

National Forum on Internal Governance Haiti 2019



National Forum on Internet Governance Haiti

Theme : " *Unite against misinformation, defamation and fake news on the internet in Haiti* "

Port-au-Prince, Alpha Haiti (Ciné Triomphe), Champs de Mars - September 12, 2019

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Port-au-Prince, September 12, 2019

Many thanks to our partners



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Opening Ceremony



Obed Sindy , President of ISOC Haiti Chapter

- **Mr. Obed Sindy , President of ISOC Haiti Chapter**, has repainted the harsh reality of the problem of fake news, in depth, starting from the very beginning of the phenomenon in history, to then clarify the objectivity of the forum and the need to stick to it, with the aim of an adequate answer to the problems of fake news, even more urgent today in view of their negative impacts.



Max Larson Henry, President of the Transversal Foundation

- Following the opening statement by Mr. Obed Sindy , **Mr. Max Larson Henry, President of the Transversal Foundation and the Haitian Association for the Development of Information and Communication Technologies (AHTIC)**, emphasized the main reasons for the partnership and the contribution of AHTIC to the holding of the IGF Haiti 2019. Mr. Henry, ended his intervention by highlighting the mainly negative impacts, fake news on the Internet and its development, particularly the risk to see the work of year time, reduced to nothing.



Mr. Chiller Jean Baptiste, Special Adviser to the Director of the National Telecommunications Council

- Echoing and prolonging, **Mr. Chiller Jean Baptiste, special adviser to the Director of the National Council of Telecommunication**, underlines the collaborative aspect that should take any possible solutions, to the problems of fake news in Haiti, given the diversity of “stakeholder of internet governance in Haiti.



Jean Jaunasse Elysée, Coordinator of the RDDH

- Point supported, but deepened by **Mr. Jean Jaunasse Elysée, coordinator of the RDDH**, which he urges the actors to a cautious and selective approach, in their search for solution, with respect to the various aspects of the problem of the fake news. According to Mr Jean Jaunasse, the various aspects of the misinformation and fake news problem, for the most part, fall within the domain of the content of the network rather than the network itself, and that the possible restrictions that will accompany the proposed solutions should not slow down the development. From the latter - the internet, nor trampling on the basics.



Mr. Shernon Osepa , Regional Affairs Officer, Internet Society

- Recommendations that were supported by **Mr. Shernon Osepa , Regional Affairs Officer for the Internet Society** when he recalled the impact of the Internet on the development of a country, the potentialities of the latter as that it is today and especially the prospects of development that it offers. Believing that what the Internet has become today, results largely from the values and invariants that conditioned its genesis. Mr. Osepa encouraged the preservation of these values and especially the popularization of technological and literary knowledge related to the Internet to the younger generation to promote the future.

“Issues related to misinformation and practical practices at the national, regional and international levels. ”



Reynold Guerrier, CEO at GSIS Mrs. Betty Fausta, CEO at IPEOS, and Mr. Jean Marie Althema , CEO at proFIT Development Consulting

Mrs. Betty Fausta, CEO at IPEOS, and Mr. Jean Marie Althema , CEO at proFIT Development Consulting, gathered at this first panel, to discuss the theme "**Challenges related to misinformation and practical practices at the national level, regional and international.** "

Many findings and diagnosis have been made around the fact that any user of the Internet is potentially a bridge, a relayer said **Ms. Betty** , which depends on the free flow of information whose access is determined by the behavior of the latter in relation to sending or receiving information.

Certainly, everyone has the right to be informed and why not, the duty to inform. Unfortunately, the dissemination of information today, as it has done for a long time, is no longer just for the purpose of satisfying the right to information, but can also be used as tools for manipulating public opinion. for economic as well as political purposes, by government, agency, enterprise or third-party institutions. A reality seen in the past and present of different organizations, countries or personalities.

Some information giants, whose most popular search engines are not spared today, by the phenomenon of dissemination of false information, with regard to the mechanism of their information dissemination system, whose speed and availability information often depends on the tariffs and no beacon, apart from that of the signaling, condition the verification of information.

Added to these are the social networks, which themselves have even fewer regulations and beacons of information controls, including false ones. Which according to **Mr. ALTEMA** , is one of the biggest obstacles to the solutions of the problem of false information.

On the strength of these observations, all the speakers agreed, with some slight nuances, on the need for a culture of responsible behavior by "relaying" users , consisting first of all in a very critical treatment of the information received which must be personal and non-emotional measurement of information, the measurement of the consequences of its further dissemination, and its comparison to other relevant information from traditional media bodies which, because of the to be more easily indexed in relation to information disseminated, more strictly control the quality of the information they disseminate or relay.

