

# DTPS Conference Report



African Centre of Excellence  
for Information Ethics

10th ANIE international conference (ANIEversary), 21 – 23 February  
2017



telecommunications  
& postal services  
Department  
Telecommunications and Postal Services  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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# DTPS Conference Report

10th ANIE international conference  
(ANIEversary), 21 – 23 February 2017

This conference is co-organised by the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (hereafter referred to as the ACEIE) in accordance with the agreement signed between the University of Pretoria and the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services, South Africa.

## The conference at a glance

**Date:** 21 – 23 February 2017

**City and Country:** Pretoria, South Africa

**Venue:** Kievits Kroon

**Number of attendees according on signatures on list of attendance (including ACEIE staff and presenters):** 45

### Appendices:

Appendix A: Conference programme

Appendix B: DTPS Minister' Speech, 21 February 2017

Appendix C: DTPS Deputy Minister's Speech, 22 February 2017

Appendix D: ANIE World Café session reports

Appendix E: Conference list of attendance

Appendix F: Conference photos

## Highlights

Participants from over 15 countries attended this event. This event hosted participants from countries across Africa, the United States of America, the Netherlands, Germany, Canada and Australia.

The Minister and Deputy Minister of the DTPS addressed the delegates during the conference and gala dinner and supported the projects of the ACEIE and ANIE.

The Festschrift in Honour of Rafael Capurro was launched during the gala dinner by the editors, Jared Bielby and Matthew Kelly.

## Appendix A:

### Conference programme

#### African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE)

*10<sup>th</sup> year ANIEversary*

21 to 23 February 2017

Kievits Kroon, Pretoria, South Africa

##### 1. Theme and focus of the conference

Celebrating a decade of promoting Information Ethics in Africa.

##### 2. Objectives of the conference

- Historic overview of ANIE
- Round-table discussions
- Academic networking
- Planning of the next 5 years

##### 3. Organising partners

- DTPS
- ANIE
- Capurro-Fiek Foundation
- UNESCO IFAP
- University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
- University of Pretoria
- ACEIE

## 4. ACEIE

The First African Conference on Information Ethics was held in South Africa during February 2007. This event took place under the auspices of UNESCO, was sponsored by the South African Government and organized by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Pretoria, University of Pittsburgh, as well as the International Centre of Information Ethics. During this event the Africa Network for Information Ethics (ANIE) was established. This was followed in 2012 by the establishment of the ACEIE at the University of Pretoria. The ACEIE focuses on the ethical challenges of the information society on the African continent as inspired by the Geneva World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) of 2003. This event formed part of the implementation of UNESCO, WSIS Action Line C10 of the Geneva Plan of Action.

In 2010 the 2<sup>nd</sup> ANIE conference was hosted in Gaborone, Botswana. The 3<sup>rd</sup> ANIE Conference took place in 2012 in Pretoria, South Africa. Themes that were covered were the Development of a curriculum to teach Information Ethics at universities in Africa and Social Media. In 2014 the 4<sup>th</sup> ANIE Conference took place in Kampala, Uganda and the focus of this conference was on Information Ethics in Africa – cross-cutting themes for managing one's digital life.

ANIE and the ACEIE are proud to celebrate a decade of promoting Information Ethics in Africa!

## 5. Conference Chair and Programme Directors

### Conference Chair:

- Prof Theo Bothma

### Programme Directors:

- Coetzee Bester
- Johannes Britz
- Rafael Capurro
- Prof Dennis Ocholla

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**Conference Management:**

- Rachel Fischer
- Leandi Lottering
- Naailah Parbhoo

# African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE)

*10<sup>th</sup> year ANIEversary*

Three-day Programme

21 to 23 February 2017

Day One: 21 February 2017

*Session Theme: Welcoming and starting of the conference*

## **08:30 Arrival at the conference venue**

- Registration of participants
- Calling to order and administrative announcements

## **09:00 Starting of the conference**

- Welcoming: Conference Chair
- Keynote address: Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services
  - Dr Siyabonga Cyprian Cwele, MP
- Setting the Scene: Ten Golden Rules for the Information Age
  - Prof Tobias Keber

## **11:00 Refreshments**

## **11:30 Introduction: Road map of the conference and World Café**

Topics:

1. Information Ethics in Africa
2. Globalization and Cultural Diversity
3. Development and Poverty
4. e-Government
5. Biometrics
6. Cybersecurity and Cybercrime
7. Privacy and Transparency

8. Social Media
9. Food and Health
10. IT Infrastructure for Africa
11. Information for All (IFAP)
12. Net neutrality

#### Methodology for the World Café

- Participants meet in their selected discussion groups with a chair person and rapporteur (selected beforehand)
- Discussion time: 90 min
- Report on World Café session: 15 minutes each

#### 13:00 Lunch

### **Session theme: World Café, Part 1**

#### 14:00 World Café commences

1. Information Ethics in Africa
  - Facilitator: Prof Dennis Ocholla
  - Rapporteur: Dr Hellen Amunga
  - Participants
    - Ciano Aydin
    - Jared Bielby
    - Rafael Capurro
    - Perpetua Dadzie
    - Hezekiel Dlamini
    - Suleiman Hamyar
    - Hoffie Hofmeyr
    - Sarah Kaddu
    - Tobias Keber
    - Matt Kelly
    - Sarah Kibugi

- Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
- Vicki Lawal
- Daniel Muthee
- Justina Ekere Ngozi
- Constant Okello-Obura
- Julius Tweve

## 2. Globalization and Cultural Diversity

- Facilitator: Mr Coetzee Bester
- Rapporteur: Ms Erin Klazar
- Participants
  - Marlene Holmner
  - Edwin Ijeoma
  - Henry Makowa
  - Andile Mgweba
  - Angie Mokgabudi
  - Izzeldin Osman
  - Shana Ponelis

**15:30 Reports on World Café sessions 1 – 2**

**16:00 Closing**

## African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE)

*10<sup>th</sup> year ANIEversary*

21 to 23 February 2017

Day Two: 22 February 2017

### ***Session theme: World Café, Part 2***

#### **07:45 Arrival at the conference venue**

- Calling to order and administrative announcements

#### **08:00 World Café continue**

##### 3. Development and Poverty

- Facilitator: Prof Edwin Ijeoma
- Rapporteur: Ms Sarah Kibugi
- Participants
  - Rafael Capurro
  - Hezekiel Dlamini
  - Suleiman Hamyar
  - Hoffie Hofmeyr
  - Marlene Holmner
  - Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
  - Erin Klazar
  - Henry Makowa
  - Daniel Muthee
  - Justina Ekere Ngozi
  - Dennis Ocholla
  - Izzeldin Osman
  - Shana Poneis

##### 4. e-Government

- Facilitator: Ms Angie Mokgabudi
- Rapporteur: Mr Andile Mgweba

- Participants
  - Helen Agnes Amunga
  - Ciano Aydin
  - Coetzee Bester
  - Jared Bielby
  - Perpetua Dadzie
  - Sarah Kaddu
  - Tobias Keber
  - Matt Kelly
  - Vicki Lawal
  - Iyabo Mabawonku
  - Constant Okello-Obura
  - Julius Tweve

**09:30 Reports on World Café sessions 3 – 4**

**10:00 Refreshments**

### ***Session theme: World Café, Part 3***

**10:30 World Café continue**

5. Biometrics
  - Facilitator: Prof Rafael Capurro
  - Rapporteur: Dr Marlene Holmner
  - Participants
    - Ciano Aydin
    - Jared Bielby
    - Hezekiel Dlamini
    - Edwin Ijeoma
    - Andile Magweba
    - Angie Mokgabudi
    - Izzeldin Osman

## 6. Cybersecurity and Cybercrime

- Facilitator: Ms Susanna Ackermann
- Rapporteur: Mr Sizwe Snail
- Participants
  - Hellen Agnes Amunga
  - Coetzee Bester
  - Perpetua Dadzie
  - Suleiman Hamyar
  - Hoffie Hofmeyr
  - Sarah Kaddu
  - Tobias Keber
  - Matt Kelly
  - Sarah Kibugi
  - Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
  - Erin Klazar
  - Vicki Lawal
  - Iyabo Mabawonku
  - Henry Makowa
  - Daniel Muthee
  - Justina Ekere Ngozi
  - Dennis Ocholla
  - Constant Okello-Obura
  - Shana Ponelis
  - Julius Tweve

**12:00 Reports on World Café sessions 5 – 6**

**12:30 Lunch**

***Session theme: World Café, Part 4***

**13:30 World Café continue**

## 7. Privacy and Transparency

- Facilitator: Prof Izzeldin Osman
- Rapporteur: Dr Shana Ponelis
- Participants
  - Coetzee Bester
  - Jared Bielby
  - Rafael Capurro
  - Edwin Ijeoma
  - Sarah Kaddu
  - Tobias Keber
  - Matt Kelly
  - Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
  - Erin Klazar
  - Henry Makowa
  - Andile Mgweba
  - Angie Mokgabudi
  - Daniel Muthee

## 8. Social Media

- Facilitator: Prof Ciano Aydin
- Rapporteur: Dr Perpetua Dadzie
- Participants
  - Helen Agnes Amunga
  - Hezekiel Dlamini
  - Suleiman Hamyar
  - Hoffie Hofmeyr
  - Marlene Holmner
  - Sarah Kibugi
  - Vicki Lawal
  - Iyabo Mabawonku
  - Justina Ekere Ngozi
  - Dennis Ocholla
  - Constant Okello-Obura

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- Julius Tweve

**15:00** Reports on World Café sessions 7 – 8

**15:30** Interlude for gala dinner

**18:00** Gala dinner: *ANIEversary Celebration*

#### Programme for Gala Dinner at the Lord Charles room

**18:00** Arrival at reception

**18:30** Welcoming: Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services

- Prof Hlengiwe Buhle Mkhize, MP

**19:00** Starters served

**19:30** Launch of the Festschrift for Prof Rafael Capurro: Jared Bielby and Matt Kelly

**20:00** Main course served

**20:30** Presentation of the ANIE awards and tokens of appreciation

**20:30** Dessert served

# African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE)

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Day Three: 23 February 2017

## **Session theme: World Café, Part 5**

### **07:45 Arrival at the conference venue**

- Calling to order and administrative announcements

### **08:00 World Café continue**

#### 9. Food and Health

- Facilitator: Dr Daniel Muthee
- Rapporteur: Mr Matt Kelly
- Participants
  - Ciano Aydin
  - Rafael Capurro
  - Edwin Ijeoma
  - Andile Mgweba
  - Angie Mokgabudi
  - Izzeldin Osman

#### 10. IT Infrastructure in Africa

- Facilitator: Dr Vicky Lawal
- Rapporteur: Dr Justina Ngozi
- Participants
  - Helen Agnes Amunga
  - Coetzee Bester
  - Jared Bielby
  - Perpetua Dadzie
  - Hezekiel Dlamini
  - Suleiman Hamyar

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- Marlene Holmner
- Sarah Kaddu
- Tobias Keber
- Sarah Kibugi
- Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
- Erin Klazar
- Iyabo Mabawonku
- Henry Makowa
- Dennis Ocholla
- Constant Okello-Obura
- Shana Ponelis
- Julius Tweve

**09:30 Reports on World Café sessions 9 – 10**

**10:00 Refreshments**

### ***Session theme: World Café, Part 6***

**10:30 World Café continue**

#### **11. Information for All (IFAP)**

- Facilitator: Mr Hezekiel Dlamini
- Rapporteur: Dr Julius Tweve
- Participants
  - Helen Agnes Amunga
  - Ciano Aydin
  - Rafael Capurro
  - Perpetua Dadzie
  - Edwin Ijeoma
  - Matt Kelly
  - Sarah Kibugi
  - Isaac Kigongo-Bukenya
  - Erin Klazar

- Vicki Lawal
- Iyabo Mabawonku
- Henry Makowa
- Andile Mgweba
- Daniel Muthee
- Justina Ekere Ngozi
- Dennis Ocholla
- Constant Okello-Obura
- Izzeldin Osman
- Shana Ponelis

## 12. Net neutrality

- Facilitator: Mr Jared Bielby
- Rapporteur: Dr Sarah Kaddu
- Participants
  - Coetzee Bester
  - Suleiman Hamyar
  - Marlene Holmner
  - Tobias Keber
  - Angie Mokgabudi

## 12:00 Reports on World Café sessions 11 – 12

## 12:30 Lunch

## 13:30 Summary and Closing

- Discussion of World Café sessions
- Road Map: Organizational and institutional issues
- Strategic planning for the way forward

## 16:00 Departure

## Appendix B:

DTPS Minister's Speech, 21 February 2017



### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

#### **Speech delivered by Telecommunications and Postal Services Minister, Dr Siyabonga Cwele at the African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE) 10th-year Anniversary**

*on 21 February 2017 in Kievits Kroon, Pretoria.*

Conference Chair: Prof Theo Bothma;

Programme Directors;

Senior Government Officials;

Conference Management;

Professors and Academicians from across our beautiful African continent;

Foreign delegates;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great pleasure and privilege to address you at this 10th year Anniversary of Africa Network on Information Ethics (ANIE), under the conference theme "celebrating a decade of promoting Information Ethics in Africa".

