Overview of Internet Gov. Forum and the Nigeria Process

By

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At the Nigerian Internet Governance Forum (2015) Tuesday, 20th July, 2015

The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Communication Technology and special guest of honour – Dr. Tunji Olaopa; Chairman of the forum – Prof. B.E Aluko; the Stakeholders, distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Executive Vice-Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission – Dr. Eugene Juwah, and the Head of the New Media and Information Security – Engr. S. D. Jumbo, you are all, sincerely, welcomed to the 5th edition of the Nigerian Internet Governance Forum with *"Harnessing the Potentials of Internet Governance for Sustainable Development in Nigeria"* as theme for this year's Forum.

The **Internet Governance Forum (IGF)** was established by the **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** at the **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)** in 2006.

Since then, it has become one of the leading global multi-stakeholder forum on public policy issues related to Internet Governance.

Following the resolutions reached at the summit, many countries, in furtherance of the agenda, started national IGFs, of which Nigeria is one.

This initiative provides participating countries with the same opportunities to engage in the debate on Internet Governance and to facilitate their development.

The **Nigerian Internet Governance Forum (NIGF)** brings together various stakeholders from Government, Private Sector, Academia and Civil Society as equals, to engage in Internet-related public policy discussions on opportunities and challenges peculiar to the country in this sector.

Furthermore, there is the exchange of information as well as the collaboration on best practices that facilitate the participation of all stakeholders in existing and planned arrangements on the development of the Internet in the Country.

The NIGF meetings which are held annually in a multi-stakeholder format serves as preparatory forum where all the stakeholders convene and discuss pertinent Internet Governance policies and development issues.

These efforts serves to achieve a harmonization of the Nigerian position in the Regional and Global Internet Governance Forum, which this year, will be taking place at João Pessoa, Brazil, from November 10th -13th, 2015.

It is our, sincere, hope that at the end of the discussions and deliberations, we would have a clear position on what actions we need to take and how it should be done to achieve our overall objective of harnessing the potentials of

Internet governance multi-stakeholder process towards enabling sustainable development goals in the country.

I welcome you once again and wish you a fruitful deliberation.

Thank you.