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# CONTENT



## FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**Day ONE - 06 November 2018 (Multipurpose Hall UN House)**

5

### **OPENING SESSION: THE INTERNET OF TRUST**

**Welcoming:** Natasha Tibinyane, NamIGF Acting Chairperson

**UNESCO Statement:** Dr. Jean Pierre Ilboudo, UNESCO Windhoek Head of Office

**Keynote Address:** Mbeuta Ua-Ndjarakana, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of In-formation & Communication Technology

7

### **SESSION I: ICT Policy Harmonisation: Through the lens of cybersecurity & data protection.**

**Moderator:** Frederico Links

**Panelists:** Elizabeth Kamutuezu (MICT), Ilana Erasmus (Green Enterprise Solutions), Kudakwashe T. Hove (MISA Zimbabwe), Kal Kleingunther (EU Delegation Legal Expert)

9

### **MAIN PLENARY SESSION II: Expanding children's access to the internet and strengthening their protection online**

**Moderator:** Emma Theofelus

**Panelists:** Delaine Sikerete (LifeLine/ChildLine), Lizette Feris (Media and Information Literacy Learning Initiative - MILLI), Ndinelao Haimene (Ministry of Gender Equality & Child Welfare)

11

### **PARALLEL SESSION III: The Evolution of Internet Governance: Is IoT Security, Domain Name Ownership & UASFs a Factor?**

**Moderator:** Anton Limbo

**Panelists:** Paul Rowney (MyDigitalBridge), Milton Louw (Consumer Lobby)

13

### **SESSION IV: Is the lack of digital literacy a threat to free expression online?**

**Moderator:** Frederico Links

**Panelists:** Zoe Titus (Namibia Media Trust), Kudakwashe T. Hove (MISA Zimbabwe), Linda Baumann (Namibia Diverse Women's Association), and Sekoetlane Phamodi (fesmedia Africa)

**14** **SESSION V: Digital Inclusion & Accessibility: How to narrow the rural-urban digital divide and strengthen human rights**  
**Moderator:** Gabriel Nhinda  
**Panelists:** Alisa Amupolo (PowerCom), Emilar Vushe Gandhi (Facebook Africa), Eben Haihambo (Tribe Trice Videos)

**15** **MAIN PLENARY SESSION VI: Can Indigenous languages be seen, heard and saved online?**  
**Moderator:** Natasha Tibinyane  
**Panelists:** Dr. JP Ilboudo (UNESCO), Sebulon David (Glowdown), Grace Micheals (Planet Micheals)

**16** **PARALLEL SESSION VII: Ask Facebook Anything**  
**Facilitator:** Emilar Vushe Gandhi

**17** **SESSION 8: The NamIGF: Its relevance and mandate in Namibia and the region**  
**Moderator:** Patrick Sam  
**Panelists:** Paul Rowney (MyDigitalBridge), Natasha Tibinyane (NamIGF Acting Chairperson), and Gabriel Nhinda (ISOC Namibia)

**18** **Closing of Day ONE and the Way Forward**

**19** **DAY TWO - 07 November 2018 at Hotel Furstenhof  
NamIGF 2018 Business Session**

**22** **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

One of the main goals for the 2018 Namibia Internet Governance Forum (NamIGF), was to maintain the high quality of internet related discussions held at the 2017 forum. Those who registered online to attend this year's forum, made the work of the Working Group (WG) in developing the programme a lot easier, because they chose the topics to be discussed through the completion of a survey. The topics that received more than 35 votes were:

- Freedom of Expression Online
- Domain Name as a National Resource
- Universal Service Access Fund for connecting Namibia
- ICT Policy Harmonization
- Digital Literacy
- Online Bullying
- Children's Safety Online
- Cellphone Number Portability

A Public Call for Issues, preceding the online registration process, also resulted in the submission of a proposal on Child Online Protection (COP) by the multi-sectoral COP Task Force. A submission on The Promotion of Indigenous Languages and Afrocentrism was made too.

It was thus the WG's responsibility to develop a programme that reflects on all of the chosen topics, within the Global IGF 2018 Theme "The Internet Trust". We sincerely hope this goal was achieved. It is important for the NamIGF to maintain and strengthen its multistakeholder, inclusive, transparent and consultative approach. These are the principles on which it was founded and it can only serve as a strength as we traverse the fast and ever-changing internet landscape.

We sincerely thank all those who played a role in the successful hosting of NamIGF 2018, most notably; our Secretariat, the Internet Society Namibia Chapter, the ACTION Coalition, the Ministry of Information & Communication Technology and UNESCO Windhoek.

We also wish to thank our financial sponsors: Green Enterprise Solutions, PowerCom, Namibia Media Trust, ICT Professionals Association of Namibia, the African Network Information Centre (AFRINIC), the Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA), Facebook and ISOC Namibia.

Other funders include the DW Akademie, who covered the cost of panelist Kudakwashe T. Hove of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) Zimbabwe's travel and stay in Namibia for the NamIGF. For this we are grateful, because he provided the regional and continental perspective that is needed at such forums.

A BIG THANK YOU to the ISOC Namibia Volunteer Team. You were not only influencing your digital future, you were the architects.

Very importantly, we wish to thank all those who participated in NamIGF 2018 as delegates, panelists and moderators. You provided richness and depth to conversations that can, and in some instances will influence policy, or how the end-user engages with the internet.

We look forward to hear all your voices, and many more at NamIGF 2019!

**Best wishes,  
Natasha Tibinyane  
NamIGF Acting Chairperson**



**It is important for the NamIGF to maintain and strengthen its multistakeholder, inclusive, transparent and consultative approach.**



**DAY ONE: 6 NOVEMBER 2018**

## **OPENING SESSION: THE INTERNET OF TRUST**

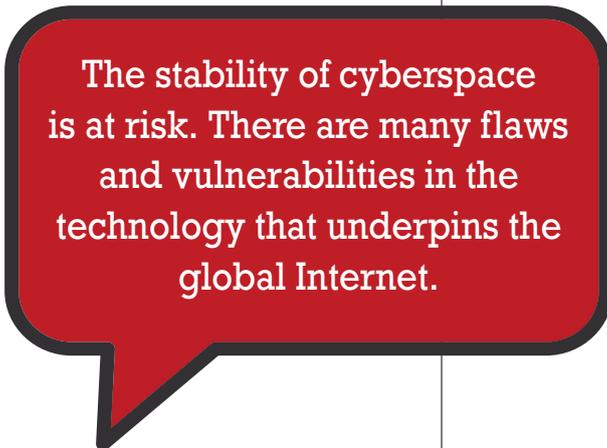
After the singing of the National and AU Anthems, Programme Director Patrick Sam opened the conference with the remarks that the internet is becoming increasingly important to people all over the globe, it is fundamental to human rights, and potentially a great equalizer.