On behalf of my department, Government and the People of South Africa, I would like to welcome all the conference delegates and congratulate the organising team for the work well done. The team is drawn from the enduring partnership of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE), the Department of Telecommunications & Postal Services (DTPS) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

They have been promoting awareness and research in the field of information ethics, as we prepare for an inclusive Information Society and knowledge economy in line with the National Development Plan (NDP), The African Agenda 2063 and the World Summit on the Information Society programme. This collaboration between Government, academics and UNESCO is a perfect example of what the NDP calls smart partnership.

We need to pull all our resources together to ensure that we create a safe, inclusive and developmental online environment that will enable our citizens to embrace the internet and take advantages of the opportunities brought about by the advances in technology— without compromising our moral values of human solidarity and Ubuntu.

The quest for an inclusive information society in a normal democracy was articulated by our global icon, Tata Nelson Mandela, when he was giving his address at the opening ceremony of the Telecom 95 during the 7th World Telecommunications Forum in October 1995 in Geneva. He emphasised the importance of skilling young people for the information revolution, by stating that:

"Many of us here today have spent much of our lives without access to telecommunications or information services, and many of us will not live to see the flowering of the information age, but our children will. They are our greatest asset. And it is our responsibility to give them the skills and insight to build the information societies of the future."

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He further emphasised that

"the young people of the world must be empowered to participate in the building of the information age. They must become the citizens of the global information society. And we must create the best conditions for their participation".

On 28 September 2016, the cabinet approved the National Integrated ICT Policy White Paper, in line with the sentiments echoed by comrade Mandela and the principles of equality, equal treatment and non-discriminatory conduct enshrined in our Constitution. It is an important lever to assist us to use information technology to build "a seamless information infrastructure by 2030 that will underpin a dynamic and connected vibrant information society and a knowledge economy that is more inclusive, equitable and prosperous" as envisioned in the NDP.

Distinguished Guests,

The National Integrated ICT White Paper builds on the 2013 National Broadband Policy and South Africa Connect (SA Connect) that is anchored on four pillars of:

- digital readiness,
- digital development,
- digital future and
- digital opportunity

SA Connect adopts an integrated cross-cutting but citizen-centric approach to broadband deployment. These policies will soon be complimented by our National Digital Strategy and the Small, Medium and Micro-Enterprise Development Strategy for South Africa.

We are most excited by your selfless efforts, your positive attitude and planned activities towards achieving the objectives enshrined in these policies and further preparing our people towards safe access to information as we move towards an inclusive ICT sector. We as a

department fully support all your research and activities, which includes but are not limited to:

- The NHI pilot project workshops on importance of information ethics and ICT skills,
- Research and Development output, and
- Digital infrastructure for economic development.

We further welcome and encourage the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics to continue publishing academic opinions on recent and relevant trends. To grow the body of literature in our sector and further benchmark our policy implementation with international standards. With that being said:

Let me acknowledge and congratulate Ms Naailah Parbhoo for successfully registering for her PhD and will work on Information "Retrieval and Information Ethics". With the same breath, I commend Ms Rachel Fischer for expressing her PhD topic on "Information Ethics, Big Data and Multilingualism". As a government, we continue to encourage and celebrate academic excellence. Your research and the existing body of literature will inform public policy.

One of the focus points of our Memorandum of Agreement with the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics is to produce research which aims at highlighting the critical role of ICT in improving the material conditions of our people. I implore you to delineate some of the current trends which may assist government to fast track ICT penetration and usage to our people, especially the remote areas of our country.

In his State of the Nation Address (SONA), His Excellence President Zuma called for the decisive implementation of Radical Economic Transformation. He described it by stating:

"We mean a fundamental change in the structure, systems, institutions and patterns of ownership, management and control of the economy in favour of all South Africans, especially the poor, the majority of whom are African and female, as defined by the governing party which makes policy for the democratic government".

Compatriots,

We are all in agreement that information ethics is our next ICT challenge. One of the most challenging ethical issues is the inequity of access to ICT between countries, and between urban and rural communities within countries. As Africans, we should be worried about the worsening female gender access to ICT in the last few years as reported by the UN Broadband Commission. Information Ethics in a democracy is often embedded in dilemmas and social contradictions while ideally ICT knowledge and skills should be for accessibility, development, ethics, literacy, multi-linguism, cyberspace and preservation. In practice, there are instances where ICTs are used in ways which undermine the core value of human rights and dignity.

The 2007 Tshwane Declaration adopted by the African Information Ethics Conference understood "information Ethics to be the field of critical reflection on moral values and practices about the production, storage, distribution and access to knowledge as well as to all kinds of processes, systems, media and Information and Communication Technologies."

South Africa and many other developing countries are making efforts and progress in increasing uptake and usage of ICT's for development. Our nation and continent are determined to achieve their renewal and development, defeating the twin scourges of poverty and underdevelopment. In this regard, we have fully recognised the critical importance of modern ICTs as a powerful ally for socio-economic development, as reflected both in our national initiatives and the priority programmes.

We have been working hard to implement the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and appeal to all stakeholders similarly to commit themselves to take action and translate the shared vision of an inclusive development-oriented information society into practical reality.

Fellow Africans,

Since the hosting of the first African Conference on Information Ethics held in February 2007, various academic institutions, government departments and private sector stakeholders have

contributed to the expansion of the work and objectives set by the conference. These objectives not only included the growth of awareness about Information Ethics in Africa but also aimed to formally research the topic and teach the new knowledge in formal courses at universities. The Africa Network for Information Ethics (ANIE) and the Africa Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE) were structured to support the UNESCO activities in furthering the outcomes of WSIS on the African continent.

The WSIS in Tunis and Geneva pronounced on the actions that needed to be undertaken by countries to make this a reality. Amongst those actions, was that countries needed to ensure that "Information Society is subject to universally held values and promotes the common good and to prevent abusive uses of ICTs".

South Africa subsequently developed an Information Society and Development Plan which provided a brief guideline on how to implement the WSIS recommendations in a coordinated and inclusive manner.

In December 2015, South Africa had a privilege of leading G77 plus China, comprising of about 140 countries during the United Nations WSIS Plus 10 Review Summit in New York. In this meeting, we came out with a new enhanced programme of action.

Distinguished guests,

In 2012, having considered the efforts that were done by the academics through the African Network on Information Ethics, my Department took a bold decision to partner with the University of Pretoria towards the establishment of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics. We gave them a broad mandate to coordinate research to inform policy decisions on the Information Ethics Programme for Africa. This includes focusing on:

- the promotion of academic studies in the field of Information Ethics;
- ensuring that the opportunities offered by the developing Information Society are effectively utilised for socio-economic advancement and a better life for all and
- developing tools for the practical application of ethical reasoning;

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Working with the Centre, we have developed frameworks that improve people's knowledge about what is ethical and unethical in the Information Society. We would like to use this information to promote ethics within the education sector.

All these initiatives are exposing the students to the Internet world, where boundaries are only virtual. It is our responsibility to educate them about the conscious decision to create one's boundaries in consuming, creating and disseminating information, without limiting them from being active participants in this Information and Knowledge Society.

The Department is currently working closely with other departments, to promote Ethics for ICTs sector. We are also developing the Digital Opportunities programme that has set out seven strategic pillars of:

- Capacity Development,
- Digital Entrepreneurship,
- Digital Awareness and e-Inclusion,
- e-Government,
- ICT Applications,
- Local Content Development and
- Research and Development.

The Information Ethics Programme is also linked to the Digital Awareness and e-Inclusion Pillar will require collaboration between all stakeholders. We depend on you as academics and researchers to advise the government on the best possible way of implementing our policies while drawing on our moral compass, fundamental values of Ubuntu and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This has become more urgent as we try to maximise benefits and minimise the impact of the current Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) that sweeping across all nations of the world. The African Countries missed the first three revolutions, and we may not afford to miss this one if we are to be globally competitive and enjoy the benefits of development. The 4IR brings new

dimensions beyond equity in access and general safety in the use of ICTs. The boundless landscape of artificial intelligence brings a new frontier for ethics in relations to emerging technologies such as:

**UNEMPLOYMENT** Vs low-risk jobs and availability of quality time on labour activities

**INEQUALITY** due to few owners extracting economic surplus vs. promoting innovative companies including SMMEs.

**HUMANITY** vs. interacting with less humane machines vs. technology addiction or 'robodisation of human beings'.

**ARTIFICIAL STUPIDITY.** Intelligence comes with learning. People may manipulate these systems or may be fooled in an unimaginable manner.

**RACIST ROBOTS** profiling people e.g. to predict criminals.

**SECURITY** human soldiers and cyber security.

**EVIL GENIES.** What if AI itself turns against us? e.g. elimination of cancer by killing everyone.

**SINGULARITY** or how do we stay in control of a complex intelligence system? We are on top of the food chain because of our ingenuity and intelligence. Will the AI one day have the same advantage over us? We may not rely on pulling the plug because these advanced machines may anticipate this and defend themselves. Singularity refers to a time when human beings are no longer the most intelligent being on earth.

**ROBOTS RIGHTS** How do we define the humane treatment of all as they begin to perceive, feel and act due to our neuroscientific advances? How do mitigate their suffering or possible risking adverse outcome such as mass murder.

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Despite all these risks, we should always remember that this technological progress is likely to ensure a better life for everyone. Artificial Intelligence poses a vast potential for human development particularly if we implement it in a responsible manner. It is all in our hands.

I wish to reiterate the commitment of the government to strengthen our relationship with the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics, and our insatiable desire to transform the ICT sector during this year of Oliver Reginald Tambo. Cde O.R, Tambo is the giant of the liberation of South Africa and destruction of the apartheid system, which was described by the United Nations a Crime Against Humanity. Tambo was a keen maths and science teacher.

As a department, we will use our policies and regulatory framework to support ACEIE in the process of transformative and progressive agenda in ushering and preparing our people for the Fourth Revolution.

**I wish you every success in your deliberations—and to our foreign delegates, a pleasant stay in South Africa.**

I THANK YOU

## Appendix C:

DTPS Deputy Minister' Speech, 22 February 2017



telecommunications  
& postal services

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Department:  
Telecommunications and Postal Services  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Speech By Deputy Minister of the Department of

Telecommunications and Postal Services,

Hon. Prof. Hlengiwe Mkhize

During the Occasion of

10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Gala Dinner for the African Network for Information Ethics

Kievits Kroon Country Lodge

22 February 2017

Theme: "Celebrating a Decade of Promoting Information Ethics in Africa"

**Prof Theo Bothma;** Conference Chair and the Head of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE) at the University of Pretoria

**Mr Coetzee Bester;** Director of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics at the University of Pretoria and this session's Program Director

**Prof Rafael Capurro;**

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**Prof Dennis Ocholla;**

**Prof Edwin Ijeoma;**

**Representatives from UNESCO;**

**Representatives from other countries: Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, Canada, Australia and USA**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**A very good evening to you all.**

### **Introduction**

Let me first start-off by congratulating the **African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE)** at the University of Pretoria for the great work that has been done in the past 10 years. Your work is in line with the African Renaissance work we have undertaken trying to overcome challenges confronting the continent and achieve cultural, scientific, and economic renewal.

Your work also resonates with the objectives of our National Development Plan, Vision 2030 which calls for smart partnerships. This project brings the world together.

What we have witnessed here tonight gives us a sense of comfort and brings us back to the theme of “**Celebrating a Decade of Promoting Information Ethics in Africa**”. As students we used to criticize research work that was done, not knowing the importance of it, we used to say “it will just gather dust”.

I was emotional in my own way when Professor Capurru shed tears. It was only in 1994 that one got to learn about our country.

### **South Africa’s Achievements in the ICT Sector**

#### ***Investment in Submarine Cables***

Coming from a past whereby there was an unequal distribution of access to ICTs, the government of South Africa has invested in the undersea cable projects coming down the east and west coasts of Africa through its interests in **Telkom, Broadband Infraco**. **These projects will create an additional eight (8) terabits of capacity for Southern Africa which is over sixty (60) times the capacity available from the SAFE cable project that preceded the two projects.** The two projects connect the African continent with the rest of the world at high speeds and these increased capacities will result in a reduction in the prices of broadband connectivity.

To date Africa is connected to eight (8) submarine cables, which are:

- **SAT3/ SAFE** - Links Portugal and Spain to South Africa,
- **GLO-1** - Connects Nigeria with the United Kingdom and other African countries,
- **TEAMS** - Connects Kenya to the rest of the world,
- **SEACOM** - Serves the East and West coasts of Africa,
- **LION** - It connects Madagascar, Reunion and Mauritius,
- **EASSy** - Links South Africa with East African Nations,
- **MAIN ONE** - links South Africa with Portugal, and
- **WACS** - links South Africa to the United Kingdom

This has culminated into the convergence of mobile communications and internet, radically transforming the lives of billions of people. The influence of the ICT sector can never be underestimated and we need to take advantage of the benefits derived from this for enhancement of economic inclusion.

#### ***Broadband Rollout – South Africa Connect Policy***

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The South African National Broadband Policy aims to significantly improve broadband penetration, reduce broadband prices, increase employment and drive economic growth. Phase 1 of SA Connect will focus on procuring Broadband services for Government facilities in underserved areas.

