes Okello, <i>Safaricom</i>
1000 - 1015	Financial Services	Anthony Migui, <i>Digital Jewels</i>
1015 - 1030	Technical Community	Joseph Mathenge, <i>Serianu</i> John Gichuki, <i>OnNet Group Africa</i>
1030 - 1045	CSO and Media	Churchill Otieno, <i>Media</i> Lilian Kariuki, <i>Watoto Watch Network</i>
1045 - 1100	<i>Plenary Session</i>	Moderator, <i>KICTANet</i>
1100 - 1130	<i>Health Break</i>	
	Session 2: Strategic Actions and Actors in 2020 <i>Barrack Otieno, Moderator</i>	
1130 - 1200	Question - What can we do about the 6Ps - Policies, Priorities, Partnerships, Political will, People, and Preparation?	Moderator Stakeholder Groups
1200 - 1230	<i>Group Presentations</i>	Stakeholder Groups

1230 - 1300	<i>Plenary Session</i>	Moderator, KICTANet
1300 - 1315	Recommendations, Next Steps and Sustainability	Victor Kapiyo
1315 - 1330	Closing Session	KICTANet, GPD
1330 - 1430	<i>Networking Lunch</i>	
<i>End of Event</i>		