### **WELCOMING by Natasha Tibinyane NamIGF Acting Chairperson**

The acting chair officially welcomed all the participants to the second annual Namibian Internet Governance Forum (NamIGF). She emphasized that NamIGF strives to be as consultative and multi-stakeholder as possible, and that this year's programme was designed by the participants who registered online and chose the topics by completing the survey.

She in particular welcomed Mbeuta Ua-Ndjarakana, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT). The Ministry is a founding stakeholder of the NamIGF and has played a very active role in the forum since its inception. A special thanks was also extended to Dr. Jean Pierre Ilboudo, the outgoing Head of UNESCO Windhoek, who has been instrumental in providing NamIGF with all the support it needs. Other sponsors and partners that were thanked included:

Facebook Africa	AFRINIC
PowerCom	Headway
Pay & Go	DW Akademie
Namibia Media Trust	ACTION Coalition
IGF Global Support Organization	Internet Society Global
ISOC Namibia Chapter	Green Enterprise Solutions, who provided the largest financial contribution this year



**The stability of cyberspace is at risk. There are many flaws and vulnerabilities in the technology that underpins the global Internet.**

The Acting Chair ended by saying that all participants are equally important, and everybody should use their right to freely express themselves, and democratically engage as citizens.

### **UNESCO STATEMENT by Dr. Jean Pierre Ilboudo UNESCO Windhoek Head of Office**

Dr Ilboudo pointed out that Internet Governance Forums facilitate a common understanding as to how Internet opportunities can be maximised whilst addressing risks and challenges that arise.

“The purpose of the IGF is to maximize the opportunity for open and inclusive dialogue between different stakeholder groups and the exchange of ideas on Internet Governance (IG) related issues; create opportunities to share best practices and experiences; identify emerging issues and bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public; and contribute to capacity building for Internet governance. This year's theme ‘The Internet of Trust’ is aiming to enable discussions on shaping a safe, inclusive, and democratic digital future.”

Dr Ilboudo talked about the 13th Annual Global IGF Meeting taking place at the UNESCO Headquarters in France from 12 - 14 November 2018, and that UNESCO Windhoek was honoured to have the privilege to host this year's NamIGF at their office as well. Dr Ilboudo also touched upon the issue of cyber security; “The stability of cyberspace is at risk. There are many flaws and vulnerabilities in the technology that underpins the global Internet. This puts the benefits of cyberspace and the future of the digital economy in jeopardy. The rapid propagation of the malware emphasized the systemic risk to which our companies and societies are exposed. Furthermore, more than 30 nations have now acknowledged their development of offensive tools and military organizations to utilize them. It creates distrust between states and limits their ability to reach agreement on international norms of responsible behaviour to ensure the security and stability of cyberspace. This is the reason why the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace (GCSC) was established. Its mission is to enhance international peace, security, and stability by proposing norms and initiatives to guide responsible state and non-state behaviour in cyberspace.”

Finally, Dr Ilboudo welcomed all the participants, and said he was looking forward to fruitful deliberations, as well as the forum's contribution towards the honesty of the Internet in building stronger and lasting linkages between access, cyber security and internet governance - for the development of Namibia, for generations to come.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Mbeuta Ua-Ndjarakana, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT)**

Mbeuta Ua-Ndjarakana expressed his gratitude for the excellent leadership of Dr. Jean-Pierre Ilboudo who will be leaving the country in December. Dr. Ilboudo has been an influential leader who has laid a solid foundation for Namibia and for the person taking over from him. Ua-Ndjarakana also pointed out that he is pleased to see many of the same faces, which shows dedication of the stakeholders. With that said, he commenced his keynote address.

**Vision 2030, the five National Development Plans (NDPs), and the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP) all spell out the government's goals with regard to ensuring that Namibia becomes a knowledge-based society.**

The MICT has been a stakeholder of the NamIGF since its establishment last year. Their participation in this forum is important because the government of the Republic of Namibia is committed to ensuring the realisation of Article 21.a of the Constitution, which outlines the fundamental human right to freedom of speech and expression, and this includes freedom of the press and other media. Vision 2030, the five National Development Plans (NDPs), and the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP) all spell out the government's goals with regard to ensuring that Namibia becomes a knowledge-based society. MICT's participation in the NamIGF also stems from their responsibilities as a member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and African Union (AU). The formation of the Namibia Internet Governance Forum is an extension and formalisation of the multistakeholder relationships that the MICT had already built over the years.

The theme of this year's forum is "The Internet of Trust". For an Internet of trust to exist, we need to trust that it is available, accessible and affordable. People who live in urban Namibia and have access to fast and reliable Internet can sometimes forget that many Namibians do not enjoy the same services. Government has however prioritized infrastructure development, with the main aim of ensuring that rural Namibians can also benefit from the world wide web. Apart from upgrading the physical infrastructure, the MICT also established Multi-Purpose Community Centers (MPCCs) in all 14 regions, equipped with basic ICT equipment to ensure that the digital divide is reduced through the introduction of ICT services to rural communities. Goals set in the HPP are for:

- 80 percent of the population of Namibia to be covered by broadband services by 2020;
- 80 percent Broadband connections and usage to all primary and secondary schools in Namibia to allow e-learning by 2020;
- Broadband connections and usage to 70 percent of the health facilities in Namibia to allow e-health by 2020;
- 100 percent Broadband connections and usage to all public sector agencies in Namibia to allow for e-governance by 2020;
- 100 percent coverage by digital TV and radio broadcast to all households by 2020.

"In order for these ambitions goals to be achieved, it is critically important that the MICT has a multistakeholder approach in our consultation and implementation processes. The NamIGF provides us with an opportunity to engage with stakeholders and strengthen our partnerships."

## SESSION I: ICT Policy Harmonisation: Through the lens of cyber security & data protection.

**Format:** Panel Discussion  
**Moderator:** Frederico Links  
**Panelists:** Elizabeth Kamutuezu (MICT), Ilana Erasmus (Green Enterprise Solutions), Kudakwashe T Hove (MISA Zimbabwe), Kal Kleingunther (EU Delegation Legal Expert)  
**Session rapporteur:** Collin Hangula

*SCOPE: Over recent years, there have been several developments within the area of ICT policy & law development. Cyber security and data protection have been major features. The panel explored why a harmonized ICT framework is important for cyber security and data protection. How is Namibia addressing cyber security and data protection at policy level? Are we developing a culture of cyber security? What are the national and international instruments that should influence ICT policy?*

Deputy Director of Institutional Policy Regulation and Monitoring (IPRM), Elizabeth Kamutuezu in-formed the forum about the progress on the cyber security bill. She stressed that we need strong cyber security legislation to protect our nation, and that the cyber security bill is at an advanced stage. It is under review, and legal input is still required before the bill can be finalised. The idea is to work on bills for electronic transactions and cybercrime first, and on data protection at a later stage. The Deputy Director did announce that the AU Convention on Cybercrime will be signed soon. The moderator however remarked that the AU Convention is about to be amended.