SA Connect gives effect to the constitution of South Africa by creating the conditions in modern electronic world “to improve quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person” and, in doing so enable quality in the rights, privileges and benefits of citizenship, including the guarantees of freedom of expression and association in the bill of rights. This aligns with the declaration by the **Human Rights Council of the United nations General Assembly that access to internet is a basic human right which enables individuals to “exercise their rights to freedom of opinion and expression”**.

To meet the national objective of more affordable broadband access to all, this programme allows for both demand and supply side interventions. These are reflected in a four pronged strategy that will close the gap between the currently poor status of Broadband in the country and the country’s vision of a seamless network of networks that by 2030 will make broadband a universally accessible, at a cost and quality that meets the needs of citizens.

Phase 1 of the project will be implemented in eight prioritised district municipalities in the most remote areas, where schools, health facilities and police stations are deprived the benefits of being always connected. These sites were also prioritised for a pilot project for National Health Insurance and will be leveraged upon to implement broadband roll-out. These were also areas where we could have the greatest economic impact through the provision of e-services, and create valuable opportunities for rural and poor communities to improve their lives. Today during the Minister of Finance’s budget speech we were allocated

**R1.9 billion over the medium term to invest in high-speed internet connections in public buildings and schools in eight NHI pilot districts.**

In society where we really suffered a lot and women who have been recruited online and abused. In some instances where completely destroyed and killed because they trusted the people who engaged them online not realizing that some of those people were fraudulent, finicky, illegal and determined to commit serious crimes against them. It is a journey we are determined to pursue and we would like to have specific discussion points at a community level as well.

I have said this many a times to our partners that we can learn from the new users of technology what are their experiences, what are their concerns and questions they are raising. This is because with regards to the deployment of mobile phones in this country we always hear that they exceed 100% in the sense that in any one family you find that they have about five or more; so everybody has access to these tools. We want to look carefully at ethical issues at very local community level and feed into the world what we are doing. As developing countries we really owe the world a lot about what is indigenous and cultural experiences in the use of technology. We are committed to work on that; through dialogues we should be able to get young people who are committed and e-survey who will be able to produce knowledge; indigenous knowledge.

I think what is good is how the centre has a partnership with UNESCO; this is very important for all of us because that is a multicultural hub and education centre. Even this area of ethics will benefit us more as we begin to compare with other developing countries at the same level as well and hear how they are grappling with these issues of ethics. In other developing countries there are a few things that we have neglected besides what we are doing here.

It is really this creation of smart cities whereby we are talking about also the 4th Industrial Revolution, it gives us opportunities which one cannot imagine and we can see that in our Golden Cities that people are beginning to be exposed to thousands of things within a second and we know in the future the objects are going into billion. Of course with all those we anticipate volumes and volumes of information. Ethical questions will come in a lot continuously because if we look at the area of health alone we always say there is a lot of statistics, which if one is reckless with the kind of statistics that you get from health centres, you can be easily abused as a patient and it can also lead to all sorts of curiosity and unethical behaviour in terms of wanting to know about people's conditions and reactions. What is good is that some universities are already looking at ethical aspects of data and health in particular.

I haven't said much about government departments, how we are connecting them but for sure health centres that are located at a community level are a top priority that they be connected. We already through one of our agencies started talking to some friends in Canada who have huge data centres to work with us as we accumulate information and look at all ethical aspects of people's identities and their knowledge. In line with the digital revolution, even in terms identity books, we are partnering with the banks so that when people want to apply for identities they don't only rely on government entities but can also go to the bank and get whatever identity they require. This means that for the first time government has to trust private entities with information which in the past we would keep in our files and write top secret or secret and it will be filed properly and kept secret. To align ourselves we are beginning to open up allowing other agencies and try to trust them in that the information they are privy to will be utilized in a highly responsible manner.

The main question really is to be able to prepare future generations in this journey. It is clear that this digital revolution is unstoppable. In our context as developing countries it is always amazing that we are starting on with nothing. In some instances we are where other countries were maybe fifty years ago. We are struggling with our institutions of higher learning to ensure that there is not only one centre but this becomes an integral work, syllabus of virtually all schools because the future is digital. Irrespective of where you are going we have e-health, e-justice and e-education. It is clear that we have to work a lot in the transformation of curriculum as well so that the question of e-skills, data, analytics, ethical parts of data, is a journey that people embark upon quite early in their careers. Those are some of the things where we are fifty miles ahead but sometimes we have to go back to the basics so as to carry as many people as possible.

I am reflecting on all these aspects of the journey in terms of the theme of this dialogue, really to show that there amazing opportunities of cooperation and partnership; not only within this area of work but also within other departments. I haven't said much about how we are all collaborating with the Department of Science and Technology to ensure that the critical elements of the work we are doing is infused with intervention as well and because it is part of this pipeline of dreaming about the future which is unknown.

There are interesting developments, some of you might be familiar with the bid that South Africa put out there and won it with Australia after a very turf competition. Even there we are beginning to look at what researchers and scientists are doing; volumes of information that they are looking at. In English we say the sky is the limit but you will realise that you can access information out there in the horizon and connect the whole continent. Again, with the use of that information we do believe that it should all be secured in such a way that it develops

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people rather than used to undermine or take away their dignity and integrity. In this country we always say the values that are built in our constitution, what is supreme is to defend the dignity of the beneficiaries, the users and the drivers of this new journey.

I hope you enjoy our food with weather, it suits you otherwise you will be sweating and the pleasure of being hosted by our Honourable Professor who is the charmer that is why he could get the Minister, myself as well as the officials.

I thank you.

## Appendix D:

### ANIE World Café session reports

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#### Introduction

The following report compilation contains the individual session reports of the 12 World Café sessions.

Each report was compiled by the facilitator and rapporteur and provides a factual and content overview of the main discussion points. The names of session participants were removed since some participants moved between sessions and/or decided to attend a different session to which they originally registered for.

The ACEIE provided a platform from which these discussion took place and cannot be held responsible for the views expressed.

## 1. Information Ethics in Africa

**Facilitator:** Prof Dennis Ocholla

**Rapporteur:** Dr Hellen Amunga

### Introduction and Framework

The concept of Information Ethics while relatively new in Africa is invariably permeated or hidden in African cultural and traditional institutions or indigenous knowledge where taboos play a significant role in their implementation, monitoring and evaluation. We visualise information ethics through contradictions and complexities related with how information ethics is defined; how morals, ethics and laws are interpreted and how multi-culturalism (analysing each culture without comparison/individually), inter-culturalism (comparing cultures) and trans-culturalism (taking the best from different cultures) are considered. We acknowledge a strong mixture of current African cultural institutions with exotic cultures to an extent that separating the past and the present cultures becomes increasingly cumbersome largely due to the influence of globalization where language, religion, politics and technology play crucial roles. We recognise dilemma in the interpretation of the African information ethics in an information environment where all the above mentioned factors play a significant role and increasingly influence our understanding and interpretation. We use political, economic, social and technological (PEST) analysis to unravel/unpack these factors in the ensuing discussions. Our discussion report on issues, challenges, interventions and recommendations.

### What are the issues and challenges?

Many issues that impact the African continent in many ways like bad governance, poverty, illiteracy, corruption, radicalization and the general under-development against the rich natural resources all find a place within discussions regarding Information Ethics in Africa and use of ICT and specifically social media etc., come to the fore. These issues can be discussed within the deontological framework within which African leaders and the masses should be enlightened and held accountable of the actions they take in discharge of their duties with emphasis being given rights versus the public good that such actions may achieve. A major concern is on how Information Ethics in Africa is interpreted and implement within the universal human rights as envisaged in the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights (UNDHR) and particularly Article 19 which states that,

*“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”.*

We note that no single country in the world have succeeded to implement the said rights whereby all its citizens or residents – for example- fully enjoy the rights to freedom of opinion and expression. Africa is widely known for human rights violation intentionally or unintentionally (largely when contradicting cultural issues occur).

There are many issues and challenges regarding information ethics in Africa that we discussed.

These include but are not limited to the following:

- Accessibility and use of information
- Climate Change (flooding, etc.)
- Democracy (e.g. election-related violence)
- Digital & Information divides
- Health issues (e.g. epidemics such as Ebola)
- High unemployment rates
- Human rights violations
- Inequality in access to social amenities
- Poor governance & Corruption
- Poor/obsolete/lack of legislation & policies for various sectors
- Poverty. Why are many people in the African continent among the poorest in the world?

**What are the ethical strategies and solutions? What and how would information ethics content support this?**

- Press freedom( rights issue)
- Illiteracy & Quality of Education
- Radicalization & Terrorism
- Rights and Freedoms of citizens
- The impact of Information Communication Technology (ICT) especially social media versus poor/obsolete/lack of appropriate legislation
- Transparency & accountability
- Tribalism/nationalism/ethnicity
- Under-development/Poor Infrastructure

**Interventions and recommendations**

African governments have made some interventions to solve problems including some ethical issues but not necessarily strategically or uniformly as cultures (defined to a large extent by a mixture of

indigenous/traditional, religious-fundamentally Christian and Muslim and languages) and levels of development differ. There is need for multi-stakeholder interventions to the above inter-related issues and challenges: African governments need to partner with other governments, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, donor agencies and individuals to find sustainable solutions to the above issues.

**We suggest that**

- UNESCO's standards on education and literacy should be a point of reference for policy makers;
- There is need for countries to develop legislation that facilitates implementation of UNESCO's Information For All Program (IFAP);
- Countries should strive to develop and implement relevant legislation for each sector of the economy including ICT sector;
- Enhanced effort should be directed at peer review of performance by various governments and their agencies;
- African governments should be required, through legislation, to ensure the masses are literate, receive appropriate education for self –help/self-employment and civil literacy;
- The public should be encouraged to seek self-employment opportunities to reduce the belief in formal/ white-collar jobs whose opportunities are not sustainable;
- There is need for affirmative action through review of land ownership to enable more women and disadvantaged communities access to land, natural resources and loans
- There is need for incubation centres for appropriate technology;
- Citizens should be taught and encouraged to take up alternative employment especially through utilization of ICT innovations and agriculture; and
- There is need for more investment in research to create evidence-based solutions to local problems while tapping best practices from the rest of the world.

**Conclusions**

All the above issues, interventions and recommendations are directly impacted upon by information access and use by government leaders, policy makers the general public and other stakeholders. It is therefore imperative that the Information Ethics fraternity upscale their activities in regards to the following:

- Advocating for Information Ethics across all sectors

- Capacity building in the area of information ethics. More specialists in the area are needed to spread IE education and training across the continent
- Enlightening the masses on matters that affect their well-being

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## 2. Globalization and Cultural Diversity

**Facilitator:** Mr Coetzee Bester

**Rapporteur:** Ms Erin Klazar

During this World Café, a valuable debate developed regarding the relationship between globalisation and cultural diversity. The participants agreed that there are still multiple questions and not very many answers when it comes to understanding the relationship between cultural diversity and globalisation. Some aspects that the participants agreed on included:

- Globalisation focuses on a movement towards equality in its ultimate format.
- Culture is an individualistic thing, affected by multiple aspects.
- We need to look at how individuality is linked to culture, traditions and way of life. It is also heavily influenced by interpretation and emotions. How much “I have experience, what I am willing to live for and die for” impacts largely on individualistic culture.
- The relationship between globalisation and cultural diversity is an extremely complex one, and cannot be trivialised.

During the session, the following main questions/discussion points were identified (with a more detailed description of the discussion for each):

**What is the difference between globalisation and cultural diversity? How does it influence our thinking?**

- Some participants discussed how the events in modern day USA and Europe were driving people back to their routes, where the basis of global interaction was individualism. For global interaction to be successful, people must make allowances for each other and their specific culture.

### **Individualism – localisation – continentalisation – globalisation**

- There needs to be an understanding of the interactions between people at different levels, each requiring some sort of compromise when dealing with their community. As we move out to wider and wider communities, so we reveal some element of compromise at each level. E.g., the way we behave at local level (localisation), national level, and global level.
- Interaction with others is not only a cultural issue, but also an economic one.

### **Corporate view: Values are the glue that hold us together**

- Some participants believed that globalisation and cultural diversity also need to be viewed from a corporate perspective.
- Many corporate organisations operate across global teams.
- Managers of diverse teams need to instill a common set of values for the team, as the “glue” that holds them together, so that they can successfully operate in a global market.
- Differences in cultures must be respected.
- The acceptance of cultural diversity in an organisation is largely dependent on the acceptance of values and demonstration of mutual respect.

### **The impact of colonialism. How does a nation identify itself?**

- Participants discussed the importance of understanding the history of war, colonialism, and clashes between countries in affecting culture.
- Since colonialism, the concept of culture has changes, along with the concepts of language and education. A concern was raised that culture and national identity is formed largely on a political concept.
- In addition to that, the birth of national literature (e.g. Shakespeare) and cultural studies of different countries contributed to the developed of cultural diversity on a global level. Part of a nations identity came from language, literature and its history (including colonialism).

