



**ITU TELECOM
AFRICA 2008
Cairo
12-15 May**

Youth Forum Programme

Saturday 10 May 2008	Youth Forum Opening
09h00- 10h30 (TBC)	
YF.1: Opening Mycerinos A	

Since the launch of the first Youth Forum at ITU TELECOM AFRICA 2001, this has become a regular component of ITU TELECOM events. Participation of universities and higher technical institutes has involved all ITU Member States from 191 countries. The Youth Forum presents a highly challenging opportunity for university students in one region, or around the world, to simply interact and relate to several mainstream issues that animate the global Information and Communications Technology (ICT) development. Moreover, it is an opportunity for them to develop and deliver during the TELECOM event their vision and action plan for their region, or the world.

The Youth Forum allows this process to take place by bringing together selected university students from all around the world to meet government authorities, industry and other leaders who will inspire this, vibrant, young and promising generation to consider entering the ICT sector and to use ICT tools to create a better world. This Forum hence flows from the profound belief in youth power and their expected capability to be the driving force of development around the world.

The potential of the ICTs for socio-economic development is now well recognized. For developing countries, various ICT applications such as e-learning, e-health, e-governance and other e-services create unique development opportunities. Such applications are having a positive impact on education, poverty reduction, the fight against various health and dangerous diseases, reduction of child and maternal mortality, access to the services for people with disabilities and elimination of the roots of national and international conflict. ICTs offer a variety of services and information resources, which will help in improving life styles. Therefore, ICT connectivity as well as ICT skills development should occupy the highest political priorities, offering youth a new future.

The programme for AFRICA TELECOM 2008 will largely be driven by the interests of Youth Fellows. The Africa Youth Forum opening formally welcomes the youth fellows to set the tone to an exciting, challenging and productive programme.

The four selected topics of this Youth Forum highlight some of the challenges in the ICT arena from the youth perspective. The topics are:

- 1) The role of youth in promoting the cybersecurity
- 2) Youth rights to communicate and use of ICT
- 3) Empowering young people to improve the quality of life in their communities through the use of ICTs
- 4) The role of ITU-D in promoting Youth focused ICT development activities

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Chairman & Welcome Address

Dr A. Reza **JAFARI**, Chairman, and Managing Director, NeuStar International (U.S.A.) and Chairman (ITU TELECOM Board)

Opening Remarks

The role of youth in preventing cyber-threats and cyber-crime - Confidence and security in using information and communication technologies (ICTs) are fundamental in building an inclusive, secure and global information society. The legal, technical and institutional challenges posed by cyber-threats and cybercrime are global and far-reaching, and can only be addressed through a coherent strategy taking into account the role of different stakeholders and existing initiatives, within a framework of international cooperation. The role of youth is important as they should lead in the fight against cybercrime.

Speaker: Dr. Hamadoun I. **TOURÉ**, Secretary-General (ITU)

Keynote Speakers:

Youth rights to communicate through ICTs – The right to communicate is a basic right for everybody. In addition to ordinary use, ICTs will enable people with various disabilities to carry out functions with ICT equipped assistive devices to improve their quality of life: All African youth must be enabled to communicate with other youth around the globe. This will help them in developing their own social and economic welfare as well as developing a global view and creating awareness of policy makers to advance youth activities. African youth should be encouraged to use ICTs to communicate and exchange knowledge and information with youth all over the world.

Speaker: H. E. Dr. Tarek **KAMEL**, Minister of Communications and Information Technology (Arab Republic of Egypt)

Empowering young people to improve the quality of life in their communities through the use of ICTs - The life style of people is changing dramatically through the use and influence of ICTs. Access, when available, facilitates fast and easy flow of all information, thus enabling new ways of communicating, working, socializing, getting education etc. Community networking opens various opportunities for all. Youth are catalysts for changes.

Speaker: Dr. Donald **KABERUKA**, President of the African Development Bank (ADB) and Mr. Jay **NAIDOO**, Chairman, Development Bank of Southern Africa (South Africa)

The role of ITU-D in promoting Youth focused ICT development activities –

In an increasingly networked world, the young generation is not only the beneficiary but often the driving force behind the latest innovations and practices. For many, the ICTs have come to determine their choice of lifestyle. It is clearly our duty today to provide to our children the new opportunities offered by the ICTs. In particular it is important to those who remain unconnected from the ongoing digital revolution.

