



REPORT

Of the

4th MEETING OF THE
**NATIONAL
COUNCIL ON
COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY**

Theme: *ICT as a Focal Point for Economic Diversification'*

**AREWA HOUSE ,KADUNA
25TH – 26TH OCTOBER, 2016**

**THE 4TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (NCCT-04) HELD AT AREWA HOUSE
KADUNA FROM MONDAY 24TH TO SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER, 2016**

COMMUNIQUE

1.0 Preamble

1.1 The 4th Meeting of the National Council on Communication Technology (NCCT-04) held at the Banquet Hall, Arewa House, Kaduna State from 25th–29th October, 2016. The meeting which had **“Information Communication Technology as The Focal Point of Economic Diversification”** as theme was declared open by the Executive Governor of Kaduna State, His Excellency, Mallam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai and was presided over by the Honourable Minister of Communications, Barrister Abdur-Raheem Adebayo Shittu who was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Arc. Sonny Echono,fnia.

1.2. In attendance were members of the National Assembly, Hon. Commissioners and representatives of States, Chief Executives of Agencies and Parastatals in-charge of ICT at State and Federal levels, NGOs, Members of the Organized Private Sector (OPS) and other Stakeholders.

1.3. Council received a total of 76 memoranda out of which 65 were considered. After extensive deliberations, the following 16-point Communiqué was adopted:-

- (i) Endorsed the Nigeria ICT Roadmap 2016-2019 as well as the National ICT Strategic Plan 2016-2024 for implementation;
- (ii) Recommended the adoption and implementation of the e-Government Masterplan;
- (iii) Recommended that all tiers and agencies of government advance the effort of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and the Federal Ministry of Communications in carrying out sensitization and awareness campaigns against proliferation of Counterfeit ICT devices on the one hand and the unfounded belief that Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) emission from telecommunication infrastructure are harmful to health;
- (iv) Recommended that Stakeholders including State Governments purchase satellite bandwidth requirements from NIGCOMSAT Ltd. only;
- (v) Acknowledged the Postal Infrastructure as a vehicle for the attainment of sustainable development in Nigeria;
- (vi) Recommended the creation of States Computer Emergency Response Teams as measures to mitigate cyber security threats in the country;
- (vii) Recommended that State Governments should key in and replicate the Federal Government's model hosted by GBB for shared services as a means of leveraging the economies of scale and reducing the cost of Governance;
- (viii) Recommended the creation of innovation Hubs & ICT centres across the country to accelerate the diversification of the Nigerian economy;
- (ix) Encouraged members from the States to adopt the implementation of the Digital Jobs Initiative in their respective domains as a means of leveraging the opportunities for alternative income presented to Nigerian Youths across the country.

- (x) Encouraged Federal, States and Local Governments in the country to set up Digital centers as a means of promoting ICT Capacity building in the country;
- (xi) Recommended digital literacy as a minimum requirement for employment and promotion in the Public Service to be implemented in phases.
- (xii) Advised Governments at all levels to digitize their records and also adopt only Nigerian software in the process;
- (xiii) Recommended that all Federal and State Governments henceforth comply with the provision of the Guidelines for Nigerian content in ICT.
- (xiv) Encouraged States to establish their State Information Technology Development Agencies (SITDA);
- (xv) Recommended that government organizations should mainstream the use of NgPKI mechanisms in their ICT Infrastructure;
- (xvi) Recommended that the implementation of CCTV projects on security on highways should also be used for traffic management.

1.4. Council expressed appreciation to His Excellency, the Executive Governor and the good people of Kaduna State for hosting the 4th National Council meeting and for the excellent hospitality including the excellent facilities placed at the disposal of participants.

1.5. Council agreed that the 5th National Council on Communication Technology will be held in Cross River State at a later date to be decided.