Concerning the GDPR laws, there are opposing views in Namibia. Some Namibian business people are uncertain about having to comply with these “foreign laws”. On the other hand Namibia is signatory to several international conventions and is therefore required to comply with the relevant corresponding declarations. It was suggested that since our cyber security laws are not finalised yet, it is advisable for us to add components for our laws to align with the EU’s GDPR requirements. For this, Namibia needs help to understand what these requirements are. The migration of our systems to online platforms is a slow process. It is therefore not always a straightforward matter to comply with the GDPR requirements. Some of the requirements, for instance, is to have the collected data on EU citizens made available online. This is not always possible to do since many of our national forms are still manual and paper-based.

Kai Kleingunther of the EU Delegation continued to explain that the GDPR basically have a requirement that any data of an EU resident collected anywhere, is required to be stored online and made available to the concerned EU citizen. This is to guarantee the safety of the data of the EU citizens. In Namibia, this is particularly of concern to the tourism sector, since this is the sector in which much of the visiting European’s data is collected. The GDPR is a combination of previous 28 EU laws. The EU is not looking to have Namibia institute the GDPR laws as they are. The EU is willing to support Namibia in helping to harmonize their relevant laws and policies with the GDPR requirements.

According to Kudakwashe T. Hove, the Ministry of ICT in Zimbabwe has also been working on ICT bills that have been based on SADC Model Laws from 2013. However, similar to Namibia, these laws remain as ministerial bills up until now. The Data Protection Model Laws that have been discussed in SADC have not yet been enacted in the member countries, and they have already been found to be inadequate with regard to the GDPR standards. It is therefore likely that many cyber security laws in SADC countries will immediately need to undergo a review process upon being en-acted, since they would already be obsolete.

The government of Zimbabwe plans to institute a Ministry of Cyber Security. The new ministry’s purpose was said to “catch out the rats that trouble people on social media.” This exposes the limited understanding of cyber security on the part of the government, which is to use it as a tool to shut down voices of dissent and control criticism.

Since (Namibia’s) cyber security laws are not finalised yet, it is advisable to add components (to our draft) laws to align with the EU’s GDPR requirements.

Ilana Erasmus was asked to elaborate on the developments within the private sector. A lot of ground has been covered in securing systems within the private sector, and protecting the consumer. Much has been done to ensure PCI and DSS security standards compliance. The Bank of Namibia, for instance, has given financial institutions a specified amount of time to implement the security standards that will protect the banking clients and their data. She felt that the main issue is that most cyber attacks are targeted at end-users, and that considerably more needs to be done to educate users, and raise awareness about cyber attacks and cyber safety. She however also noted that there is a lack of data on cyber security and cybercrime, because there is no central place where incidents are reported and recorded.

## PARALLEL SESSION II: Expanding children's access to the Internet and strengthening their protection online

**Format:** Panel Discussion  
**Moderator:** Emma Theofelus  
**Panelists:** Delaine Sikerete (LifeLine/ChildLine), Lizette Feris (Media and Information Literacy Learning Initiative - MILLI), Ndinelao Haimene (Ministry of Gender Equality & Child Welfare)  
**Session rapporteur:** Emilia Paulus

*SCOPE: Children's digital citizenship is an important ingredient if we are to achieve national and international development goals. How can children explore and learn from the online world, while still keeping safe? What are the challenges children face online? What is the current legal and policy framework on child online protection in Namibia? Who is responsible for keeping children safe online? Is digital literacy important for children?*

Delaine Sikerete who is a social worker at LifeLine/ChildLine informed the meeting that her organisation provides psychosocial support to abused children through their 116 toll-free number. In terms of online child abuse LifeLine/Childline runs outreach programs in different schools aimed specifically at raising awareness on safe and unsafe internet usage, and offering support to child victims of online abuse or bullying. So far, they have approached 22 schools in four different regions, and they have managed to document an array of information regarding children's experiences online. Sikerete stated that the data collected from their engagements with children clearly indicate that children are not safe online because they are at risk of cyber abuse as well as being exposed to inappropriate online content for example videos consisting xenophobia and pornographic materials.

Ideally parents should play a big part in their children's online journey, because it is difficult to safeguard the children without the involvement of parents.

Lizette Feris stated that the Media and Information Literacy Learning Initiative is an organisation that teaches young people the ability to read and write media messages. She explained that there are several issues to take into consideration when talking about child protection. She highlighted cyber bullying and pornography while noting that children are not fit to protect themselves online. She added that an exploratory study conducted by UNESCO revealed that 69% of children surveyed were exposed to sexual content that they did not want to see, while 31% were sent sexual content that they did not want and 29% had seen sexual content of other children. She emphasised that those are the effects of the lack of child online protection, and that media information literacy allows individuals to be able to filter what they see, and to report any cyber bullying, crime or offense. Ideally parents should play a big part in their children's online journey, because it is difficult to safeguard the children without the involvement of parents, but unfortunately many parents are either IT illiterate, or not involved enough in their children's lives. Being media and information literate is one way of safeguarding children, parents and communities. MILLI teaches people how to access and analyse messages, create their own content, and take part in national and international dialogues.

Ndinelao Haimene from the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare clarified that the Child Care and Protection Act is not yet operational and can therefore not be used to protect children. The ministry is currently relying on the Children's Act of 1960, which is outdated and obviously does not include internet related threats. It was suggested that in absence of the new Act, MGECW should look into developing policies that deal with the protection of children from online threats. Haludilu informed the meeting that the Ministry tries to provide the needed services but that the role of parents and communities is crucial in implementing laws and policies, and raising awareness. Parents should explore with their children, educate them on keeping their information private, and also use blocking and reporting services that are provided by the various apps.

Frederico Links raised the issue that the panelists were using the language of fear too much. This is not sending the right message because the internet is a lot of things; it can be harmful but it can also be a

wonderful tool to open all sorts of doors and for this reason we have to be careful on how we phrase and approach the issue. Literacy is important to get rid of the fear, but whose role is it to increase internet literacy? Parents should play a primary role in protecting and educating children but we have a failure of parenting in Namibia, which is affecting the society in general; more so with regard to the internet and technology, because there is a lack of understanding as well. We should therefore place that responsibility in civic education and add Internet literacy to school curricula. Most panelist and participants however felt that a large part of the responsibility stays with the parents and that it may be needed to educate parents in order for them to teach and protect their children.