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- Ultimately, this “melting pot” of cultures brought about wars and wars of identity, particularly in colonised areas. Colonialism often resulted in an imitation of certain cultures. An example used was one of the Japanese and the British.
- The Renaissance in Europe – unsure of how ICTs affect globalisation and culture. A specific question asked was: What is culture in terms of ICT influence vs. language history? If we rather focus on ICTs, what does culture mean if it cannot be linked to language or history any longer?

### **The importance of language. Do we follow accommodation or assimilation?**

- There was a lengthy debate around the influence of linguistics around culture. The development of language policies was brought into question.
- When dealing with linguistics, one has two choices – either accommodate or assimilate. Accommodation is considered a “mixed salad”, where one can still identify individual ingredients or cultures, whereas assimilation is a “melting pot”, where individual cultures get lost in the mix. There was a concern that if language is the thing that binds many together, its destruction might destroy a culture.
- In a conflicting view, other participants felt that culture is more complex than just language. The idea that there is a single culture for all people who speak the same language was not accepted. Culture is far more than language, and language does not necessarily draw everyone together. Language should not identify me.

### **Culture – how I express myself. This changes depending on audience.**

- A discussion began on how culture looks at the way we think about things and the way we do things. Every person has a different culture, and it is based largely on the context of how we grew up. It influences the way we express who we are.
- There was also a discussion on how what is considered acceptable to each of us changes on the global stage – when we interact on a global level, we change the way we express ourselves, and therefore have more than one culture.
- Social interaction is also informed by differences in values, religion, dress etc....

### **Components of tolerance are strengthened across multiple cultures to ensure peaceful collaboration**

- It is important to realise the application of rules, stories and of content are not necessarily the same across multiple cultures. We cannot apply the same laws and assumptions across all cultures, but rather be tolerant of the differences.
- An example was given of how the ‘golden rule’ is not the same across all languages, and cultures.
- Ideally, we need an objective international community, where peace and co-existence of people are the focus.
- Leaders and politicians use emotions for the sake of survival, and this is not always a good thing.

### **Is culture diluted by globalisation?**

- Participants felt that perhaps in the event of globalisation, stronger cultures tend to take precedence.
- Policy is not always written with culture in mind and we should not generalise about the impact of globalisation on culture. Is it not possible that globalisation strengthens culture? One should consider, for example, the care taken to include indigenous knowledge rights in intellectual property laws in South Africa.
- Consideration must also be given to the way in which ICTs bring opportunities for people and cultures. We can now digitise our cultures, and learn about other cultures on a global platform. Globalisation, with ICTs, can promote culture and cohesion.

### **Challenges in policy making and the effect of “newer” cultures on the exploitation of society e.g. funeral policies**

- There was a strong opinion about how culture could possibly be diluted by globalisation. Identities and societies could be lost because there is too much focus on following a dominant global culture.
- It is a challenge for policy makers, to deal with traditional cultural practices while trying to promote modern ways. The response of “but it’s my culture” from people may be a challenge to policy makers. It is very difficult to adjust policies to fit all cultures.

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- Should also not assume that policy does not consider culture.

### **The anxiety of having to change culture as the world changes**

- When dealing with changes in customs and laws, as the world changes, there is a certain level of anxiety. This is particularly heightened by the information society.
- Globalisation makes it more difficult to change per the needs of the society, particularly with ICTs affecting the symbolic protection of culture and laws of a society.

### **Culture is evolving**

- The evolution of culture causes power struggles. How do we find the balance, maintaining original culture (without compromise) and joining the global market through globalisation to reap the benefits?
- Interaction is much quicker in modern society, with the introduction of ICTs. Therefore, there is more freedom, but there also needs to be more responsibility when considering the influence and exchange of culture in a global society.
- We are not isolated anymore. There needs to be policies for information flow and culture, prevention of hateful behaviour and the implementation of policies that look at the global world, and not individual culture. But that is easier said than done.

### **Lots of questions, too many cultures and perspectives**

- In conclusion, the only thing that could be agreed upon, is that there are too many questions around globalisation and cultural diversity.

### 3. Development and Poverty

**Facilitator:** Prof Edwin Ijeoma

**Rapporteur:** Ms Sarah Kibugi

#### Issues

There is need to look at the definition of poverty and development especially the UN criteria of “developed” and “not developed”. There is no clear definition of development and poverty in Africa. Africa needs to look at development within the context of local; regional; rural and urban and the dynamics of how to uplift rural to urban. It is important to know how to think of development and poverty in Africa as an ethics discourse in an African context of Information Ethics. Ethics has to do with “who we are in Africa? Are we different from others in the world?” There is need to consider what are the necessary requirements needed to deal with poverty and development from ethics point of view. These requirements could include sufficient information but it was agreed that there is more that is required, more than information which needs to be investigated. The issue of information flow gaps in Africa was raised and it was agreed that Africa is very rich in resources but they are being underutilized which could be attributed to the information flow gaps. There are those people who know and there are those who do not know. As long as people do not know and do not have information, poverty will still remain.

**Factors that drive development and poverty are** inequality, access, corruption, unemployment. Poverty is a world phenomenon and not just an African one. Poverty has no boundaries and does not know colour or language. From the South African scenario, it is recognized that the trend of South African development after apartheid has been an issue of concern. Unlike other African countries, which only suffered colonialism, South Africa suffered colonization and apartheid. South Africa has two strong economic systems: Urban- which is very advanced; Rural, which is not so advanced. South Africa has people who do not want to work and therefore creating an entrepreneurial base becomes complicated, more so when it has people who are not educated, it becomes a big dilemma. The reconstruction and development program in SA was supposed to deal with imbalances left behind by apartheid and give people opportunities so that the economy could be shared.

## Challenges

- **Governance:** This is a Political issue whereby governments do not create enabling environments for sharing the national wealth in order to alleviate poverty.
- **Democracy:** Some heads of states have been in power for over 30 years and they do not want to leave
- **Corruption:** is the greatest vice and there is lack of transparency
- The tax charged by governments to local industries is so high that citizens opt to buy goods from other countries because they are cheaper.
- Countries importing things that do not need to be imported.
- Historical perspective of Africa 500 years of oppression and slavery
- **Unemployment:** Employment has been neglected which has resulted into many people being unemployed and this contributes to poverty.
- **Education:** The education systems in Africa that were designed by the colonial governments continued in the same way even after the countries got independence. These education systems were designed to train Africans to be government employees. These education systems did not prepare or tell Africans about other alternative employment such as self-employment in Agriculture and other sectors.
- **Cultural aspects:** These have contributed to poverty in Africa because some communities have refused to embrace education or anything new. Girls get married at a very early age and this has an impact on poverty.
- **Population:** population has an influence on poverty and development when the population is large and opportunities are inadequate.

## Interventions

Interventions are needed to deal with the challenges. Some of the identified interventions are as tabulated:

- Appropriate Technologies, which allow people to access information easily. ICT has ensured that rural areas are connected. However, the question on whether this easy access to information is making an impact on poverty reduction and development remains. Something is still missing in the way information is being consumed.
- Fibre-Optic cables through and between countries and regions to ensure Africa is Networked and interconnected to facilitate access and flow of information

- Continental initiative to establish how far Africa has dealt with the issue of poverty and development
- Within the context of African Union, Heads of states consider how far Africa has developed herself
- International communities such as UN, WB, USAID, SIDA Canada, SIDA Sweden TIKAD, Chinese Investment etc., are all trying to deal with poverty and development in Africa
- At the Regional level, SADEC, AU, EAC among many others try to use good corporate governance and advice governments
- World Economic Forum whose main purpose is to see how to leverage development issues in the world so that economic growth is achieved and poverty is eradicated
- The African Agenda 2063, is dealing with poverty and development
- The custom union is playing its role in trying to remove trade barriers so that the regional economic issues can be dealt with.
- AU initiative- Heads of African States address issues of partnerships for Africa development which is an agenda to ignite economic growth
- African Peer Review assists heads of states to check and peer themselves

#### **Implications to IE**

- Why has poverty and development become an issue of concern in Africa? The concept of poverty has to be overcome
- Ethical discourse of poverty and development because there seems to be a discrepancy in the definition of poverty when looking at the theoretical and practical approach
- Attitude of people needs to be looked at and especially the decolonization of the mind
- The big question was: is poverty and development an ethical concern? In addition, what are the ethical concerns of poverty? It was agreed that human rights, inequality, and access to resources, good governance are all great ethical issues in poverty and development. The issue is how do we deal with them?
- In some countries, some communities have refused to embrace education and go to school and want to live the way they have always lived. They are still colonized in their minds

#### **Ethical recommendations**

- Africa needs to deal with poverty and development issues at international, regional and local levels
- There is need for Africa to try and modify concepts in the education system so that people know how to create alternative employment and create business.
- Setting up information centres in the rural areas in order to close the information flow gaps and facilitate access to information
- Multilingualism could help and it was suggested that we may need one African language.

## 4. e-Government

**Facilitator:** Ms Angie Mokgabudi

**Rapporteur:** Mr Andile Mgweba

“The advent of Information Society (IS) is creating unprecedented conditions for access to, and exploitation of public sector information.’ A shared view was that e-Government application lies in the heart of service delivery process to build interface between the government and the citizens. The application of e-Government broadly has positive implications however untoward consequences do occur. Thus posing ethical issues for policy makers especially in developing countries.

The discussion was focussed on conceptualising e-government. Areas that were suggested for discussion include but not limited to:

- Transformation of public services
- Access and accessibility
- Digital inclusion
- Online transaction
- Content
- Trust, privacy and security
- Affordability
- Public participation
- Skills
- Ethical design of systems

The group acknowledged that Ethics has become an important part in the interaction among humans being. They discussed cyber ethics as a key factor on the use of ICTs. Ethics of using ICTs borders on issues of respect for others, sharing beneficial information, respect of other people’s intellectual property right that must not be infringed; and that telecommunications and the Internet should be used for acceptable purposes so that it does not infringe other people’s rights.

e-Government should be used to promote more efficient and cost-effective government, facilitate more government on line services, allow greater public access to information and make

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government more accountable to its citizens. Knowledge dissemination was seen as a process that could go a long way to encourage public participation.

Open Data and Open Government – Transparency in government was welcomed, delegates agreed that transparency often allows citizens to participate in their respective governments and be able to reduce government corruption, bribery and other unwelcomed activities. It was also agreed that an open, transparent government allows for the dissemination of information, which in turn helps produce greater knowledge and societal progress. Information is necessary for citizens to form meaningful conclusions about government business e.g. upcoming legislation and vote for them in the next election. With government transparency, citizens can voice their opinions more actively. Delegates made mention of the fact that in other countries Open government is a taboo.

Several national governments have created web sites to distribute a portion of the data they collect. Some governments have established open data websites. It was noted that Open data advocates face a wide variety of obstacles, like internal risk-averse culture of governments, many citizens and advocacy groups are concerned about protecting the privacy of individuals and so on. However, there is a set of legitimate constraints as to what data may be available to the public. Such as in justice, health and others that deal with confidential personal information.

### **Principles of ethics**

- Participation in the process of decisions making
- Quality and efficiency in the provision of services
- Transparency in management and information
- Evaluation of services
- Rapidity in time response
- Confidentiality and respect of private life

**Public Libraries** were seen as having an indirect contribution to development by offering users benefits, such as easier access to more information and communication resources, better social connections with friends and family, and increased opportunities for education and learning. While some people are enjoying reliable and fast internet, millions of people around the world still lack private access to computers to function and prosper in today's world. How do those people connect to digital society? What are the social and economic impacts of public access to

ICTs? What is the magnitude of these impacts, and how can they be measured? What is the relationship between the costs and benefits of providing — and using — public access ICTs?

For many, digital access is through a library, a telecentre, or a cybercafé. Many counties are investing in these access points.

Some of cyber ethics issues raised, included but not limited to plagiarism, copyright, hacking, fair use, file sharing, online etiquette protocols, posting incorrect/inaccurate information, cyberbullying, stealing or pirating software, music, and videos, online gambling, gaming, and internet addiction. Several other current cyber ethics issues are raised in privacy, security, collection and use of personal information on consumers, and identity theft etc.

There is a claim that there is a lack of fully developed rules and models of behaviour in the kinds of electronic environments constituted by e-Government. New ethical issues have arisen as government business becomes increasingly online. The issues, which arise in e-Government and e-Governance should be studied further. The failure to develop appropriate ethics for an Information society may result in disorder and in mistrust undermining online activities. The rapid diffusion of ICTs has placed existing norms and moral behaviour under pressure and may affect the successful implementation of successive governments' visions of e-Government. The argument was that we need to understand the ethical consequences of ICTs application.

## 5. Biometrics

**Facilitator:** Prof Rafael Capurro

**Rapporteur:** Dr Marlene Holmner

The session started with defining Biometrics.

It was felt that it is necessary to differentiate between for example biometrics as implants and other more simplified biometric systems such as fingerprint.

It is necessary to define what biometrics is as there is a vast array of ethical issues depending on what technology is used.

**The panel summarised that the following three issues are important:**

1. Biometrics as the use of biological characteristics for identification.
2. Biometrics as the use of biological characteristics for application – here for example people can be localized through the use of implants – their movements can be tracked, and this relates to surveillance as an ethical issue.

