

COMMUNIQUE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZIMBABWE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

Rainbow Towers

17 June 2015

Harare

We, the stakeholders attending the inaugural Multi-stakeholder workshop on the establishment of the Zimbabwe International Governance Forum (ZIGF) held at the Rainbow Towers, Harare on the 17th June 2015:

RECOGNISING;

- The substantial socio-economic benefits that a National Internet Governance Forum provides;
- The need to establish a coordinated and coherent framework for advancing internet governance issues in Zimbabwe;
- The need to facilitate participation of a broad range of stakeholders, creating partnerships and coalitions that deliver coordinated domestic responses, initiatives, and synergies that best promote and protect the nation's position on the internet governance;
- The importance of increasing awareness and building capacity on internet governance issues to ensure informed dialogue on policy and related matters among stakeholders; and
- The need to ensure Zimbabwe presents coordinated views at the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF), African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF), Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and Global Internet Governance Forum.

NOTING;

- The International and regional obligations of the Government of Zimbabwe regarding internet governance issues;
- The recognition afforded to Zimbabwe through the Information Society Initiatives Trust (ISIT) at the Southern Africa Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF) Multi-stakeholder Committee Team (MCT);

- The efforts made by the Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of ICT, Postal and Courier Services and the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (POTRAZ) to facilitate the establishment of a National Internet Governance Forum;
- The work of the Task Team in preparing the draft founding documents for the establishment and operation of the National Internet Governance Forum;
- The wide stakeholder interest on the establishment of a functional National Internet Governance Forum;
- The absence of other key stakeholders due to the short time frame given for the workshop;
- The draft founding documents presented by the Ministry of ICT, Postal and Courier Services and the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ) for the establishment of the National Internet Governance Forum; and
- The various concerns of stakeholders regarding the contents of the draft founding documents of the National Internet Governance Forum and the need for further consultations and input.

DO HEREBY RESOLVE;

1. To establish the Zimbabwe Internet Governance Forum (ZIGF) effective 17th June 2015;
2. To set up a Multi-stakeholder Committee with interim membership to facilitate the finalisation of the founding documents for the operationalization of the ZIGF;
3. To publicise extensively the establishment of the ZIGF and its objectives;
4. To invite a broad base of stakeholders to participate in the formulation of the founding documents and activities of the ZIGF;
5. That POTRAZ continue to serve as the secretariat and enabler for ZIGF; and
6. To develop an independent website for the ZIGF.