**We have a failure of parenting in Namibia, which is affecting the society in general; more so with regard to the internet and technology, because there is a lack of understanding as well.**

Patrick Sam brought the discussion to the broader issue of child development. How does internet technology affect the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of the child? The more time children spend on these devices, the less time they have available to spend on physical or social activities. Maybe one should look into relevant exposure levels for different age groups. There should be abundant information available on this topic from other countries that advanced technologically before Namibia. Sam proposed to set models around the full development of the child rather than the full development of the Internet, its access and affordability.

As final words, it was mentioned that:

- It is important to create safe spaces for children to explore;
- one must get innovative, involve the corporate sector in parents becoming more digitally literate;
- there seems little to no difference in digital literacy levels of rural and urban youth;
- one should focus both on the legal landscape and the social “law”;
- it's everybody's responsibility to educate ourselves, become literate and to be able to use these spaces to reach our national development goals; and
- there are services such as Childline/Lifeline's toll-free number and crisis line where those whose rights have been violated online can get help.

There is an information leaflet available on the online risks and the protection of children. It discusses what the issue is; what the risks are; tips for children to stay safe online; what parents or caregivers can do; what schools can do; what the governments and its partners can do; and what services are available. The leaflet was developed and printed in a collaborative effort between the government, funding partners, civil society organisations and the private sector.

# PARALLEL SESSION III: The Evolution of Internet Governance: Is IoT Security, Domain Name Ownership & UASFs a Factor?

**Format:** Pillar Discussion  
**Moderator:** Anton Limbo  
**Panelists:** Paul Rowney (MyDigitalBridge), Milton Louw (Consumer Lobby)  
**Session rapporteur:** Zoé Titus

*SCOPE: Internet Governance can be described as the evolving policies and mechanisms that stakeholders within the Internet ecosystem apply to make decisions about the development and use of the Internet. Evolving is a keyword here. The panel explored whether IG should have the mandate to influence how UASFs are applied. The feasibility of IG structures influencing domain name ownership and IoT security was also discussed. Is IG relevant in the age of the 'dark inter-net'? Should the Internet be more or less regulated?*

Paul Rowney of MyDigitalBridge introduced himself as an advocate for Last Mile connectivity, which refers to trying to bring policy regulation and legislation in line with what is needed to connect the remaining 50% of the population that remains disconnected. Milton Louw introduced himself as representing the Consumer Lobby. He is presently also a Technical Advisor to the Electoral Commission of Namibia.

Rowney commenced the discussion on the governing structures of internet usage, explaining that the Internet has changed the way in which people engage with each other. He noted that there are both good and bad sides to the internet, which is why the 2018 global theme 'Internet of Trust' was very relevant. Rowney explained that many people have lost trust in the internet, especially as a result of recent data breaches. He therefore emphasised that it would be appropriate to question whether or not privacy still exists on the internet. On 05 November 2018 the Web Foundation launched a contract on how the web should be governed, outlining varied stakeholders' responsibilities. With respect to internet governance, the focus is primarily around ensuring that there is multistakeholder participation in how the Internet is built, used, controlled and managed. The IGF is not a decision-making body but rather a platform for sharing ideas. It brings issues, concerns, thoughts and ideas that hopefully influence policy, legislation and regulation to ensure that these are conducive.

With regard to data storage, Louw stressed that consumers should be mindful that the big four tech companies (Google, Apple, Facebook, and Amazon) hold most of our data and primarily dictate the internet governance agenda in respect of regulation. He explained that they are domain placers, i.e. an internet address where we leave information.

Louw also elaborated on the Internet of Things (IoT) explaining that it refers to the billions of physical devices around the world that are now connected to the internet, collecting and sharing data. This adds a level of digital intelligence to devices that would be otherwise dumb, enabling them to communicate without a human being involved, and merging the digital and physical worlds. More specifically it refers to the suppliers and makers of the aforementioned physical devices who determine how these devices 'talk back' to them. For example, Samsung insists that despite selling a device to a customer Samsung retains ownership since they own the software and upgrades on the device. Louw cautioned that consumers must be mindful about what they allow, stressing that this is a major issue under discussion within the internet governance framework as it relates to IoT.

Rowney noted that IoT is relatively new to our part of the world. In Africa it would appear that there is a big drive in IoT for development and that it is primarily being used to drive the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Globally the discussion around IoT is focused on setting standards for IoT. The IoT agenda is currently being driven by manufacturers who do not design with safety or security in mind. Thus, it raises serious privacy concerns and those involved in internet governance should campaign for relevant and balanced legislation in this regard.

Rowney also explained the issues around domain name ownership. The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a global multi-stakeholder organisation that coordinates the Internet Do-



In Africa it would appear that there is a big drive in IoT for development and that it is primarily being used to drive the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

main Name System (DNS), Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and autonomous system numbers. ICANN is an organisation incorporated under the law of the State of California in the United States. Country Code Top-Level Domains (ccTLD), at least in the Namibian case, is a long-running controversial issue (.na). There's a lot of confusion and misunderstanding of the reality and whether it is good or bad. ICANN looks at does it work and are there technical problems. Right now, Namibia's ccTLD works. With respect to ownership there are many different models of ccTLD ownership. In Namibia it is private, in South Africa it is government-owned. Re-delegation is incredibly difficult. Firstly, one needs good reasons to re-delegate otherwise would not get support of ICANN. Ultimately, they have the power and authority to determine whether the re-delegation will go through or not. Governments can ask but it doesn't necessary mean that they would be granted. Also need to ask question to ourselves – do we want re-delegation? Technical community just wants stability and affordability.

Louw holds a different view regarding .na ownership and how it was structured originally. He considers it as a brand representing Namibia and one that is not fully utilised. Louw proposed a different view of domain ownership beyond the technical issue, i.e. that every individual has a domain name which is transmitted – sometimes unknowingly - through location devices. He stressed that individual domain names have a commercial value as they relate to number portability. He proposed that at birth an individual should be issued with a domain name where his/her data is stored.

**The digital divide in Namibia will need the support of community-based networks. CRAN does not have the necessary regulatory framework to support community networks.**

With regard to the Universal Access and Service Fund (USAF), Louw explained that currently Telecom is blocking the operationalisation of USAF. It has taken the regulator, the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) to court, claiming that the payment of the USAF levy (1% of the turnover of the company) is an unfair business tax.

Rowney noted that the digital divide in Namibia will need the support of community-based networks and that CRAN does not have the necessary regulatory framework to support community networks. He also noted that there is a need for a lightly licensed exempt approach towards community networks.