**Issued this 29th day of October, 2016
Kaduna State.**

2.0 OPENING CEREMONY

2.1. The opening ceremony was chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Communications (FMOC) Arc. Sonny S.T Echono, fnia . The event had in attendance, members of the National Assembly, States Honourable Commissioners and Permanent Secretaries, Special Advisers, Directors-General, Directors of the Ministry of Communications and its agencies, and officials of ICT, Science and Technology Ministries and other related areas from –states of the Federation. Also present were Directors and representatives of Federal Ministries and Departments including Heads of parastatals and ICT Directorates, Private sector/industry representatives and representatives of Professional associations were also present.

2.2. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Kaduna State Alh. Adamu Mohammed Mamsur welcomed participants to Kaduna State on the occasion of the 4th General Meeting of the National Council on Communication Technology (NCCT). He expressed his excitement to be identified with the conglomerates of ICT policy/decision makers gathered with the sole objective of deliberating and harmonizing a common vision to guide the development of the ICT sector with focal point on economic diversification in Nigeria. He noted that the choice of Kaduna State to host the 4th General Meeting is prescient and coming at the heels of the present Government agenda of change, focusing on fighting corruption using ICT in all tiers of Government. The Kaduna State Government has strategically designed and roll-out programmes for the transformation of the State into an ICT-base Public Service. Kaduna State Government has set up and recently launched a Reform programme in the State Civil Service that will be driven by ICT. He reported that Kaduna State Government had commenced the implementation of a number

of decisions taken during the 2nd and 3rd General Meeting of the National Council on Communication Technology (NCCT).

2.3 He further reported that since the inception of Governor Nasir El-Rufai's Administration, ICT has remained the focal point in Governance. It was being deployed to clean up the payroll system as well as enable the State Government detect and delete Ghost Workers. The underlining objective of this noble concept of Mr. Governor was to produce a genuine, reliable and comprehensive database of the State and Local Government workforce; thereby making provision for socio-economic development and improving welfare services affordable to the Citizens of Kaduna State.

2.4 He disclosed that Kaduna State under the leadership of His Excellency, Nasir El-Rufai, is blazing the trail by the deployment of KADGIS as ICT tools for Land administration solution. He further stated that the Smart Card solutions for revenue generation system is another aspect of ICT that the administration has deployed. He also said that the e-health system has also been in the services of Government Hospitals to ease the deployment of medication to the citizenry. According to him, these initiatives and others, too numerous to mention are the brain-child of Mr. Governor, through his passion for ICT and guidance.

2.5 He acknowledged that at the Federal level, Ministry of Communication Technology under the dynamic leadership of Barr. Abdul-Raheem Adebayo Shittu has been a catalyst for the development and deployment of e-governance system in the country, and providing access to ICT to the under-served, and sanity in the sector thereby creating and encouraging private sector participation and development.

2.6 In his remarks, the Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of communications expressed delight for being part of the 4th regular meeting of the National Council on Communication Technology taking place in the historic city of Kaduna, the Peace State. He noted that the Theme of this year's meeting 'ICT as a Focal Point for Economic Diversification' couldn't have been more appropriate than at this time in our nation's history when all hands are on deck to wean the economy off the single stream of revenue, as has been the case. He believed that with proper focus, policies and strategies, ICT can be a major revenue earner for government and a game changer in the country's goal of economic advancement.

2.7 He recalled that one of the pillars of President Muhamadu Buhari's Administration is Economic diversification and said there was a consensus of opinion that ICT has a very vital role to play in the diversification and economic growth of the country in view of its multi-layer contributions to various sectors of the National economy. He noted that Globalization and advancement in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have brought about phenomenal changes and opened opportunities for developing countries including Nigeria to meaningfully participate at the international level, in the global digital economy. He further explained that it has also added impetus to the movement towards knowledge based, as against resource based economic growth. As an enabler of innovation, productivity and growth in all sectors of socio-economic activities, ICT in Nigeria has contributed to employment and income generation particularly among the youth who constitute more than 60% of the nation's population. He said the National Council on Communication Technology is the highest consultative body for the Governments of the Federation on matters pertaining to ICT development with a view to achieving some degree of uniformity in policy and standards. It is also an avenue to strengthen the understanding and working relationship between officials in charge of ICT development at the Federal level and state Commissioners/officials at the state level. He hoped that at the end of the weeklong meeting, Council would have deliberated on proposals submitted to it and taken

decisions on policy issues that would help to move the country's economy forward using the instrumentality of ICT.

