

KEYNOTE SPEECH FOR HONORABLE NAPE MOSES NNAUYE, THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DURING CONNECTED AFRICA SUMMIT, 2024 AT THE MINISTERIAL PAVILION, UHURU GARDENS, NAIROBI, KENYA, 22 APRIL, 2024

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed colleagues, and distinguished guests,

Good afternoon. I am truly honored to be here among leaders and visionaries driving Africa's digital transformation forward.

Today, we gather with a common vision: to harness digital technology for our continent's sustainable development.

As we continue the discussions from the AU High-Level Panel, we aim to align our efforts towards proactive engagement with the Global Digital Compact and AI, leading up to the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly.

Hon. Eliud Owalo's insights on the Global Digital Compact from an African perspective set the stage for today's discussions. Now, let's focus on digital infrastructure, the backbone of modern development.

Innovation must be balanced with governance.

Today, We are going to explore how to navigate this landscape effectively and adopt a joint declaration, reaffirming Africa's commitment to the Global Digital Compact and AI governance.

We will also develop an action plan outlining steps for policy enhancement, capacity building, and international collaboration.

This ensures our commitments, translate into concrete actions, benefiting our nations thus the continent.

As we conclude today, let's reflect on the insights shared and paths forged.

I believe Dr. Shikoh Gitau will summarize in the closing remarks, echoing our commitment to a digitally empowered Africa.

I thank each of you for your dedication. Our work today is crucial. Let's lead and shape the digital era, pushing boundaries and innovating for Africa's prosperous digital future.

I am here to re affirm the commitment of my country, Tanzania, in this noble course!

History has a role to play in mankind development and that is teaching lessons from the experience.

African history tells it all. Coming from several struggles of having one voice and one standard on approaching different challenges and issues in the continent, it's time to prove that it's possible, to harmonize our policies, harmonize our approaches towards digital transformation of the continent.

I wish that, when someone looks at Africa on issues of ICT/Digital transformation should not look at us as individual countries rather as continent. Together we can, if every one of us play his part.

Thank you all for your contributions and the vibrant discussions ahead. Together, we shape Africa's digital landscape and pave the way for a prosperous digital future.

Thank you.