Ronel le Grange, representing CRAN, stated that in 2015 CRAN created a category in the Communications Act for telecommunication licenses for non-profits. They have received seven applications, five of which were from neighbourhood watch groups, and two from community group broadcasters. Le Grange emphasised that all licensees and non-licensees are required to adhere to the frequency band plan. There is also a provision for license-exempt band spectrum which is regulated.

The discussion highlights of session 3 included the following:

- If the approach is taken that the ccTLD is a national asset, then it means that it belongs to the people. The matter of its management is a separate issue and should be resolved speedily. If privately owned, can an individual be denied the ability to register? Or, can government do the same?
- Ownership of ccTLDs and Internet shutdowns: one should separate the ccTLD from the internet. An internet shutdown is not shutting down the ccTLD, although that would have a massive impact on business and people's ability to communicate. In the case of Namibia, should Telecom shut down the internet it would mean a national shutdown from the rest of the global community. The question is, are all shutdowns bad, especially in the context of false news? Most internet shutdowns are government-led. There are certain things we need protection from. A Facebook shutdown, for example, is not an Internet shutdown. Facebook is one website of millions and one which can be easily manipulated to circulate false information that could potentially lead to social ills like gender-based violence or racial violence. It is not a news platform but one which allows anyone to be a journalist without the associated responsibilities. Presently the news media in Namibia is regulating itself through the Media Ombudsman. There is the risk of infringing on the rights of people to express themselves, but that right is not absolute. How does one hold people responsible for what they post on the Internet, particularly social media platforms with-out infringing on human rights such as free expression?
- Using blockchain-based ledgers to store information: Organisations keep databases, which are a treasure trove of information for someone to steal your identity. The important thing to know is who access(ed) the data and how they use it onwards. Blockchain ensures that one can monitor who accessed the data and how they changed it.

## SESSION IV: Is the lack of digital literacy a threat to free expression online?

**Format:** Panel discussion  
**Moderator:** Frederico Links  
**Panelists:** Zoé Titus (Namibia Media Trust), Kudakwashe Hove (MISA Zimbabwe), Linda Baumann (Namibia Diverse Women's Association), and Sekoetlane Phamodi (fesmedia Africa)  
**Session rapporteur:** Saskia den Adel-Sheehama

*SCOPE: Communication and access to Information increasingly takes place through digital technologies. Critical thinking and an understanding of the rights, freedoms and responsibilities in a democracy is important in this digital age. However, fake news, defamation and revenge porn are becoming common in an environment that is largely self-regulated. Can digital literacy reduce harmful behavior online? Can harmful behavior online be used as an excuse to limit free expression online?*

The moderator introduced the panelists and asked them whether the lack of digital literacy can be a threat to free expression online. All panelists agreed that it can be a threat and came with various examples. What came up a lot in the discussions is the involvement of ethical and socio-behavioral issues, social codes, how to respect other peoples' rights and privacy, and the aspect of humanity. These should be the responsibility of the users and be taught or clarified rather than regulated, because censorship will lead to the undermining of freedom of speech, and could be used by governments to their advantage.

A related threat is that misinformation, disinformation and/or fake news can undermine a democracy and freedom of expression, and create a culture of fear or silence. Misinformation and fake news could be created for this purpose. In Zimbabwe all political parties, candidates and ministries now have an online presence, and will provide information that is complimentary to them. In some countries online presence is controlled and restricted because governments charge exorbitant amounts of money to bloggers, activists and online news agencies, providing the State with a monopoly on information. One should therefore be weary of over regulation, which is often justified under the mantle of the protection of privacy, safety and security, or public interest.

Another topic of discussion was that many people are unable to distinguish what is real and what is fake news, the lines have disappeared. In traditional media there is a much clearer identity; people know which newspapers are marked by good journalism, and which papers are regarded as tabloids or based on sensationalism. Schools may have to take on the role of educating children to understand the differences and values of different kinds of news and information that is found on the internet.

The last topic discussed during this session was that we should think about how we can become producers of content, rather than mere consumers. Traditional literacy used to be a driving force for emancipation from oppression. How could we ensure that this applies to digital literacy as well? How can we enforce our own realities onto the digital space, how can we make it a tool for emancipation? Only 4 million websites are hosted from African countries, 75% of which are registered in South Africa. Teaching people coding should be part of our curriculum.

**Misinformation, disinformation and/or fake news can undermine a democracy and freedom of expression, and create a culture of fear or silence.**

## SESSION V: JOINT PLENARY SESSION: Digital Inclusion and Accessibility: How to narrow the rural-urban digital divide and strengthen human rights

**Format:** Panel Discussion  
**Moderator:** Gabriel Nhinda  
**Panelists:** Alisa Amupolo (PowerCom), Emilar Vushe Gandhi (Facebook Africa), Eben Haihambo (Tribe Trice Videos)  
**Session rapporteur:** Saskia den Adel-Sheehama

*Scope: Due to prohibitive data costs and the lack of infrastructure, many rural Namibians do not have access to the Internet. Because of their social and economic vulnerability, women and youth endure particular challenges, leaving them unconnected and excluded. As stated in NDP5, Namibia is committed to universal access to information. An E-Governance Policy adopted in 2016 aims to provide access to information to the public and the media fraternity. How could access to the Internet enhance the lives of women and youth socio-economically, and strengthen human rights? How can barriers to digital inclusion be overcome?*

Namibia has not gone beyond the traditional technology infrastructure of towers, which are not necessarily suitable for the more remote and less populated areas. Towers are robust structures that will last but also take time to build

Alisa Amupolo, CEO of PowerCom, noted that there are certain dark spots in the country where the infrastructure is underdeveloped. Namibia has not gone beyond the traditional technology infrastructure of towers, which are not necessarily suitable for the more remote and less populated areas. Towers are robust structures that will last but also take time to build. Other potential technologies include satellites, fibre cables and even hot air balloons. The country should be on the frontier of innovation. It is also advisable that more of the supply chain is manufactured in country, because at this stage all materials needed for building the infrastructure needs to be imported. The other issue is that not everybody will be able to afford the real cost of having access to internet. Some people live on less than 1 US\$ per day, and for them to gain access to internet, the government will need to show commitment to provide it for free. Companies like Facebook also invest in infrastructure and access.

The other leg of the discussion focused on non-infrastructure barriers to access. Eben Haihambo noted that the landscape is definitely changing, with more rural areas accessing the internet, some groups are still excluded. This, because of the lack of knowledge, interest and understanding, or other factors. According to Emilar Gandhi-Vushe of Facebook Africa, 121 Million people are currently using Facebook in Africa. Barriers to inclusion vary from availability, affordability, skills, language, age, cultural barriers, and mindset limitations. The vision of Facebook is to design for inclusion. Using vernacular languages, improving access and motivation, and increasing online safety and trust in the Internet are strategies employed by Facebook towards this goal.