Speaker: Mr. Sami **ALBASHEER ALMORSHID**, Director, (ITU-BDT)

Africa Youth Forum 2008 -- Vision, Action, Commitment, a Better World

Speaker: Mrs Walda W. **ROSEMAN**, CEO, CompassRose International, Chairperson, ITU Youth Forum (United States of America)

Saturday, 10 May 2008	Joint Africa Youth Forum Fellows and Egyptian Youth Ambassadors “Conversation” on Cyber-Peace
11h00 – 13h00	
YF.2 - Interactive Session Mycerinos A	

The Suzanne Mubarak Cyber-peace Initiative is listening to and working with young people worldwide to the hope that ICT can increasingly be used to address the root causes of conflict; build communications bridges of information, understanding and, hence, peace among young people and other generations world wide; and promote use of ICT that is safe for all, particularly children and youth. Prior to Africa youth Forum 2008, Egyptian youth will meet to examine issues of “cyber-peace.” This session will be an interactive meeting between these Egyptian “Ambassadors” and the African Youth Fellows to share their respective views of these issues as they effect the African region and the world.

Co- Moderators: Net-Anam Egyptian Youth and ITU Africa Youth Forum Alumni
(to be identified)

Panelists: (to be identified)

Saturday,	Technologies and Applications
10 May 2008	
15h30 – 18h00	
YF.3: Interactive Session Mycerinos A	

The advancement in ICTs has a profound impact in the quality of human life as well as wider and more affordable access for people to be connected. Utilization of new technologies of all kinds (e.g. IP networks, mobile and wireless communication systems, software driven applications and content, etc...) have paved the way for global connectivity of networks and services, strengthened the development of an enabling environment, and instilled confidence in the use of ICTs by promoting cyber security.

On the other hand, global connectivity and promotion of the capability of people in utilizing ICT towards a better, more peaceful and productive world requires innovation creativity and local knowledge. It also requires a secure communication network and the ability to use the ICTs in a safe and responsible manner. This interactive session will discuss these and other issues of interest to the Youth Fellows and relevant to the ICT sector.

Possible questions to be discussed under this topic:

- How to make sure that the remote locations are given access to ICT?
- How to increase international broadband capacity from Africa?
- Does ICTs create new opportunities for service/application development in Africa? What does it take?
- How to ensure that cybercrime, spam, spyware, scams and frauds, viruses and trojans etc. do not become a major threat in Africa?
- How to provide affordable means of protection?
- Would ICT training to youth in Africa help improve the level of security in the cyber world?
- How can African youth capitalize on self generated content to address issues pertinent to the continent?

Chairman: Ms Walda **ROSEMAN**, President & CEO, CompassRose International, Inc. (U.S.A)

Experts:

1. Prof. Romain **MURENZI**, Minister in President's Office in charge of Science, Technology, Scientific Research and ICT (Rwanda)
2. Dr. Hoda **BARAKA**, Deputy Minister of ICT (Arab Republic of Egypt)
3. Mrs Sari **KOLA-NYSTRÖM**, Head of Industry Marketing, Marketing / Middle East Africa Nokia Siemens Networks (Finland)
4. Dr. Donald **OSBORN**, Director, Biharat, Ltd. (U.S.A.)
5. Dr. Sebileto **MOKONE-MATABANE**, Chief Executive Officer, Sentech (South Africa)
6. Dr Stuart **SHARROCK**, Editorial Consultant – Telecommunications, Telemates (UK)
7. Mr. Simbo N. **NTIRO**, ICT4D Advisor/Consultant, Costech (Tanzania)
8. ITU Youth Forum Alumni (to be identified)

Sunday, 11 May 2008	Policies and Regulation
14h30 – 17h30	
YF.4: Interactive Session Mycerinos Room A	

The main concept behind the Universal Access rationale in modern ICT industry is to advance the availability and accessibility of such services to all people, including those with low income, people with disabilities, special groups as well as those living in rural and remote areas, those with language and keyboard literacy issues and others. Recognizing the importance of access to the ICTs, many developing countries have developed national ICT strategies and policies. Regulators have carried out extensive regulatory reforms, consequently promoting competition in the ICT sector as an effective means to achieve universal access goals. Even though significant progress has been recorded, a number of issues still require closer focus, such as adoption of technology neutral authorization or licensing practices, promotion of pro-competitive interconnection and tariff regulation practices, provision of spectrum for IMT-2000 and broadband wireless access services. In order to minimize internet connectivity costs, it is unavoidable to liberalize international gateways, or/and to create national and regional Internet exchange points.