This started an interesting discussion regarding health applications – through biometrics your health can be measured i.e. how many steps you take, your blood pressure etc. This results in a situation where biometrics is not just MEASURING health but actually now DEFINES what healthy means, i.e. you are only healthy IF you take so many steps a day, etc.

3. Biometrics for the identification from a political perspective such as facial recognition, etc. The Government can now gain access to our information through biometric devices.

The facilitator pointed out that Biometrics is very important from an African perspective, as identification is often linked to physical address and that many people on the African continent does not have a physical address.

He mentioned a very important webpage to use for research, namely [www.id4africa.com](http://www.id4africa.com)

According to this website, there is a clear need for robust national systems that provide legal identity to all Africans, ensuring that everyone can access government services and benefits, prove their eligibility and be included in Africa's democracy and economic take-off.

People need to realise that your data belongs to you. Policies are needed to protect your data and to stop people or the Government from using your data without your permission.

This led to an interesting discussion regarding what happens when your personal data gets put into the cloud.

It was felt that the ethical issues of misuse of information and privacy and security are at play here. The user has to weigh up the benefits versus the risks.

At this point, a conversation started regarding Sudan. As many people do not have a physical address in Sudan, a program was started under the Minister of Interior where people were given an identification number and that this number was tied to your fingerprints. It was mentioned that the entire population was now registered.

An ethical question was raised here regarding who is supervising and who is doing what with the data?

How are they linking various information together that can form a digital picture of you?

The facilitator here mentioned the book: *“Privacy in Context by Helen Nissenbaum”*. This book looks at Privacy as one of the most urgent issues associated with information technology and digital media. This book claims that what people really care about when they complain and protest that privacy has been violated is not the act of sharing information itself—most people understand that this is crucial to social life—but the inappropriate, improper sharing of information.

According to the author, contextual integrity is very important. Rules and norms are different in each context. What happens if data is taken out of context and used without your permission or knowledge? Data can be hacked and/or sold from one context to another.

It was felt that not every norm that is good from an ethical perspective is always legal.

This led to a discussion regarding various ethical approaches. If you look at Biometrics from a Utilitarian perspective/approach, then it is all about risks vs. benefits. However, biometrics should also be seen from other ethical approaches. Here some philosophical questions were raised such as:

- Why should we be digitally quantifiable?
- Why should I be given a unique name or number?
- Why biometrics at all?

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This led to an interesting discussion regarding the difference between Digital quantifiable identity and Digital Identity. It was felt that this was a very complex issue. Biometrics is resulting in us digitally quantifying our bodies to identify ourselves. This leads to a who vs. what scenario. When your who becomes quantified it becomes a what. Moreover, when it is a what, it can be sold etc. It is very important to realise that YOU are not just your DATA. The question was raised what the governments ethical obligation is regarding the protection of your digital identity.

It was felt that the use of personal data in context is very important and that every individual situation is different. Questions were raised such as:

- Why is it acceptable in Sudan to use fingerprints for identification purposes but in Australia it is not? However, it is OK in Australia to use facial recognition?
- What are the limits of the digital quantifiable person?
- How far do we go? It is a scenario of how far we want to go versus what we are forced too. For example even if you do not agree with facial recognition, if you need to go to America you are forced to agree to it.

Which ethical theory do we apply to which situation? The philosophical question arose of Who am I? Am I my body? Am I my extended identity? It is important to recognise “myself” – the verification of “myself” – you are who you are in relationship with and this is a personal choice.

This brought up the issue of trust. Questions were raised namely How do we establish trust? How does the government establish trust? This is an issue of privacy and trust. Trust is an interpersonal relationship – you can only trust another human being. How do you trust the Internet or a computer system? If you have complete knowledge of each other, you do not need trust because you know each other completely. Concerning trust of biometrics systems, do you trust the politicians / corporations, etc.? It is more a question of reliable – you rely on a computer system....

This relates to issues of security and safety. Security relates to protecting your data of other third parties within context. Safety relates to preserving the integrity of the data.

We are paying for this with our freedom. More safety less freedom. More security less freedom. It is about reducing our capacity of choice. Nevertheless, it does differ society to society.

## 6. Cybersecurity and Cybercrime

**Facilitator:** Ms Susanna Ackermann

**Rapporteur:** Mr Sizwe Snail

### Introduction

This report is the final report from this particular session as the previous version was handwritten and had to be reduced in the form of a Rapporteurs Report. The Session was initially called “Cyber security and Cyber Crime” but the aspect of “Online privacy” and the relationship of a “data subject” with the state and other online persons became an area of serious contention and robust discussion – hence the renaming of the Session for the purposes of the report to clearly define what was discussed by the participants. What made this session interesting was the fact that a multi *facet* approach was used to address legal, ethical, policy and moral dilemmas in the modern information sharing space.

### Cyber security and Cyber Crime

The discussion started with the discussion that Cyber Criminals activities have spiked in recent times and more instances of Cyber Crime have occurred and as a result it has become a common criminal offence. It was then stated that Cyber Crime has a relationship with Cyber security which assist in prevention of Cyber Crime which definitely impacts on the level of Cyber Safety of Cyber Citizens. An unregulated Cyber Space Environment with lack of Cyber security protocols is more likely to become an environment of unauthorized access.

Delegates suggested and argued that the detection and monitoring of employees activities to prevent Cyber Criminal activity raises serious ethical question. Since Cyber Crime is such a cross-cutting issue there is a duty on each organization and public organs to address possible instances of Cyber Criminal activity within and or possibly directed at it. The issue of how lack of Cyber security may have affected the election in recent events in Germany,

Cyber Criminals and Cyber Terrorist have changed their *modus operandi* and cyber citizens must be vigilant in Cyber space. The United States and French Election was identified as an area that indicates that lack of Cyber security. It came out clear that Capacity Building and Cyber Safety Education is a key factor in prevention of scams and cyber –crime. Cyber Criminality is now

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considered one of the worst types of criminal activity. The Question was asked as to what we are doing about drafting legislation to curb Cyber Crime sufficiently. What is the Cyber Security Policy of African countries and how does it affect deterrence and prosecution of cyber criminals.

The introduction of Cyber Guides and Cyber Police are important as Cyber Crime unlike traditional crime uses a sophisticated *modus operandi* in Cyber Space. As a result the monitoring of a communal space such as Cyber Space is may be essential in preventing and prosecuting Cyber Crime. The counter argument was that monitoring may encourage cyber-criminal activity in that weak internet and cyber security defence infrastructure such as in the case of M-PESA E- Banking Service which is being monitored by the government – poor management of information security procedures result in leakages of individual's personal information.

A suggestion was made that corrupt government official and corrupt operator employees sell individual personal information which in turn is used for criminal activities by Cyber Criminals. This once again must be weighed against the value we get from monitoring in curbing Cyber Terrorism, Cyber Hate Speech and unauthorized access of Critical information infrastructure of Government institutions, private individual and natural persons.

Another case of Malawi brought to the discussion and the country was criticized for its lack of E-government services, e-commerce laws and cyber security and cyber-crime legislation. Awareness is of paramount importance and must be emphasized. The discussants also emphasized the fact reporting of Cyber Crime and prosecuting thereof is also of importance. The discussant were referred to a murder incident that took place at the University of Pretoria of a Student – it may appear that the perpetrators new most the positions of the CCTV cameras as they could not be identified nor traced on any CCTV footage. It seems that with all the Security in place there were clearly some blind spots in the CCTV and Security. Just like Cyber Crime it may appear that insider collusion and compromising of Cyber Security password may be the reason why the said crime has not been solved- much as in Cyber Crime there is mostly an inside person who due to information ethics compromises security procedures.

Policy makers must apply a multi-stakeholder approach and engage the Cyber Community at large. It was stressed that also though Cyber Crime and cyber Security are not bother and sister they are however first cousins. The lack of a developed body of Cyber Forensic practitioners in Africa is

becoming an increasing problem in prevention and prosecution of Cyber Security attacks and Cyber-crime prosecution. A South African context was given to the scourge of Cyber Crime. Reference was made to the use of FICA legislation in assisting in preventing and curbing Cyber Crime. It has also proven to be very effective with Electronic Funds Transfer Fraud.

Discussant asked the question why it is important to discuss Cyber security and Cyber Crime in the same context. It came out clear that discussing both issues prevents cyber security attacks and / or hacking incidents. Cyber security measures have also proven to be effective in the protection of online privacy. It has become very clear that Government have taken legislative measures to address both issues such as the South African Cyber Crime and Cyber Security Bill (2017).

The Bill provides for various criminalization of new substantive cyber-criminal activity and widens the procedural powers the state can invoke in investigating and prosecuting Cyber Crime. It also creates various structures relating to the protection of Cyber Security but also protection of critical information infrastructure.

### **Privacy Online**

People are distrusting of the Cyberspace due to the occurrence of Cyber Crime as discussed in the previous section of this Report. Government must also respect the Individual's right to Privacy which is a Human Right also in the Cyber Space environment. Discussant held the view that Privacy in itself is important as Human Right and also a positive element of Citizenship. It seems that there is a need to balance the interests of the individual's privacy and the state's duty to provide its Cybercitizens with a secure Cyberspace environment as well as state right to state security. Digital Citizenship is different from normal citizenship. It is important that a balance is struck between Ethics and Privacy. As a result in the work environment - employees must adhere to Information Security Policies and Code of Conduct of the employer to protect the employer's information.

Employers must enforce and ensure that employees conduct themselves ethically in terms of practicing information security practices - failure to do so may result in non-adherence to information security procedure, exposure to risk, reputational damage and flouting of compliance procedures. Public Organizations, government institutions and companies must put in place Ethical Rules regarding the ethical use of information and ensure compliance therewith - this is coupled with the employers duty to ensure that the employee are aware of the said rules.

The discussant also discussion about the horizontal application of the Bill of Right in relation to an individual right to privacy vis a vis protecting the organizations / employer from leakage of proprietary information, confidential and privileged information.

Modern Society does not recognize privacy in the ordinary sense. The use of electronic devices such as GPS, Phones, PC and other hand held devices makes it important to ensure what information you give to the public and what information you prefer to conceal in the online environment. The fact that our personal information is used to analyse consumer trends and consumer behaviour means that big data can also be used for other purposes that may not be in good faith, As a result one is exposed to intentional and unintentional disclose of one's personal information. The discussion then extended to individual and institutional invasion of privacy. Ethics and enforcement of same in an institutional environment can limit instances and reputational damage caused by institutional leaks in privacy.

Reference was made to the Novel titled "1984" and that fact that it seems that "Big Brother may be invading your personal space more than you know". The question was asked as to "why focus on morality "instead of "invasion of privacy ". The submission was made that we have become a "permissive society". The line between ethical and unethical information use has been blurred by numerous consideration as previously discussed herein. It was pointed out that e-commerce providers sometimes obtain consent from an online consumer in a forced and unforced fashion which may affect the validity of the electronic agreement entered into.

As a further legislative intervention mentioned was made about the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act3 of 2014 and the 8 (eight) data protection principles that it embodies:

- (a) The processing of information is limited which means that personal information must be obtained in a lawfully and fair manner.
- (b) The information can only be used for the specified purpose it was originally obtained for.
- (c) The Act limits the further processing of personal information. If the processing takes place for purposes beyond the original scope that was agreed to by the data subject, the processing is prohibited.

- (d) The person who processes the information must ensure the quality of the information by taking reasonable steps to ensure that the information is complete, not misleading, up to date and accurate.
- (e) The person processing the personal information should have a degree of openness. The data subject and the Information Regulator must be notified that data is being processed.
- (f) The person processing data must ensure that the proper security safeguards and measures to safeguard against loss, damage, destruction and unauthorized or unlawful access or processing of the information, has been put in place.
- (g) The data subject must be able to participate. The data subject must be able to access the personal information that a responsible party has on them and must be able to correct the information.
- (h) The person processing the data is accountable to ensure that the measures that give effect to these principles are complied with when processing personal information.

The introduction of these defined principles will limit the processing of personal information to a very large extent, subject to the exclusions provided for in the Act.<sup>1</sup>

It may seem that Cyber citizen / individual does not have a legitimate expectation of privacy in cyber space. The aspect of “informed consent” has seemingly lost its value as information that was initially obtained for a particular purpose is usually further processed without the secondary consent required.

### **Recommendation and Conclusion**

It came out clear that participant supported the “10 Golden Rules of Digital Ethics” as previously alluded to in the Conference. Specific support for the enforcement of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> principle was shared by the discussants. It seems as if the relationship between “employee vs. the employer” and the “cyber citizen vs. the State and other intruders” has become a complex ethical and legal dilemma.

Does Cyber phobia increase and or encourage cyber criminality? The important relationship between Cyber Security and Cyber-crime prevention was also highlighted. It was also pointed out that the leakage of personal information leads to further cyber-criminal activity. It was

<sup>111</sup> <https://www.michalsons.com/blog/data-privacy-in-south-africa/150>

generally agreed that cyber security awareness is key in making a difference in the 2(two) two areas. Government sanctioned monitoring of the Cyber citizen can have adverse and uncalculated effects. As a result of corrupt activities it can also be used as an entry point to commit cyber-crime. Compliance is generally as a result of strong legal framework and the laws of a Country must be constantly revised as to reflect current moral and ethical standards required in information use and sharing.