The issue of relatable content was also mentioned, especially when it concerns elderly people. Apart from not understanding how to use it, the older generation in the rural areas generally do not see the value or the need to go on the internet. Information can be power, but only if the information is useful to you.

## PARALLEL SESSION VI: Can Indigenous languages be seen, heard and saved online?

**Format:** Panel Discussion  
**Moderator:** Natasha H. Tibinyane  
**Panelists:** Dr. JP Ilboudo (UNESCO), Sebulon David (Glowdown), Grace Micheals (Planet Micheals)  
**Session rapporteur:** Saskia den Adel-Sheehama

*SCOPE: The digital world is dominated by English, while minority languages struggle to be seen and heard. What on- and offline measures are required for indigenous languages to remain relevant? What role can technology play in mitigating the loss of indigenous languages and Afrocentrism? Does social media influence the use of indigenous languages online? In what ways?*

The moderator introduced the topic by noting that the preservation, promotion, and revitalisation of indigenous languages is one of the key objectives of UNESCO, and that 2019 has been named as the Year of Indigenous Languages. She noted 6000-7000 languages are spoken worldwide, many of which are in danger of being lost.

Dr. Ilboudo noted that apart from promoting heritage, identity and diversity through indigenous languages, it is also important for primary school children to be taught in indigenous languages, because that is the language in which they think. Language and culture are very closely related. One of the threats of the internet is that we are more exposed to foreign cultures because these dominate the cyberspace. We could say we are in exile. The panel and participants agreed that what is missing is pride in our own languages and cultural identity, mainly as a result of our colonial past. With that said, in recent years Namibia has seen a slight increase in expressions of African identity, which gives hope for the future.

Sebulon David argued that digital technology can and should be used as a tool for our advancement. If we groom talent it can be used to build a digital library, and to create local content. We should embrace the fact that the world does not know our stories and rather see it as an opportunity. There are different levels of coding and coding can be taught. His organisation trained 165 teachers in 4 regions of Namibia basic coding during the Africa Code Week. During and after the training, the teachers created their own content and used it as an innovative way to train their learners. ICT can encourage learning, bring employment opportunities, and assist towards the pro-motion of our cultural identity.

Grace Michaels and her husband have a YouTube channel that promotes Namibia as a tourist destination, and raises awareness on child safety online. For her family, the channel is an opportunity to promote our beautiful country, but also our diversity and unique Namibian identity. She noted that many people do not know about the country's beauty, our laudable conservation efforts and well-developed tourism sector. A lot of people have engaged with them, and are surprised at what we have to offer. For the Michaels' it is all about promoting a proud Namibian identity online.



One of the threats of the internet is that we are more exposed to foreign cultures because these dominate the cyberspace.

## PARALLEL SESSION VII: ASK FACEBOOK ANYTHING!

**Format:** Pillar Discussion  
**Facilitator:** Emilar Vushe Gandhi  
**Session rapporteur:** Emilie lifo

*SCOPE: Facebook has been credited to have spread the internet across borders and regions. To many globally, the platform has served as the first contact of the internet world. Like other platforms, Facebook is made up of diverse usage, from users to developers to advertisers, but also chance takers who use the platform for different reasons. This session provided an opportunity for interaction with Facebook's Public Policy Manager for SADC, Emilar Vushe-Gandhi.*

The following questions and responses were recorded:

- Q: Can we get a discretion platform where people cannot make up fake accounts? Maybe create accounts using IDs**
- A: The session rapporteur did not record a direct answer to this question. What was record-ed is that there is a age verification setting at Facebook that blocks certain content from being viewed by non-adults provided that they gave their real birth date, as well as a Geo setting which blocks certain content to be viewed in certain areas.
- Q: Facebook live video quality is not good, does it depend on the quality of the phone or something else?**
- A: It could be the quality of the internet being used because not everyone experiences this problem. Some networks also restrict Facebook.
- Q: Deactivation of a deceased account is a long process that does not get resolved entirely. The person who brought up the issue experienced going through the procedures needed to deactivate a deceased family member. The account got deactivated after a long time but it resurfaced again few months later. How could this be improved?**
- A: Legacy content takes care of the account when a person is deceased. Facebook is currently busy working on an AI that picks up content that can hint on the passing away of someone. It was also noted that awareness raising on how to deal with the accounts of deceased people is required. More information on this can be found on Facebook help.
- Q: Why must I navigate out of the chat to search for something on WhatsApp? The search button on a WhatsApp group is not visible. And why does my phone always need to be connected when I connect my WhatsApp on my computer?**
- A: It has to do with authentication and the protection of peoples' data. Two factor authentication can be done by going to the settings in the privacy setting; check your security check in the settings; lock your profile; and control what you want to see and who can find you
- Q: Why is that every time I save a number, Facebook suggests them to be my friend?**
- A: You gave Facebook permission to access your contacts.
- Q: US elections are running and that is all I see on my profile, I can't see my friends' activities.**
- A: People have different feeds because they like different posts. You can change in your settings what you want to see, and you can snooze posts as well.
- Q: Facebook has in their possession a lot of data. How do we ensure Facebook works in the interests of people?**
- A: We have data but we do not sell it. Facebook does not share personal data.
- Q: I posted a picture of women in my traditional attire (Himba) and it was taken down, why?**
- A: Facebook takes down prohibited content. This includes nudity in any way. There is also the issue of consent; did the people give permission for their picture to be posted in the public domain?
- Q: How does on get a job at Facebook?**
- A: You can go on Facebook jobs to find job opportunities

## SESSION VIII: JOINT PLENARY SESSION - NamIGF ... its relevance and mandate in Namibia and the region

**Format:** Panel Discussion

**Moderator:** Patrick Sam

**Panelists:** Paul Rowney (MyDigitalBridge), Natasha Tibinyane (NamIGF Acting Chairperson and Gabriel Nhinda (ISOC Namibia)

*SCOPE: The NamIGF gathers various stakeholder groups to discuss public policy issues relating to the Internet, as equals. It is aimed at informing and inspiring policy makers in both the public and the private sectors. It must facilitate a common understanding of how to maximize Internet opportunities, and address risks and challenges that arise. How can NamIGF achieve these goals? What are the pros and cons of multistakeholderism? What does Internet governance look like in Africa and other parts of the world? Does the NamIGF have a role to play at regional and continental level? How can the NamIGF build its relevance in the Namibian Internet ecosystem and beyond?*

The moderator asked the panel to introduce themselves and to elaborate on how they have been involved in IGF:

Natasha Tibinyane stated that internet has been a critical tool in her work as an advocacy journalist. The ACTION Coalition was approached by the MICT as a stakeholder representing civil society at the NamIGF. She realised that it would be important to influence policy, and to play a role in shaping her digital future.

