



The Gambia Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Multistakeholder Meeting

Held at the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, Bakau, The Gambia | 2nd June 2026

We, the steering committee participants of the Gambia National Internet Governance Forum, representing government ministries, regulatory bodies, civil society organizations, academia, and the technical community, convened at the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy in Bakau, Gambia.

Recalling that while the traditional, large-scale annual national forum was deferred for this cycle, the critical velocity of the national digital ecosystem necessitates continuous, structured multi-stakeholder intervention.

Acknowledging with profound appreciation that the Ministry has officially established a dedicated institutional budget line for the Gambia IGF for the 2026 and 2027 fiscal years.

Recognizing the outcomes and strategic directions of the recently concluded West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF) in Freetown, Sierra Leone, we state our collective agreement on the following structural transformations and policy priorities:

I. On Structural Remapping and Institutional Governance

WE AGREE:

- **Operationalization of Working Groups:** To execute The Gambia IGF's mandate effectively, the committee has officially remapped its tasks into three dedicated, active working groups:
 1. **Admin and Finance Working Group:** Charged with the strategic oversight, deployment, and auditing of the newly allocated 2026/2027 ministerial budget lines.
 2. **Technical and Publicity Working Group:** Tasked with rebuilding and hosting the official website, managing media relations, and providing continuous technical baselines.
 3. **Awareness and Outreach Working Group:** Mandated to scale community-level digital engagement and ensure grass-roots representation.

II. On Mass Digital Literacy and Emerging Technologies



WE AGREE:

- **Democratizing Technology Access:** With the rapid, unchecked integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other advanced emerging systems, mass digital literacy must be prioritized.
- **Empowering Grassroots Contributions:** Public education frameworks must be actively deployed to ensure that the broader populace understands digital data rights, enabling ordinary citizens to meaningfully participate in and contribute to national internet governance processes.

III. On Data Governance and Regulating the Informal Space

WE AGREE:

- **Regulating Unregistered Entities:** There is an urgent need to formulate agile regulatory guidelines addressing the data compliance of unregistered businesses, commercial public Wi-Fi hotspots, and informal digital service providers.
- **Sovereignty and Privacy Safeguards:** The committee will work closely with regulators to protect citizens' data privacy while creating legal mechanisms that integrate informal data-reliant entities into the secure, recognized national digital economy.

IV. On Regional and Continental Engagement

WE AGREE:

- **Sustaining International Visibility:** The Gambia will maintain its prominent position within international internet governance architectures by actively contributing outcomes to the global registries.
- **The Continental Country Session:** The Secretariat is officially directed to plan, organize, and anchor a dedicated *Gambia Country Session* at the upcoming 2026 Africa Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF), showcasing national policy achievements, addressing structural bottlenecks, and presenting our remapped governance model to the continent.

Signed by the Present Steering Committee Institutional Segments:

- Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, (MoCDE)
- The Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO)
- Internet Society Gambia Chapter (ISOC)
- Gambia Cyber Security Alliance (GCSA)
- Tertiary and Higher Education Trust (THET) Fund