It was also of concern that qualified Cyber Security professional had crossed their ethical boundaries and are the architects and committers of advanced cyber-crime and fraud. The said individual also orchestrates major cyber security breaches. The line between identity theft and fraud has been blurred and the concepts can be used interchangeably. It appears that failure to strictly adhere to information security and information ethical standards as well general dishonesty have become the sources of cyber-criminal activity.

Cyber Space in itself is a problem it that , no body owns it, you may not know who owns the infrastructure you are using , does one really own anything online? The increase of government sanctioned online cyber surveillance is alarming. Capacity issues were identified within the Ghanaian Police with how to handle and investigate cases reported to them of cyber-crime. Awareness and education amongst the police force could go a long way – this would apply to all African countries. The African Convention on Cyber Security and Data Protection will go a long way in ensuring that African Countries has laws regulating, cyber security, cyber-crime and online privacy. Awareness could also result in a level of cybercrime deterrence.

General dishonest conduct in the Cyber Space by Cyber Citizens is the root of all our problems. Legislation must be effective and information ethics enforced.

## 7. Privacy and Transparency

**Facilitator:** Prof Izzeldin Osman

**Rapporteur:** Dr Shana Ponelis

### Introduction

- Individual privacy is an absolute right to all individuals in private affairs.
- Institutional transparency and access in public affairs.
- Can we have both privacy and transparency or shall we sacrifice one for the other?
- In India which enjoys right of information since 2003 every year around 30 activists are beaten, killed, or criminally charged.
- Where is the trade-off between privacy and transparency?

### Discussion

- Perceptions of what privacy and transparency is, different.
- US 19<sup>th</sup> century: “I want to be let alone”
- Many changes in this concept.
- More Western, even Anglo-Saxon concepts. Translating can be a challenge linguistically, for example, to German.
- In Japan, in small community there is no concept such as Western privacy but at the same time when something happens and is published in media the Western ethics and legislation apply.
- In Australia, there is a limitation of disclosing identity in certain cases, for example, name of sexual assault victim or even alleged perpetrator.

### Differentiate between actors:

- government/state,
- institutions (private organizations), and
- individuals/users

Privacy and transparency – one aspect. Broader concern and debate is **privacy and publicness**: in a public space decide to reveal and conceal (avoiding, what you do not want to communicate) who

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you are as individual, group, public or private company, governments, etc. Problems when others/third parties reveal what you want to conceal.

### Discussion

- Can a state argue for privacy? State secrets?
- No one can be fully transparent but the ethical debate is concealing what should be reveal.
- Top secret, confidential, private classifications for documents for a limited time.
- Cabinet documents sealed for 25 years.
- Individuals want maximum privacy for themselves, maximum transparency from government.
- State wants maximum privacy for itself, maximum transparency from citizens (kind of fascism):
  - ⇒ Asymmetry in power
  - ⇒ Both options are dystopian.
  - ⇒ How far can power go into daily life? How do you manage the asymmetries?
- Some governments have legislation for transparency.
- Seven governments in Africa have legislation for access to information.
- At what level is a government transparent to their citizens and to the rest of the world?
- Too much transparency results in cyber insecurity.
- Consider electronic environment or before?
- There is just one, the one we have today.
- Every society, culture, also ancient cultures has the tension (Inca power limited to family).
- Trust in government and individuals to maintain privacy & security, not use information for purposes other than intended:
  - ⇒ Right to be forgotten?
  - ⇒ Contextual integrity?

Non-disclosure of privileged information, e.g., illness of civil servant/president prevented by professional code of ethics.

Rules and norms, sometimes unspoken, are different in different contexts, making things more complex. Family and professional relationship completely different contexts. New technologies give more possibilities of revealing.

⇒ What to protect morally (ethical discussion)?

⇒ How to protect legally?

No legally enforced professional code of conduct for IT 'professionals', professional organizations' code of ethics is optional/voluntary.

There should be a limit to how much government information about citizens is shared with private organizations. Extortion, imposing with power, partly legal, from government to companies, for example, US government, or within companies, if not revealed you are fired. Even what is legal, is not necessarily ethical.

Citizens should be alert but not alarmed by potential for governments and be fearful. Greater risks for journalists and politically active.

After historical experience of Nazi Germany, German society is extremely careful of giving the government too much power. It is different to other countries/societies like the US that did not have a similar experience.

⇒ Limits on the integration of data from disparate databases.

Australia has very good information legislation but it costs money. Ultimately, only the media can afford to fish for dirty laundry. Citizens are mostly limited to getting their own data.

Algorithms (undirected knowledge discovery in data and data mining) may do this without great costs.

In this time of openness, shall we continue talking about privacy?

Some many meanings, so many contexts. Need to be very clear what we are talking about, specify what is meant by privacy vs transparency, privacy publicness, etc. in particular context. Habermas' change of structure of publicness/transformation of public sphere in 1960s, yet privacy was not an indexed term. In the 1960s, the issue was greater publicness, now it is too public and privacy must be protected [Pendulum]. Different contexts need different emphasis even simultaneously:

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in Western context might need more privacy, in African contexts may need more publicness. Need not be in lock-step.

Despite open access and transparency, it is not a reality. Windows still have blinds. States are eavesdropping and spying on each other to access information they want. Those who are in power have power to reveal / access private information. Restrictions of power from top to bottom. Need accountability through a legal framework.

#### **Feedback session comments**

Different perspectives: technology students see no need for privacy (consider technology like Google offering benefits through personalization, etc.), info ethics students want more privacy.

## 8. Social Media

**Facilitator:** Prof Ciano Aydin

**Rapporteur:** Prof Perpetua Dadzie

The discussion started with the question: “What is “social media” (SM)?”

Social Media is a very broad field and can be defined in different ways:

- giving examples: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Snapchat
- user-generated content

The following question was raised: how much freedom does the user have in generating content (coordinates are fixed, e.g. likes in Facebook)?

Several ethical issues that could be investigated from an ethical point of view:

- Data mining – collecting data and finding patterns in data; What can we use patterns of data for
- Digital divide
- Trustworthiness – e.g. Fake news
- Ownership of Social Media content – who owns your photo that you post on Facebook for example
- Privacy – collection of personal data? Are there any rules and regulations concerning usage?

**We limit ourselves to three questions, which will guide the group discussion:**

### 1) Is social media making us less (or more) responsible and empathic?

- less responsible: anonymity, postponing action (Dreyfus, Kierkegaard)
- less empathic: no face to face interaction (Levinas)

### 2) How does social media mediate experiences of the world and ourselves?

- social media are not neutral but influence more and more our understanding of friendship, or democracy, or truth
- draw parallel with ‘quantified self’ debate: we understand ourselves more and more in terms of the devices that we use to measure for example our health
- how do social media affect our identity, e.g. instant gratification

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- How does it affect our interpersonal relations: understanding online dating as a form of arranged marriages (parents vs algorithms)?
- On life: how does being online all the time affect our interpersonal relations
- positive sides: Turkle's life on the screen; virtual environments

### 3) Are our ethical theories still sustainable in the light of developments in social media?

- Can we still understand privacy from the perspective of deontology and utilitarianism or has social media changed the very concept of privacy, which would prompt the development of alternative ethical frameworks?
- Can we still sustain something like "authenticity" if 90% of what we say online is copy pasted?

#### Group discussion

Is SM making us less or more responsible and empathetic? Are actions delayed for instance, as a result of anonymity of user?

Discussion on this centred on both the positive and the negative side of SM.

#### Positive

- SM is making us more responsible and empathetic. It is helping us to get to know each other better, to build bridges and see opportunities available in society.
- SM preventing isolation of minorities, old people. SM is enabling communication among these groups and thereby preventing isolation; it is helping people to belong and be together.
- In academic libraries, SM is being used to communicate new policies, programmes to users.

#### Negative

- SM is bringing about bullying and isolation of people.
- SM is used to share information that may not be appropriate e.g. Announcement of death on the platform even before immediate family members are informed.
- Despite its negative uses, SM has many benefits and people need to be encouraged to use it.

Ethical issue raised here is: What do you reveal and what do you conceal in SM? In addition, who should have the power/right to decide what is revealed and concealed?

### **Trustworthiness in SM**

- To what extent do we trust information posted on SM? For example, information about the health status of a President?

### **Questions**

- What punishment is there for fake news?
- Where and how to draw the line between freedom of speech and lies and hate speech?
- How to track people who put fake news on the internet?

### **Outcome discussion**

- To counteract misuse of information – there is the need for guidelines on content; need for communication policy, or legislation on communication.
- There is also the need for moderation.
- Problem from an ethical point of view: who should moderate and on the basis of what ethical framework? Deontology, virtue ethics, etc.?
- How does SM influence experiences of the world and ourselves and interactions?
- SM can influence our interactions positively and also negatively

### **Positive**

- SM can influence how we see ourselves. People can experiment with new identities.
- SM can open democratic spaces.
- Can increase your popularity. However, how do you measure your own identity? Do you share what others say about you?
- SM can positively influence interactiveness and solve problems; national issues even before information is brought out through local newspapers.
- SM can also influence administrative processes – e.g. Retrieval of items lost quickly when communication through SM.
- SM also influences Government policies. Government receiving feedback about policies, which are not favourable to the people, and putting a stop to its implementation.

### **Negative**

- Normative scripts – SM can limit you and frame way certain things are valued. For example, friendship by counting the number of likes.
- SM can influence behaviour change; change is more complex and people in power can use it to manipulate others.
- SM used in a political environment
- It may influence some people, e.g. children, and change their opinions (also in a positive direction)
- It may address people who vote
- SM can influence issues of African ethics – e.g. certain religious beliefs with negative consequences can have an influence on children for example.

**Question:** Should we evaluate friendship in SM differently from friendship in real life?

### **Outcome**

- SM is not a threat as such. However, in the political environment, there are ethical concerns on who uses it, how information can be regulated and by whom.

### **Privacy of user**

- How should privacy be revaluated in our highly technological, online culture?
- Should privacy be downgraded and rather focus placed on security?
- Can SM use information placed on platform for other purposes?
- How should we protect information on SM? Is it free to use?
- If used, should the individual be paid especially when used for commercial purposes (with advertisement)?

### **Other issues raised**

- Photoshop
- Lack of regulations
- Difficulty in apprehending culprits

**Ethical issues on privacy**

- Often the problem is that information is shared in one context and used by others in another context without informed consent.
- The solution lies with knowledge of digital wellness skills.
- Availability of regulations.

**Floor comments**

- SM is in the hands of private companies. Governments should invest in SM and govern SM.
- SM and the democratic process – eg Arab Spring.
- SM and censorship.

## 9. Food and Health

**Facilitator:** Dr Daniel Muthee

**Rapporteur:** Mr Matt Kelly

The discussion commenced around how we might conceptualise food and health beyond the straightforward notions and into the information ethics sphere such that it showed relevance to the information age and the era of the digital citizen. Questions were asked about the information required that was relevant to food and production and the associated technology that would lead to better production and sustainability as well as to understand the implications of genetic modification on changed practices.

These questions were not raised in isolation but could be linked to other aspects of health, addiction, irradiation and sedentary lifestyles. What kind of information is needed to provide food production necessary for African countries?

Issues associated with trade unionism were raised. What are fair salaries for farm workers? How should we ethically evaluate the use of technology that is used to replace farm workers? Is it ethical to replace farm workers with machines? Where do we see the choice that lies beyond the merely personal to that which impacts broader society?

Marxian-inspired perspectives that look to how the ownership of production and the associated means and exploitation of production is effected were raised. This leads to questions of how “who produces what for whom at what cost and how the effect of technological change in the workplace” is in place at the local level.

Instead of workers harvesting crops, machines can do much of the work. When this occurs, is a fair share of the economic gains of harvest distributed? When machines replace human labour, what equity issues arise in this process? Can workers and capitalists looking to manage machine technology together?

Issues were raised in the context of food in the context of hunger, rather than just shortage, how do GM issues and other social issues associated with work and lifestyle matters. From the

perspective of philosophical ethics food and its production has not been a recognised concern. Food has been presumed as integral to the good life. Maslow's hierarchy of needs was highlighted as relevant. While food production may not be an ethical issue, hunger is. Solving hunger is such a practical issue, as distinct from an ethical issue; it may not need to be focused on specifically from the ethical viewpoint. Practical problems require knowledge of certain facts to allow a solution to be formulated. This is somewhat divorced from philosophical ethics. Legal and pragmatic problems are in some ways distinct from ethical problems.

Ethical issues need standards and criteria to enable solutions to be formed. These may also involve the distinction to be drawn between morally good and morally wrong decisions. Within this framework, there are presupposed norms and established moral positions. Not all problems require or ethical reflection. These would include those in which questions of justice are not present. Where "stable morality" is absent, ethical issues arise. Ethical consideration involves rethinking norms and the "merely practical" is not always important for this type of reflection.