Young people need to be empowered to ensure their equal participation in the information society. Thus ICT strategies and policies need to address both accessibility as well as human capacity building requirements. However, the objective of providing everyone in Africa with benefits of ICTs can only be achieved if African Governments make firm commitments which recognize ICTs as one of their political priorities. These commitments will in turn lead to enhanced investment in ICTs for education and training and availability, affordability and usability of ICTs for all.

Possible questions to be discussed under this topic:

- Is access to ICT truly the right for all in Africa today?
- How to enhance efficiency of the existing universal access/service frameworks?
- What would be the main benefits of introducing open access in Africa?
- Which are the main obstacles against open access in Africa?
- What measures should be adopted to open the services market in Africa?
- Will new technologies require new type of regulation and policies from authorities? If yes, what is required?
- What is the status of e-services in Africa?

Chairman: Mr Stewart **WHITE**, Chief Executive Officer, Stewart White Consulting Ltd (SWCL) (UK)

Experts:

1. S.E. M. Habib **SY**, Ministre d'Etat, Ministre, Ministère des Postes, des Télécommunications et de Nouvelles Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication (Sénégal)
2. Dr. Amr **BADAWI**, Executive President, National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA) (Arab Republic of Egypt)
3. Mr Bernard A. **FORSON** Jnr, Director General, National Communications Authority (Ghana)
4. Mr Patrick **MASAMBU**, Executive Director, Uganda Communications Commission (Uganda)
5. Eng. Ernest C.A. **NDUKWE**, Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) (Nigeria)
6. Mr. Shuller **HABEENZU**, Controller/Chief Executive Officer, The Communications Authority (Zambia)
7. Mrs Laina Raveendran **GREENE**, Lead Consultant, GetIT, Inc (Singapore)
8. ITU Youth Forum Alumni (to be identified)

Monday, 12 May 2008	Business and Finance
14h30 – 17h30 YF.5 - Interactive Session Mycerinos A	

The emergence of the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) has created numerous opportunities for regional cooperation. Youth partnerships between Africa and other regions are also evolving, including African youth from the Diaspora.

The “digital age” for African youth is much younger compared to that in other areas, but they are catching up fast. With sufficient training, mentoring and access to finance, African youth can become successful and socially responsible entrepreneurs creating not for profit or commercial programmes that benefit their communities, countries and the African region. They can also link up through the ITU Youth Forum alumni network with other young people both within Africa and from elsewhere in the world to create partnership and alliances for economic, social environment and peace. .

This session addresses some of the opportunities for young people to invest in Africa. Moreover, it challenges Africa Youth Fellows to convert their dreams into action and challenges.

Possible questions to be discussed under this topic:

- With the help of ICT e-services can help African people to catch up with other regions and overcome the lack of infrastructure in many areas. Is enough being done by the governments to support this development?
- Would ICT training to youth in Africa improve their competitiveness in the global market?
- Which areas of ICT would you consider as future success stories in business?
- Are there any opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Africa? What kind of support would you think are need?
- What is the best way to build public-private sector partnerships in Africa?
- What needs to be done by the youth to achieve investment in ICT infrastructure in Africa?
- What risk factors would investors consider in Africa and how would you mitigate those risks?