Mr. Guerrier, however , has urged traditional media bodies to be more professional in their journalistic functions regardless of trends or affiliations, ideology, group or party.

If one had to make a comment, one can say that the diversity of the speakers, the very varied, heterogeneous but not heterogeneous nature of the experiments were one of the characteristics of the panel. The risk of substituting superimposed monologues for real dialogue was not negligible. This risk has been avoided.

How to engage the actors and stakeholders of the internet internet governance against the pollution of the web?



Ms. Jeanne L. Clark, Public Affairs Officer of the American Embassy and Mr. Emmanuel Adjovi , Director of the OIF Regional Office

This panel brought together Suzanne Quinnis Sanders , founder of Search Skate, for a monologue, Emmanuel Adjovi , Director of the OIF Regional Office, and Jeanne L. Clark, Public Affairs Officer of the US Embassy, to exchange around of the theme "***How to engage the actors and stakeholders of the internet Internet governance against the pollution of the web? "***"

Suzanne Quinnis Sanders , opened this panel with this global approach on the opportunities offered by this diversified aspect of our world, then to restrict it to the common core of the Internet and to the collaboration which should show, all the stakeholders of internet governance, with ISOC, by working in their own sector, with the general digital inclusion and the development of specific Internet development projects and thus reduce the reverse and negative actions, sometimes due to pure ignorance. An inspiring and unifying monologue, but not totally grasped by the whole audience, given the language of expression and the absence of a translator, but that Mrs. Suzanne ended with the simple but very profound sentence "***we must work together. "***"

The rest of the discussions were carried out by an interrogative process, led by **Mr. Emmanuel Adjovi** , trying to put the finger on the actors of the governance of the Internet directly in relation with the infox . The roles and functions of the most prominent agencies, including ICANN, IETF, and technology platforms, having been scrutinized and clarified, led to the conclusion that some considerable reforms should be made, particularly at the level of the platform regulatory system to guarantee a better efficiency of the system.

The big question was to specify the best tools of this regulation, able to respect the fundamental principles of the Internet. While corroborating the arguments of Mr. Adjovi , arguing that one of the best solutions would be an education of the responsible behavior of the end users vis-à-vis the information, Mrs. Jeanne Clark, wished to emphasize that in spite of such level reached by the development of the Internet , this negative aspect of its use has surprised everyone. Also - she insisted that information should be processed and queried with much skepticism as if talking to a stranger and audit initiatives such as fact check, should be supported and encouraged.

Given the focus is on the responsibility of end users, and the very purpose of the annual holding of the forum. There were also reflections on the existing correlation between the Haitian social state and the proliferation of false information on the Internet and on this reliable information economy that continues to plummet.

" How misinformation, defamation and fake news affect women and their roles in ending it. ", " Journalism responsible for misinformation, defamation and fake news . "



Ms. Christina Shanon of Unity Studio, Recruitment Specialist, accompanied Mr. Van Brutus of Nextep Communication, Mr. Pierre Stanley Baptiste, contributor to HuffinPost , Mr. Raoul Junior Son of Loop Haiti and Mr. Hardson Archangel Albert, contributor to AyiboPost .

" How misinformation, defamation and infox affect women and their roles in ending it. ", " Journalism responsible for misinformation, defamation and infox . " These are the two themes that were jointly discussed and made special, the third panel. From this point of view, it was of paramount importance, as the seated actors, were particularly indexed as being among the most direct influencers of the information itself and their circulations on the network.

Mrs. Kathlyn Bastien, co-organizer of Haiti Cyber Con Ms. Christina Shanon of Unity Studio, recruitment specialist, accompanied Mr. Van Brutus of Nextep Communication, Mr. Pierre Stanley Baptiste, contributor to HuffinPost , Mr. Raoul Junior Son of Loop Haiti and Mr. Hardson Archangel Albert, contributor to AyiboPost . A whole variety of diversity sought, in view of a fairly well-rounded and balanced discussion about the journalist's professional behavior with regard to information and the impacts of the latter on the feminine gender.

Like the previous panel, it was introduced by the intervention of Mrs. Kathlyn Bastien , co-organizer of Haiti Cyber Con , who gave a practical overview, but quite precise, tips and good practices necessary for the reception, treatment and transfer information by a third party user. The attention to detail, the parallel, consistency of content and re - checks are among the tricks Ms. Bastien encouraged and recommended. It should be pointed out that the many and clear details of Mrs Bastien's recommendations have even led to fears expressed of

disinterestedness in the information in relation to all these guidelines, which she has calmed by underlining the importance of the fact that inform in the daily life of people.