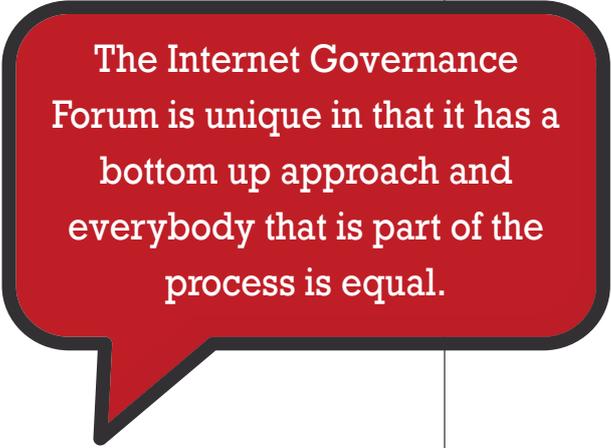
Paul Rowney voiced the sentiment that the IGF is unique in that it has a bottom up approach and everybody that is part of the process is equal. Paul has been involved in IGF for two years, focusing mainly on access and inclusion issues. He said it is important to get more participation from different parts of the society, in particular youth and those in remote areas.

Gabriel Nhinda expressed his appreciation that the government has opened up to the public through the NamIGF; he is given the opportunity to impact policy and future laws. He also said that he would like to see more participation by marginalised communities, and believes that they can be sensitised about the internet in indigenous languages.

Asked to take stock on what has and what hasn't worked so far, Paul Rowney responded that it has been a challenging year with more discussions than actual achievements. Words will have to be put into action, NamIGF has to influence a change in policies and frameworks, which will allow and promote free Internet, community networks, net neutrality, and protect us from data being stolen. Natasha added that working with a large multistakeholder body is also a challenge because it is not always easy to reach consensus. Furthermore, people commit to be part of it, but do not put in the work, only a few are active. One needs active, committed representation from all stakeholders for the forum to work effectively. Capacity and human resources are the limiting factor, rather than financial resources. Gabriel added that there is a lack of visibility of the NamIGF. The general public is not aware of its existence and more can be done towards that.

What activities have taken place since last year's conference? Some work has been done towards formalizing the NamIGF, documents on NamIGF mission and aims and objectives as well as Code of Conduct for NamIGF members have been drafted, but were not finalised. The NamIGF was also represented at international IGFs; held consultative meetings with the MICT on proposed policies; and participated in ISOC Namibia activities. Paul Rowley stressed that the NamIGF is not a decision making body, it can only shape the decision making process by bringing people together.

The discussions around the mandate and functionality of the NamIGF were to be continued on Day 2 of the Conference



The Internet Governance Forum is unique in that it has a bottom up approach and everybody that is part of the process is equal.

## CLOSING OF DAY 1 AND THE WAY FORWARD

Nashilongo Gervasius closed Day 1 of the NamGIF2018 Conference by thanking all the funders, partners, organisers, and participants and inviting everybody to the business session on Day 2, taking place at Hotel Furstenhof.

Particularly thanked were:

- Green Enterprise Solutions
- IGfSA
- AFRINIC
- PowerCom
- NMT
- NamIGF
- ISOC Namibia
- Telecom Namibia
- EU Delegation to Namibia
- DW Akademie
- ISOC Global
- Headway
- ICT Pan
- Facebook
- UNESCO
- MICT
- Pay2Go

More details on the type of sponsorship can be found in the financial report.

**DAY TWO: 7 NOVEMBER 2018**

## **NAMIBIA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM 2018 BUSINESS SESSION**

Natasha H. Tibinyane opened the NamIGF Business Session on Day 2 by welcoming all participants and explaining the programme for the half day event. The intention of the business session was to discuss the legal status of the NamIGF, and decide on whether the NamIGF should register as a legal entity, and if so, in what form. She introduced Clement Daniels, a well-known human rights and labour lawyer, who was tasked to be the Facilitator for the day.

After a round of introductions of all the meeting participants, Daniels gave an overview of the three types of possible legal entities for non-profit organisations. These include a Trust, a Section 21 Company (Association not for gain) or a Voluntary Association;

### **Trust**

- A Trust can be formed under the Monies Protection Act 34 of 1934
- A trust is generally formed for educational or charitable purposes, but a business of family Trust is also possible
- One needs a Deed of Trust, stipulating the purpose, governance, and aims and objectives of the Trust
- One needs a Board of Trustees (preferably an unequal and manageable number). Trustees can not receive fees or dividends or sitting allowance
- There is no specific requirement for terms of office for Trustees, but 3 years is seen as best practice
- Trustees should have some sort of guarantee in case funds are mismanaged, but this can also be exempted
- One has to stipulate beneficiaries, either specific or more general (i.e. society, youth)
- The Trust funds can only be used for the purpose as set out in the Deed
- Trusts currently do not pay Tax on income. Income Tax Act may be amended to include charitable organizations in the near future, but only on the delivery of commercial Consultancy Services
- Trusts can also be exempted from VAT payments
- Trusts must be registered at the Master of the High Court. Registration fee is N\$50, but you may need to pay someone to draft the Deed Documents

### **Section 21 Company**

- Section 21 non-profit organization can be formed for any lawful purpose under the Companies Act 28 of 2004
- The objectives could be the promotion of religion, arts, sciences, education, charity, recreation, or any other cultural or social activity or communal or group interest
- Intends to apply its profits, if any, or other income on promoting its objectives, and prohibits the payment of any dividend to its members
- Registration requires a Memorandum of Association, and Articles of Association. BIPA can to some extent assist with the forms and documents, but you will need a lawyer or legal secretary to help preparing the documents
- If a section 21 company is de-registered or resolved its assets shall be transferred to a similar association.

### **Voluntary Association**

- Does not require registration, but you could register at the Ministry of Health and Social Services
- Membership based and controlled by members
- Governed by a common law
- A voluntary association needs a Constitution
- The Constitution should stipulate the aims and objectives of the association, the governing structure, membership (acquisition and termination), rights and obligations of members, and meetings
- A voluntary association can open a bank account with the Constitution and a resolution stating the signatories of the account
- You can raise funds from the public, but donors or development partners may be reluctant to fund a voluntary association. A voluntary association could work with a fiscal agent which will ensure accountability

The similarities and differences between the three types of entities were discussed and considered. The pros and cons were also reviewed with regard to other known organisations and collaborations. Two

issues should be taken into consideration - who has the power, and how the NamIGF can possibly be corrupted.