While food production may not be an appropriate focus for ethical reflection, food distribution has more of a claim to be so described. Where famines are brought about consciously by political actors (the dangers are real today in South Sudan and Yemen) there are obvious ethical ramifications associated with depriving people of adequate food.

The concept of partnership in land use was raised in the context of South Africa. Established corporate farming sector, farm workers' unions and governments all play a role. Questions were raised about land redistribution and the wisdom of such approaches if redistributed land is allowed to remain unfarmed. The significant grey zones that arise in such debates around land appropriation and redistribution create a polarity between practical and ethical considerations that require assessment through recourse to both concepts of justice and of agreed norms. Utilitarian approaches would seek to understand and work out the consequences of varying positions. Another associated ethical issue and one that has significant relevance for the information ethics debate is who has a voice in arguing these points and who does not. Who is it that can make an ethical issue? Who can decide if it is in fact not better dealt with on a pragmatic or practical level. An approach to responding to such concerns could be that we map stakeholders' voices and we map the consequences of their views. We try to understand motives as ethical expressions (or intentions). So, as an example, if farmers choose to replace workers with machines

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we see a range of complex and differentiated ethical views: where work becomes less physically demanding workers have a better life; where farmers are able to increase profit they increase their overall wealth; where machines take over human labour, farmers have no labour issues.

The myth of technology replacing human workers was touched upon with the focus being instead how work roles change with increased technological efficiency, they don't just disappear. Aligned to this was discussion on how hunger is becoming less acute as the major issue across Africa related to food, awareness of how to eat well to promote health has become a more pressing issue overall. Knowledge of what constitutes a balanced diet can be lacking in many places. The relationship of ignorance and knowledge (how people are informed) of these nutritional issues was identified as a significant ethical issue. Information to consumers is often contradictory with questions arising as to "who to believe".

The ethics of eating was raised as an instance of changing customs and an instance of transition to modernity. Eating is both a family and a community wide practice. How do these changes to a more individualistic practice impact on knowing what to eat, when to eat and how much to eat? How do promotion and marketing of food impact on people's lives? Are these promotional practices ethical if they disrupt effective, healthy traditional practices? The prevalence of diabetes in modern Africa is linked to the prevalence of sugar in people's diets. This is a worthwhile example of how conflicting information emerging from technological changes in communication needs to be mediated by a critical and reflective approach.

By way of contrast, the effects of overtly paternalistic approaches were raised as similarly threatening. If people are adequately informed of risks then limiting their choices to enjoy sugar or alcohol or similar products throws up other ethical issues.

The effect of GM products on subsistence farmers who did not require seed purchases in former times, the status of GM plant rights data and the possible health risks of genetic modification were discussed, as was the proper use of the precautionary principle when making policy decisions. The intellectual property issues that affect agriculture also affect pharmaceuticals and HIV medication was highlighted by way of example. Some drug advances are simply too important to be allowed to be owned by way of patents.

Discussion touched upon the nature of traditional medicines and the nature of what it is to be healthy. The distinction between disease and health and what other factors contribute to a healthy lifestyle was discussed. The important knowledge that potentially is held in “old people’s medicine,” was highlighted as an important example of indigenous knowledge that should be further developed. The potentially helpful role of medicinal plants (including cannabis) was discussed along with the ethical dilemmas that accrue with their use and prohibition.

We discussed how the simple and unproblematised use of the technical term “ethical” needs to be understood in any serious discussion of information ethics relating to food and health in the African (or any other) context. We also discussed the scientific and evidential problems associated with folk wisdom and folk remedies.

**Each participant was asked to offer a single important point relating to the discussion topic**

- Many communities only consume “starch and sugar” and they have a right to better nutritional information.
- The prevalence of technological information sources makes it necessary that information on food and health is available that allows people in Africa to distinguish advertisements from reliable information sources relating to nutrition.
- The relationship between poverty-staple foods- land ownership and the ability to provide self-sufficiency in food needs to be addressed.
- The relationship between land ownership and (re)distributive justice should be addressed with reference to an ethical approach that guides a holistic policy on health and food.
- Food and health should be approached with reference to information ethics such that the relationship of truth and paternalism is made as clear as possible and that participants in the debates are able to make responsible decisions over quality and quantity of life issues.
- The importance of education for children and families requires that good information is on offer not simply intellectual reflection that requires further mediation and interpretation.

## 10. IT Infrastructure for Africa

**Facilitator:** Dr. Vicki Lawal

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Justina Ngozi Ekere

### Introduction

Africa has a huge market and opportunity for investors but the poor level of IT infrastructure constitutes a major disadvantage to the continent. With some of the fastest growing economies in the world, meeting the demands for key infrastructure has therefore become a priority towards achieving its full economic growth and potential. The question then is how can we develop the needed IT infrastructure that would help improve our productivity, attract foreign investment and strengthen our ability to compete with the global economy?

With this introductory statement, the facilitator opened the session for discussion on the following areas:

1. Telecommunications: This has had a strong impact on IT infrastructure however; the quality of Internet access in Africa is poor due high cost of bandwidth. How can we invest in this area through the provision of more broadband infrastructure?
2. ICT and education: At all educational levels in most African countries, there is a limited provision of needed ICT infrastructure, which has affected the quality of teaching and learning. What strategies can be taken to address this?
3. Electricity: Most African countries have a low capacity to generate sufficient electricity to power their infrastructure. How can we explore other options in terms of renewable energy in ways that would guarantee efficient power supply?

Responses on the first issue pointed that some of the challenges in the provision of infrastructure in African countries arise from the lack of co-ordination between different government agencies, for example, ministries of information and communication. A proper synergy should exist between such government agencies to provide the appropriate ICT policies and guidelines that would influence infrastructural development. This situation also has an impact as to the level to which foreign investors can be attracted to operate within a given country based on the already established policy. In line with this statement, the argument is the basic question of who is responsible for the provision of IT infrastructure the government or the private sector? Examples

from South Africa were given of the efforts made by government to provide necessary backbone infrastructure, which has gone a long way in reducing cost and improving quality access to information. However, the challenges of maintenance of such infrastructure should be pursued within a collaborative framework of public-private partnership to ensure sustainability. Where private sectors are involved in other cases, they tend to provide better service but because they are profit-oriented, their services are expensive. It was agreed and emphasised that it is the responsibility of governments to provide the needed IT infrastructure for the development of their country even though partnership with private sectors can also be pursued.

It was noted that despite the fact that Africa seemed to have leaped-frogged the stages of development in the telecommunications sector, there still remains the issue of unequal access to information between urban and rural dwellers due to the high concentration of infrastructure in urban areas. The provision of telecentres, e-transact, etc. for example in rural communities has helped in creating greater awareness of the importance of technology and encouraged participation in education, governance, banking etc., by rural dwellers. It was suggested that addressing unequal access requires that government is able to leverage the digital divide between urban and rural dwellers by providing adequate infrastructure. This issue also highlighted the need for IT skills training particularly in rural areas; where complex infrastructure is provided, it is important that relevant skills training is given to ensure proper maintenance and sustainability of a project.

As part of a future alternative to physical IT infrastructure, the possibility was suggested of exploring opportunities for affordable Internet access through such websites as the internet.org and Free-basics, a new initiative provided through a partnership of Facebook and six other companies (Samsung, Ericsson, Meriadiatek, Opera Software, Nokia &Qualcomm). To bring affordable access to selected Internet services to less developed countries. Free basics operated by Facebook for example, provides people with access to useful information services on their mobile phones in places where Internet access may be less affordable. The website operates without data charges and includes content on things like news employment, health, education and local information. Access through this means could eliminate or limit some of the challenges experienced especially in rural areas.

As part of the ethical issues with respect to IT infrastructure, concern was expressed about the importation of obsolete or refurbished computers and other IT infrastructures to some African countries which are unusable or expired. The flooding of African markets with these infrastructures has also contributed to the challenges of access and constitute another problem in terms of e-waste and management. It is necessary that policies are set in place by governments to guard against this problem.

### **ICT and education**

Debates on this aspect were focused on ICT and education at all levels. IT infrastructure has been a major challenge poorer African countries at the primary or secondary level especially where access to other basic infrastructure such as clean water, roads, power, etc. are not available. For example in Malawi where availability of computers to educational institution is inadequate to encourage better learning experiences by students. This view was also supported by accounts from Uganda where similar challenges are also experienced.

In higher education institutions, it was noted that even though ICT and e-learning is gaining ground as an effective pedagogical tool in higher education, Africa is lagging behind. The reason appears to be lack of knowledge and expertise in the use of these new technologies in the area of technical and vocational training, and the absence of institutional and country policies on the integration of ICT and e-Learning. An example was given of the Kenyan experience whereby the libraries are well equipped with the state of the art ICT and e-resources facilities but the librarians seem to lack the knowledge and skills on the usage but efforts through various workshops for staff and information literacy training to students is going a long way in improving access and efficiency. Similarly, experiences from Ghana also highlighted some of the challenges faced by students in rural areas who were required by the government to take computer-based examinations along with those in urban areas. The expectation in terms of performance cannot be at par because of the nature of unequal access to IT infrastructure urban and rural educational institutions. In this regard, a suggestion was made on the possibility of establishing consortia arrangements between institutions and libraries in ways that could help facilitate access to ICT infrastructure as well as library resources to disadvantaged institutions.

It was generally noted that the capacity of African educational institutions to lead the process of integrating ICT in education as compared to most of the developed world, is woefully inadequate.

They lack access to infrastructure, affordable and sufficient bandwidth, and the human resource capacity to exploit the technology. As a result, they must take positive steps towards building relevant infrastructure to be able to compete with other institutions in the the global context.

### **Electricity supply**

The provision of reliable power supply has been a challenge to most African countries; the way forward is to explore options that are affordable and sustainable. Participants noted that more African countries are using new technology such as solar energy as alternative source of power in homes, businesses, etc., which has greatly improved their living standards. However, the affordability of solar panels and batteries to rural areas still remains an issue. Some African countries such as South Africa have explored alternative sources of power through wind, hydropower, Nigeria is also exploring options through gas. Efficient electricity supply is an important driver for any IT infrastructure for development.

### **Recommendations**

The following recommendations were made:

1. Public Private Partnership (PPP) should be encouraged by African countries in the provision of IT infrastructure to improve efficiency and equality of services. This should also be explored with regards to electricity supply.
2. The provision of backbone infrastructure should be encouraged between African countries to foster regional co-operation and sustainability.
3. Relevant ICT policies should be developed by governments to provide the needed framework for foreign investment. Similarly, in view of the growing youth population who are technologically skilled, governments should develop inclusive policies that would create job opportunities in the IT sector in Africa.

## 11. Information for All Programme (IFAP)

**Facilitator:** Mr Hezekiel Dlamini

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Julius Tweve

IFAP conceived by UN member states in the year 2000 on the premise that every country will be able to make information freely accessible to all its citizens. It should be a program for all countries and not just for UN agencies, such as UNESCO. IFAP was meant to promote the following key issues:

- Preservation
- Literacy
- Ethics
- Information Access
- Information for Development
- Multilingualism

The discussion was guided by the following questions:

1. Is IFAP still fit for purpose: conceptually, ethically and practically?
2. What are the challenges?
3. What are the opportunities?

Participants were free to start with any point regarding the above questions.

1. Given the nature of information Society, the IFAP program is still fit for purpose. People need to be imparted with skills in information literacy, ICT Literacy etc to be able to effectively access information for decision making; participate in governance discourse, among other things. Such capabilities will also help the masses improve their socio-economic status.
2. Implementation of the IFAP program will help bridge the information and digital divides especially if emphasis is put on helping the marginalized communities.
3. Conceptually, there is need to define information, its use and by who?
4. The case of Nigeria and other countries: The disabled and especially those in the marginalized areas are not accessing information due to various factors including costs, security, displacements and poor infrastructure. In brief, citizens need to be brought to

- the same level, for instance in dealing with the issues of literacy language barriers, political and geographical barriers.
5. There is need to establish what kind of information is needed by various users.
  6. IFAP needs to have relevant activities that have inter-related sub-themes for discussion.
  7. Sustainable development goals and UN 2013 inter-relate well with information for all. These should be integrated into the country development programs.
  8. UNESCO should be able to champion the IFAP Program and be clear on funding, logistics, and future developments.
  9. The system should be designed that such programs as IFAP have clear information flow from program developers to the implementer right to the target audience of the same.
  10. That many projects are being carried out in isolation; we have to be flexible and decolonize
  11. That conference and other forums must be ready to get out and implement what is discussed. The link of what governments and individuals are doing is not communicated to UNESCO. There is need for passion, consistency and collaboration by those involved in IFAP-related activities. (Can we have a forum (e.g. an online forum) through which we can share our individual and country activities?)
  12. Highlighted activity: Conference in Montreal Canada brought out some ethical considerations like religious radicalization. It is information that is being used to brainwash people. Let us find a link between what we are doing and the aspirations of IFAP. The program is suffering from image and funding. Since 2000 when IFAP was conceptualized, new developments have taken place in regard to ICT developments, radicalization, etc.
  13. Question: Is there any research that has been done to establish the gap in regards to information access? There is need for this research.
  14. Question: Are public libraries still relevant in terms of providing access? Libraries in educational institutions have maintained their role as sources of information for students and academic staff.
    - Nigeria has no functional public library
    - Kenya has a vibrant public library network
    - In Ghana, the public library system has suffered, since there is a wave of change now. The computer project is at the local community level; children are being imparted with reading skills are through public libraries promoted by the former vice president's wife

who is a librarian; and tele-centres are doing training for ICT and access to government services.