Then there was, with Mrs. Christina, this picture of the social life of women on technological platforms, particularly social networks, highlighting among many others, cases of harassment and denigration of gender to which they are face. Description that she has completed with two many recommendations, mostly in the field of behavior, and drawn from her own experiences with which she built her strong reputation and network of several thousand professionals on LinkedIn .

The discussions then stepped s around the importance of basic values of the profession of journalists, the need to preserve these values and especially the negative impacts due to neglect one. Indeed, by implementing them at the base of the study of journalism, the principles of journalistic ethics had to maintain professionalism in relation to the processing of information, and to prevent the latter being altered, by certain considerations, qualified s today journalistic prostitution of all kinds.

Moreover the presidential blunder of the French President, Emmanuel Macron , in relation to the importance of the Amazon in the world production of oxygen, relayed and corroborated by various international media, and finally be contradicted by a statement of a jurisdiction specialized in the field, revealed the nonchalance of the information professionals and a certain negligence in relation to the principle of journalistic doubt consisting in questioning the information until the obtaining of the truth " true " and that of the verification rigorous that can establish the reliability of the sources.

To this, Mr. Van Brutus, recalled and proposed these practical methods cultivated at Nextep Communication , consisting in favoring the direct interview, to take a step back from the scoop, often at the origin of the emotional reactions moving the journalist away from the journalistic professionalism. , denounce the infox and report abusive uses. Indeed, the journalist as such, must become aware of his responsibility, to behave as such, to remain alert, to self-criticize if necessary and especially not to remain passive in the face of uses abusive.

Digital citizenship education : What approaches for Haiti ?



Mr. Jean Nahum Constant who is a member of the Administrative Council of ISOC Haiti, Mr. Kindy V. Montreuil, young IGF 2018 and Mr. Ralphson Pierre, a specialist in ICT.

The panellists of the last panel were Mr. **Jean Nahum Constant, who is a member of ISOC Haiti's Administrative Council, Mr. Kindy V. Montreuil, young FGI 2018, and Mr. Ralphson Pierre, an ICT specialist.**

Jean N. Constant proposes to use Wizz tools to determine information about domain names (Domain names are the series of numbers, letters and symbols in the private part of the letters "http" of a URL). And I wondered then there would be no applications or software that would check (perhaps automatically) the reliability of the domain names of the sites on which we go.

The young Kindy V. Montreuil made a colorful summary of what he had to say about digital citizenship education. Indeed, to tell us about the technique of the nine "P" digital citizen, he asked nine volunteers and the offer was much higher demand.

1. The password (Password)

It is important to create different passwords for each of our accounts and using various characters (numbers, letters ...) to strengthen the security of its connections.

2. Permission

We must take into account the requests for permission of what we install on our electronic devices. We must take the time to read them and tick the right boxes (related to the requested permissions).

3. Privacy of others

You should avoid sharing the data of others without permission.

4. Personal info

Avoid sharing personal information s (by message, publication ...) because the Internet never forgets!

5. Protection

Always update the protection services (Ex: the famous antivirus ...)

6. Permission

Request permission before transmitting and retransmitting any data.

7. netiquette

Know what to publish and what to avoid publishing on the Internet so as not to offend others.

8. Professionalism

Reinforce your skills so you do not get left behind, especially in the digital world.

9. Personal mark

(Probably doing E-reputation or so-called digital identity).

Knowing that the number of hours Haitians that are connected will increase, he believes that our own business reputation online will still count in the coming years in relation to the research and getting a job.

Mr Ralphson Pierre has contributed his stone to the question of education for digital citizenship to take up the main solutions brought by the stakeholders of the various panels on good governance of the Internet: legislation, digital citizen education from school. The Internet legislation can not come from anyone but specialists in the internet governance. Among other things, he raised the question of professional competitiveness in the international labor market and the need to choose the job of choice. He listed among others, endangered trades such as Accounting, which at home, young audience, caused general hilarity. Apparently, Accounting was the path taken by more than one.

Conclusion

The 12th of September 2019 discussion day was extremely rich in ideas. The future is being built every day. We must act with projects and true partnerships.

We conclude with these questions: Q u'en there will be follow-ups and changes in behavior necessary in relation to these challenges misinformation, Infox and defamation on the Internet ?

Basically, the answer to these questions depends on each of us, individually and collectively. We must really discuss, but above all act.

Some photos of the meeting











