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|  | The African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF 2015 |

**BID to host the 4th African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF2015)**

**1. Background**

**1.1 The Internet Governance Forum**

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a platform for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on prevailing and emerging issues on Internet governance ecosystem. The forum aims at fostering the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and the development of the Internet, thus facilitating content development and access to information and knowledge. Africa’s contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process has led to the formation of the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) in September 2011.

**1.2 The African Internet Governance Forum**

Presently, there are regional Internet Governance Forum initiatives in all the five regions of Africa. In order to bring together the national IGF initiatives together with the regional ones and to promote IG related issues on the continent, there was a strong need for the establishment of an African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF). Accordingly, AfIGF was convened by the sub-regional IGFs in cooperation with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at the 6th IGF in Nairobi, Kenya. The AfIGF was launched on 30 September 2011.

**1.3 The AfIGF events**

Following a bid floated by the AfIGF secretariat, which was based at ECA up to 2014, the various AfIGF sessions were successfully held by:

* Egypt, from 2 - 4 October 2013;
* Kenya, from 24 - 26 September 2013; and
* Nigeria, from 10-12 July 2014.

The 4th AfIGF is expected to be held between mid-June to mid-October 2015, in a member State.

Given a number of countries showing interest in hosting the fourth AfIGF, the secretariat would like to facilitate the selection of the host country for the fourth AfIGF and invite countries to submit expressions of interest to the AfIGF Secretariat according to the guidelines given below.

**2. The AfIGF**

The Secretariat of the AfIGF is hosted by the AUC in its Addis Ababa Headquarters, in Ethiopia. The Forum's website is on http://afigf.org/. The 4th AfIGF conference will be jointly organized by AUC and ECA.

**2.1 Main Objectives of AfIGF**

AfIGF aims to be a platform for an inclusive multilateral, multi-stakeholder and multilingual discussion on issues pertinent to the Internet in Africa in general and Internet Governance issues in particular. Specific objectives include:

* To increase awareness and build capacity on Internet Governance for African users to ensure that all stakeholders are well prepared for contribution and interaction.
* To ensure that the concerns of Africa are taken into account in the IGF process.
* To put in place a coordinated African process for dealing with Internet governance issues on the continent.
* To strengthen the multi-stakeholder dialogue model for Internet Governance in Africa through regional and national forums.
* To ensure a multi-stakeholder representation of all parts of the continent
* To ensure that all the countries are part of the regional processes and launch/strengthen their national processes.
* To facilitate national and regional exchanges and interactions between countries and regions in continent.
* To facilitate the participation of African stakeholders in AfIGF and other appropriate regional and national Internet Governance Forums.
* To promote access to information and knowledge.
* To promote content development and use of African languages in the cyberspace.

**2.2 The AfIGF Bureau**

The AfIGF bureau is composed of the 5 current conveners of the regional IGF or their designates.

**3. BID to Host the 4th African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF)**

**3.1 Eligibility and criteria for submission of expression of interest**

* Must be a country within Africa.
* The focal point must be a government ministry in charge of ICTs.
* Have a National IGF Process in place, where all stakeholders take part.
* Host Country must offer accommodation in at least a recognized 4 stars hotel (bed and breakfast) for a minimum of fifty (50) international participants.
* Host Country must offer water, 2 coffee breaks par day and lunch for all participants during the days of pre-events and conference.
* Host Country must facilitate visa entry for all participants, provide free protocol services and free local transportation from and to the airport and from the hotels to the venue of the conference.
* Host Country must offer conference facilities for pre-events and main conference, including meeting rooms, interpretation from French to English and English to French. Host country may provide interpretation to any other language if they wish to do so.
* Host Country must provide high speed Internet access at the conference venue and at the hotel which is chosen to accommodate the 50 international participants.
* Host Country must promote the event through traditional and modern media.
* Host Country must ensure that access to the conference is free of charge and open to all stakeholders.

**3.2 Submission of bid (expression of interest)**

Submission of bids should be done through the following e-mail address: YedalyM@africa-union.org. Once a country is pre-selected, an agreement will be signed between the ministry in charge of organizing the event and the African Union Commission.

**3.3 Announcement of bid results**

The result of the selection of the host country will be announced by mid April 2015.

**3.4 Dates for the 4th AfIGF event**

The fourth AfIGF will take place for duration of three days, including pre-conference events between mid-June to mid-October 2015. Exact dates will be determined jointly between the AfIGF secretariat and the host Government and notified in due course to the stakeholders.

**3.5 Deadline for submission of the bid**

Submission of proposals should be received by the AfIGF secretariat not later than 30 March 2015. Any proposal(s) sent after this date will not be considered.

For further information and for all your inquiries, please contact AfIGF secretariat at the e-mail address indicated above.