15. Information for All versus Information by All: An example of Ebola outbreak whereby rural communities struggled to contain the epidemic due.
16. We need to decolonize the policies and frameworks that were conceptualized decades ago to be able to come up with modern models of doing things. There is need for an open access program for public libraries that is for children.
17. Research on information gap can be done at country level or in a comparative manner with other countries
18. Activities of information ethics should link with other activities in other sectors to get its relevance and impact
19. Information professionals need to prepare flexible systems and improve it, in order to address many problems.

**Key Points to take home:**

- We need to look at the meaning of information. We need to define information in IFAP because today we have algorithm and other types of information. Are all types of information included?
- We need to take advantage of opportunities of linking what we do nationally with aspirations and activities of IFAP
- Public libraries in particular should modernize (e.g., Public libraries are not functional in Nigeria). Librarians should embrace systems design that facilitate two-way information flow.
- Librarians should find a role in gathering and disseminating information from grassroots (i.e. address issues of Ebola and other similar issues of public concern).
- Share more what you are doing with the IFAP community. We need to communicate more what we do at country and institutional levels.

## 12. Net neutrality

**Facilitator:** Mr Jared Bielby

**Rapporteur:** Dr Sarah Kaddu

In introduction to the session on net neutrality, the session facilitator posed three questions, as follows:

1. Should governments regulate broadband Internet services as a public utility, similar to the way electricity, gas and water supply is regulated, along with limiting providers and regulating the options those providers can offer?
2. What are the ethical concerns inherent to the conversation around net neutrality in South Africa?
3. Are the issues of net neutrality in the US and Europe the same as those in South Africa? If not, what are the specific concerns of net neutrality in South Africa?

### Net Neutrality

As reviewed in the session for Net Neutrality, the concept of net neutrality (NN) is not a universally defined notion. While the generally accepted definition of NN advocates for a non-discriminatory provision of Internet content to users by Internet service providers (ISPs), regardless of source and type, and without favouring, blocking or “throttling” any particular application or website based on reasons favourable or unfavourable to the provider, different regions around the world maintain distinctive values that may or may not determine differing priorities in NN discussions.

As such, there exists a wide range of opinion for and against net neutrality in its strict definition. While general democratic principles and policies promote equal access to information where an open Internet ensures that packets are transferred with uniformity, and while such principles should hold true irrespective of origins and content and should not discriminate based on cost, the need for functionality and efficiency in Internet infrastructure manifests a complex relationship between politics and economy in network operations.

While advocates argue that NN eliminates obstacles to online entrepreneurship and innovation, critics insist that regulating content hampers the flexibility of innovation for ISPs. As such, the net

10<sup>th</sup> ANIE international conference (ANIEversary), February 2017

neutrality debate boils down to an attempt to address and balance competing economic, technical and political interests of various parties.

Though the more widely engaged debates around net neutrality focus on the ebb and flow of politics common to the US based Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and its relationship to Europe through the Privacy Shield agreement and now it's changing policies under Republican leadership, unique concerns for net neutrality surface in an African context.

### **Net Neutrality in South Africa**

According to South Africa's Internet Service Providers' Association (ISPA) the US EU debate on NN is not relevant for South Africa since South African Internet development and marketing is at an earlier stage of development. Where the US EU Debate on NN centres on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and its relationship with Europe through the Safe Harbour/Privacy Shield debate, South Africa looks to address its own. As stated, "SA faces a different set of issues in order to ensure fair competition here."<sup>2</sup> The ISPA holds to a policy that shaping bandwidth is a necessary part of network operations.

However, with that said, the ISPA notes that discrimination should *not* feature in the country's online or real-world environments. The Association says there should therefore be no blocking or prioritisation of lawful websites, content, applications or services. ISPA regulatory advisor, Dominic Cull notes that, "An independent judiciary, regular elections, and a free press are traditionally seen as some of the most important hallmarks of a functioning democracy. To this list should be added net neutrality, or the inability of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), government or major corporations to discriminate against Internet traffic or content they don't want you to access."<sup>3</sup>

The issues in question for South Africa in terms of NN surface in an ecosystem where NN exists at a basic level and are focused on maintaining efficient connection speed and combating censorship. The debate in SA NN concerns itself with what will transpire in terms of speed efficiency if net neutrality is removed due to cost concerns, balanced with efforts to prevent

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<sup>2</sup> The Internet Service Providers' Association (ISPA). *"Net Neutrality" A Non-issue in South Africa for the Present, Says ISPA*. Retrieved from <http://ispa.org.za/press-release/net-neutrality-a-non-issue-in-south-africa-for-the-present-says-ispa/>

<sup>3</sup> The Internet Service Providers' Association (ISPA). *Net Neutrality Indicates a Functioning Democracy*. Retrieved from <https://ispa.org.za/press-release/net-neutrality-indicates-a-functioning-democracy/>

censorship from taking hold.<sup>4</sup> As such, some content restrictions are currently implemented by ISPs in South Africa backed by legal clauses for takedown upon notice. Internet service providers (ISPs) in SA are required by law to respond to and act on takedown notices for all illegal content, including both child pornography and copyright violations; however, they are exempt from any liability for hosting or monitoring such content as long as they abide by takedown notices.<sup>5</sup>

### **Over-the-top Content (OTT) in South Africa**

OTT refers to any media content, including audio or video, distributed over the Internet that does not require the operational control of a multiple-system operator (MSO) in its distribution. While ISPs may be aware of the contents of the Internet Protocol (IP) packets, they are not responsible for content redistribution. Furthermore, they are unable to access or handle viewing capacities. Example of OTT content include WhatsApp and Skype, where control resides outside the jurisdiction of ISPs.

As per a working paper on broadband for Africa, published March 2016 entitled *OTT - threat or opportunity for African Telcos?*, it was clarified that in South Africa ISPs want intervention and regulation for OTTs in order to level playing field. The authors of the paper point out that OTTs are unfairly not held to license or tax obligations.<sup>6</sup> The major ISPs in South Africa, Vodacom and MTN have insisted that the government address the concerns implicit in the increase of OTT services. While ISPs in South Africa have explored options for working with OTTs, such as bundling services, a cost-effective solution has not presented itself and revenues have steadily decreased. As such, both MTN and Vodacom are opposed to OTT services and advocate for their regulation instead of innovating around it.<sup>7</sup> During recent

<sup>4</sup> The Internet Service Providers' Association (ISPA). *Net Neutrality Indicates a Functioning Democracy*. Retrieved from <https://ispa.org.za/press-release/net-neutrality-indicates-a-functioning-democracy/>

<sup>5</sup> Country: South Africa." Cloudscorecard.bsa.org. BSA Software Alliance, n.d. Web. 02 Mar. 2017. [http://cloudscorecard.bsa.org/2013/assets/PDFs/country\\_reports/Country\\_Report\\_South\\_Africa.pdf](http://cloudscorecard.bsa.org/2013/assets/PDFs/country_reports/Country_Report_South_Africa.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Stork, Christoph, and Steve Esselaar. "OTT-threat or opportunity for African Telcos?." Retrieved from [https://www.researchictafrica.net/publications/Other\\_publications/2016%20\\_Working\\_paper\\_1\\_OTT-threat%20or%20opportunity%20for%20African%20Telcos.pdf](https://www.researchictafrica.net/publications/Other_publications/2016%20_Working_paper_1_OTT-threat%20or%20opportunity%20for%20African%20Telcos.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

10<sup>th</sup> ANIE international conference (ANIEversary), February 2017

parliamentary debates on OTTs in South Africa, additional arguments were made for regulation, citing several concerns including those of “national security, anonymity for consumers, lack of taxation of big corporates and investment within the country.”<sup>8</sup>

### **Session Discussion Highlights on Net Neutrality in South Africa**

In terms of whether or not the government should regulate broadband Internet services in South Africa, it was reiterated that, depending on the market concerns, certain parties may or may not have a vested interest in regulating services. The regulation of broadband Internet in a developing country like South Africa raises a number of ethical issues including equal access, since, as South Africa remains an anomaly as both a developed and undeveloped country, a uniform policy on NN may not adequately address the widest concerns.

It was proposed and agreed on that that there should be regulation at the International level in order to benefit NN concerns in Africa in general. It was suggested, for instance, that the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) could regulate broadband Internet in order to ensure basic equality in South Africa. It was noted that since colonial and apartheid histories still heavily influence and/or detract from development and infrastructure in South Africa, the rural/urban divide is unique to South Africa in ways beyond the established concerns of access and divide in most countries. The wide discrepancy of access between rural and urban populations in South Africa must therefore take into account several unique demographics in terms of digital divide.

The question was posed as to what happens when ISPs are not interested in investing in rural areas due to issues of Average Revenue per User (APRU). Should they be required to invest, even to their own disadvantage? It was decided that universal access is a key ethical issue of concern in Internet governance and that ISPs should therefore be held accountable to innovation and cost recovery efforts that include rural areas of South Africa. The suggestion was made in conclusion that the concerns of regulating the Internet are similar to those regulating earlier oceans and Air space policy. Can broadband and the distribution of packets be public? An analogy was drawn using the history of transportation to highlight net neutrality. While the highway system may be “open” and while some may have the money to buy an efficient car to travel the (information)

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

highway, others may not have resources enough to buy a reliable car. Others still cannot afford access to transportation at all, public or otherwise.

The group centered the question of ethics around citizenship and community – what does it mean to live together in relation to neutral medium? It was suggested that the answer lies in addressing questions of power and control, specifically in terms of influence beyond strict terms of Internet access and net neutrality. The group posited that one could not address the issues at hand by debating net neutrality since there is no reality of “neutrality”. While bias and vested interests can potentially be acknowledged, and addressed, there can be no true state of neutrality at the end of the day in terms of Internet or otherwise. Furthermore, it was pointed out that *neutrality* is a value statement in itself, one that may not be universally appreciated. The group concluded that the terminology of “net neutrality” needed to be dropped in order to first address questions of power and control, acknowledging that *neutrality* was not and could not be the end goal.

From a philosophical perspective, it was noted that in terms of human societies we are dealing with a chaotic situation on the Internet where several yet unaddressed and unsolved conditions of *otherness* are resurrected in the form of digital *being*. This transformation from analogue societies to digital societies must first be addressed ground-up before specific policies can be effectively developed.

### Conclusion

It was advanced that issues of net neutrality are misrepresented by the very terminology used to describe them; where terms of “net” and “neutrality” discourage the necessary acknowledgment of deeper-seated cultural and societal differences and divides that arise anew in the digital era, specifically in terms of access, affordability, value, and distribution. While net neutrality policy stumbles and flounders in the “chaotic situation” (Rafael Capurro) of the Internet, the solution for which differs globally, even being reversed at national levels dependent on party control, any foundational solution to a synthesis of market interests and human rights must look beyond the debate between ISPs and regulation to first address core issues of power and control.

## Appendix E:

### Conference list of attendance

Note: Participants' signatures have been blocked out to protect their privacy.



#### ANIEversary 21-23 February 2017

	Name	Surname	Sion
1	Susanna	Ackermann	
2	Hellen Agnes	Amunga	
3	Ciano	Aydin	
4	Coetzee	Bester	
5	Jared	Bielby	
6	Theo	Bothma	
7	Barbara	Simon	
8	Johannes	Britz	
9	Rafael	Capurro	
10	Perpetua	Dadzie	
11	Hezekiel	Dlamini	
12		Fischer	



13	Rachel		
14	Suleiman	Hanyar	
15	Hoffie	Hofmeyr	
16	Marlene	Holmner	
17	Edwin	Ijeoma	
18	Sarah	Kaddu	
19	Tobias	Keber	
20	Matt	Kelly	
21	Sarah	Kibugi	
22	Isaac	Kigongo-Bukenya	
23	Erin	Klazar	
24	Vicki	Lawal	
25	Leandi	Lottering	
26	Henry	Makowa	
27	Beverley	Malan	
28	Ali	Mashishi	
		Mgwaba	

	Andile	
29	Angie	Mokgabudi
30	George	Molepo
31	Daniel	Muthee
32	Stephen	Mutula
33	Justina Ekere	Ngozi
34	Dennis	Ocholla
35	Constant	Okello-Obura
36	Izzeldin	Osman
37	Naailah	Parbhoo
38	Shana	Ponelis
39	Debra	Setsiba
40	Nozipho	Sihlahla
41	Sizwe	Snail
42	Julius	Tweve
43		

45	Geonews	CADOGAN
46	Khopoto	Mwae
47	leboang	Motubi
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## Appendix F:

### Conference photos



Above and Below: Workshop presenter and Minister of DTPS





Above and Below: Workshop participants (above) and Festschrift launch (below)





Above and Below: Gala Dinner with Deputy Minister (above) and Minister of DTPS (below)