- The Zimbabwean IGF has formed a secretariat / working group with people from all stake-holder groups, that can implement activities. It was however said that the Zimbabwean example should rather be seen as a cautionary tale, because working group members are paid by the government, and therefore the government controls what gets discussed.
- The Namibia Media Trust (NMT) is acting as the fiscal agent and secretariat for the Action Coalition. The Action Coalition is not a legal entity and cannot do fundraising, but NMT can raise funds on their behalf. In a way, the Action Coalition can be seen as a project of NMT. There is an agreement signed between them, and NMT remains responsible for all the funds, and assumes all financial and narrative reporting responsibilities. Member organisations of the Action Coalition remain in a position to source funds for specific projects as well.
- The global IGF is not a legal entity in itself either. It is a project under UNDESSA.

After careful consideration, the participants were unanimously in favour of NamIGF becoming a Voluntary Association, with ISOC Namibia as their Secretariat, similar to the relationship between NMT and the Action Coalition. ISOC was seen as the perfect candidate, because the organisation is one of the founding members of NamIGF, and it is within their mandate to work towards Internet Governance. They take on the role of secretariat for many IGFs in the world. Although many members of ISOC Namibia were present at the meeting, and showed interest in the idea, the proposal still needs to be discussed and decided upon officially by ISOC Namibia. The first opportunity to do this will be at a meeting in the first week of December. Assuming ISOC Namibia will agree, the following needs to be in place:

- A signed MoU between the two entities, clearly defining the relationship and responsibilities. A MoU needs to be drafted as soon as possible, so that it can be presented to ISOC Namibia and fine-tuned at their December meeting. MoUs can be easily drafted from existing MoUs between similar organisations in other countries.
- Funding for ISOC Namibia to act as the secretariat of NamIGF. Money would be available from ISOC Global office for this purpose, but needs to be applied for. Although it is not guaranteed, the bidding process is based on performance, and the president of ISOC Namibia does not foresee any problems towards getting access to that funding. There has also been an interest from ISOC Global and other donors to fund a School of Internet Governance in Namibia. In case ISOC Global cannot fund for secretariat services, one could also think about getting an administration fee from the funding raised for NamIGF activities.

### Way forward

An interim multi-stakeholder task team was selected, consisting of the most active working group members plus a few additional participants. The interim task team will be responsible for the urgent drafting of the NamIGF constitution and the MoU with ISOC, and consists of the following members:

1. Natasha Tibinyane (Civil Society) – Chair of the Task Team & NamIGF
2. Paul Rowney (Business)
3. Frederico Links (Civil Society)
4. Elizabeth Kamutuezu (GRN)
5. Elly (GRN) – Vice Chair of the Task Team
6. Nashilongo Gervasius (Technical Community)
7. Anton Limbo (Academia)
8. Gabriel Nhinda (Academia)
9. Alfred Swartz (End User)
10. Mitiri Tjazamo (end user – rural people)
11. Edward (Civil society – youth)
12. CRAN to nominate a member

With regard to dates and other resolutions, the following plan of action was established:

- Time is key. Processes can happen in parallel so as to avoid unnecessary delays, but the group has to ensure that the procedures are multi-stakeholder.
- Paul will make a first draft of the MoU, and will circulate this via Google Docs with the interim task team latest by Monday 19 November.
- The interim task team will meet at MICT on Friday, 23 November to discuss and finalise the draft MoU.
- ISOC Namibia will discuss the MoU at a meeting in the first week of December and revert back to the Task Team. If all agree ISOC and NamIGF can then sign the MoU. If needed a final version of the MoU can be discussed at the ISOC AGM in February and signed then.
- A NamGIF draft Constitution will be prepared by the task team, informed by various existing documents (draft ToR for the working group, a draft Code of Conduct for NamIGF members, a draft

MoU with ISOC, as well as Constitutions of IGF Global or other IGFs). The draft Constitution is to be circulated by Friday 18 January.

- An inaugural meeting for NamIGF is planned for Friday 15 February. At this meeting, all interested parties are invited to attend for the adoption of the Constitution. Invitation letters to all interested parties and potential members of NamIGF will be issued in January.
- A new working group and office bearers shall be elected at the NamIGF inaugural meeting on the 15th of February as well. It is important to elect working group members representing all stakeholder groups, people that are committed and have time, and there should be a gender balance.
- Until the 15th of February the current Working Group shall remain in place, with Natasha as the Acting Chair
- An invitation has been received from the SADC IGF Secretariat to attend a meeting from 28-29 November in Durban, South Africa. A representative from GRN and CSO is invited to attend the meeting. It was decided that the Chair (Natasha) and Vice-chair (Elly) will attend the meeting, subject to funds availability. Invitation will be forwarded to Natasha to follow up.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

The income and expenses for the NamIGF2018 conference are summarized in the tables below:

	SOURCE	TYPE	AMOUNT (N\$)
1.1.	Green Enterprise Solutions		30,000.00
1.2.	IGFSA		27,000.00
1.3.	AFRINIC		13,000.00
1.4.	PowerCom		10,000.00
1.5.	NMT		10,000.00
1.6.	NamIGF		17,805.00
1.7.	ISOC Namibia		10,000.00
1.8.	Facebook	Business Session to total value of N\$12,100.00	
1.9.	UNESCO	Venue Day 1	
1.10.	ICT-Pan	Bags (value N\$10,000.00)	
1.11.	Telecom Namibia	Wi-Fi	
1.12.	EU Delegation	10 Goodie Bags	
1.13.	DW Akademie	1 Foreign Expert and 1 local expert	
1.14.	ISOC Global	Zoom Link & Live streaming	
1.15.	Headway	150 Pens	
1.16.	MICT	Audio Visual	
1.17.	Pay2Go	T-shirts	
1.18.	Green Enterprise Solutions	100 x notebooks	
	<b>Total monetary sponsorship (excluding donations paid directly to provider and in kind donations)</b>		<b>N\$ 117,805.00</b>
	<b>TYPES OF EXPENSE</b>		
2.1.	Meals conference package		33,591.00
2.2.	MC Fee		3,000.00
2.3.	Business Session additional charge		500.00
2.4.	Stage		3,380.00
2.5.	Volunteers & transport		1,835.00
2.6.	Coordinator Fee		10,000.00
2.7.	Lead Rapporteur Fee		8,000.00
2.8.	Business session Facilitator Fee		5,000.00
2.9.	Video Editing		5,000.00
2.10.	Graphic design		5,125.00
2.11.	Event bags additional payment		4,000.00
	<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>N\$ 79,431.00</b>
	<b>SURPLUS</b>		<b>N\$ 38,374.00</b>