Chairman: Dr Norman **LEWIS**, Chief Strategy Officer (Former Director of Technology Research, Orange UK) Wireless Grids Corporation, USA

Experts:

1. Professor **WISEMAN** NKUHLU, Chairman (NEPAD)
2. Mr. Gabriel **SOLOMON**, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, GSM Association (UK)
3. Mr. Peter **BLADIN**, Vice President and Director, Grameen Technology Center, Grameen Foundation (U.S.A.)
4. Mr. Walid **GAD**, Chairman, Egyptian Information, Telecommunications, Electronics and Software Alliance (EITESAL),
5. Mr. Bernard Francis **MWANGI CHOGI**, Lecturer (Development) Augustana College (Kenya)
6. Mr. Alexander **SEYF**, Head of TM&E Consultancy EMEA, Tata Consultancy Services (UK)
7. Mr. Fredric **MORRIS**, Editor-in-Chief, Connect-World (Brazil)
8. ITU Youth Forum Alumni (to be identified)

Tuesday,	“ITU and academia commitment for the future of ICTs”
13 May 2008	
09h00 – 10h30	
YF.6 - Interactive Session Mycerinos A	

Given the knowledge that many new technologies find life in the minds of the academic and research communities, ITU is increasingly looking to attract more involvement from the world’s universities and other academic and research institutions. It will allow ITU to remain at the cutting edge of technology standardization and applications. There are already many examples of this policy bearing fruit. Some standards that have emerged from ITU study groups have been heavily influenced by academic involvement. Our strategic view is that academic participation should be extended further, and ITU is taking concrete steps to increase this cooperation.

The elaboration of an action plan for joint educational initiatives between ITU-T and academia to assist in specific teaching and training tasks is essential; the possibility to organize common events is included in the plan.

“Innovations in the Next Generation Network” (12-13 May 2008, Geneva, Switzerland) is the first in a series of peer-reviewed Kaleidoscope academic conferences that will focus five to fifteen years into the future of NGN. In addition to this, ITU-D supported two workshops organized by the Association of African Universities (AAU) in its efforts to establish Research & Education Networks. This support is to be continued in a project to support African universities as adopted by WTDC-06.

Universities can benefit from participation in the standards-making process by becoming part of an international ‘club’ of ICT experts. Among ITU’s key attractions are its truly international scope and its role as the architect behind many modern communication systems. All major ICT companies are ITU members. There can be no more enlightening a window on the world of ICT development. The opportunity to be part of a team that creates a worldwide standard provides an exciting opportunity for any university.

Possible questions to be discussed under this topic:

- Understanding the ITU functions covered by the three sectors?
- Understanding the standards development environment?
- Why participate in ITU activities?
- How to access the ITU documents?
- How to develop a more effective pre-standard environment?
- Are technology watch and briefing reports on new emerging technologies a tool to stimulate future investigations?
- Which are new emerging technologies to be considered?
- How students and professors can participate in the life of ITU?
- How ITU could be the vehicle to increase the outreach of universities?
- How can the ITU work with academia to enhance innovation among African students?

Tuesday, 13 May 2008	“ITU and academia commitment for the future of ICTs”
09h00 – 10h30	
YF.6 - Interactive Session Mycerinos A	

Moderator: Mr. Paolo **ROSA**, Head, Workshops and Promotion Division, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (ITU-TSB)

Panelists:

1. Dr. Rafik **GUINDI**, Nile University, Smart Village (Arab Republic of Egypt)
2. Dr. Didier **FASS**, Associate Professor, ICN (France)
3. Mr Ebrahim **AL-HADDAD**, Head, ITU Regional Office for Arab States (Arab Republic of Egypt)
4. ITU Youth Forum Alumni (to be identified)

Tuesday, 13 May 2008 14h30 – 17h30 YF.7 - Plenary Session Mycerinos Room A	Youth Forum elections and organization of Drafting Group for the Declaration and Action Plan
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Wednesday, 14 May 2008 14h30 – 17h30 YF.9: 2 Workshops Mycerinos A and C	Parallel Workshops
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Workshop 1 - Building a socially responsible enterprise

Workshop 2 - Strategic Communications

Co-Moderators for the 2 Workshops to be decided

Wednesday, 14 May 2008 18h00 YF.8 - Plenary Session Mycerinos A	Preparation and Finalization of Africa Youth Forum 2008 Declaration and Action Plan
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Thursday, 15 May 2008 11h30 – 13h00 (Chefren A&B)	Joint Closing Session Main, TDS and Youth Forum
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Thursday 15 May 13h00 – 14h00 YF.9 - Plenary Chefren A&B	Youth Forum Closing Session
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Thursday, 15 May 2008 12h00 – 13h00 (Cheops)	WTISD Award Ceremony
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