2.8 He recalled that meetings of the Council are to be held at least once a year or as the amount of business may dictate. When any subject is to be brought before the council for consideration, the initiating Government first addresses a memorandum to the Secretariat of the Council, setting out the proposals in detail. The Secretariat circulates the copies of the memorandum to other Governments, before the subject matter is due to come up for consideration of the meeting of officials of the Council. The Secretariat records the minutes and Conclusions of the Council on the subject matter. The Conclusions reached are then recommended to Member Governments for adoption. Any Conclusion touching on policy or of a fundamental character is referred to the Ministerial Meeting for further consideration and approval. The 4th regular meeting happens to be the fourth of such meetings held since inauguration of the Council in 2011.

2.9 He noted that the choice of Kaduna State for hosting the all-important meeting is in recognition of the States' impressive strides and record of using ICT to bring about transformation in the lives of the people through various ICT programmes. This is amply demonstrated through the e-payment policy for the state public servant's salaries and other ICT initiatives introduced by the Mal. Nasir El-rufai's administration.

2.10 He disclosed that the Council meeting is significant as it is coming at a time when concerted efforts are being made to place ICT as the focal point of economic diversification and evolving a workable synergy that will propel Nigeria's economy to attain the goals of the Change Agenda of the present Administration.

2.11 He further disclosed that a total of 66 memoranda were received from a cross section of members, expressing his joy at the interest shown in this year's Council meeting from various participants. He hoped that arising from the consideration of the memos and presentations received, the meeting would come up with very useful policy recommendations that will help to harness the opportunities and possibilities of ICT for wealth and income creation as well as cost reduction to realise Government expectation of ICT as a focal point for diversification of the economy.

2.12 He commended His Excellency, Mal. Nasir El-Rufai, the Executive Governor of Kaduna State and his officials for graciously accepting to host the 4th Council meeting and making available the beautiful venue and facilities. He said the state officials (the Local Organising Committee) have been very helpful and have made themselves available at all times to ensure that all the necessary logistics are provided to make the meeting possible and a huge success.

2.13 In his welcome address, the Kaduna State Commissioner for Education, Science&Technology, Professor Andre Nok, thanked the Federal Government for bringing the 4th regular meeting of the Council to the state. He disclosed that Executive Governor of the State, His Excellency, Mallam Nasir Ahmed El-Ruffai had a lot of faith in the use of ICTs for development. He highlighted a number of ICT-based programmes including Treasury Single Account (TSA) which the state had rolled out and had engendered additional revenue and required efficiencies in Government. He assured that the State Government was willing to continue collaboration with relevant ICT stakeholders towards accelerating socio-economic development in Kaduna State.

2.14 Goodwill messages were received from members of the National Assembly and Industry groups. In his message, Senate Committee on ICT Chairman, Senator Abdul Fatai

Buhari harped on the potentials of the ICT sector for rapid national development if properly harnessed. He expressed faith that with the right policy environment, Nigerians were capable of replicating the experiences of some other countries that have used ICT to develop. He urged that there should be proper follow-up of decisions arising from the Council meeting so as to ensure that the country reaped the benefits of the meeting. Senator Isah Gusau identified ICT as the most viable option for economic diversification and commended the Federal Ministry of Communications for its efforts in moving the sector forward. In his message a representative of the Association of Licensed Telecommunications Operators (ALTON) congratulated the Honourable Minister and Permanent Secretary for successes recorded in the sector in the short time they have been there. He noted that there was need to sustain efforts at addressing the issues of multiple taxation and security of ICT infrastructure if the ICT sector is to perform optimally. He hoped that the Communiqué arising from the meeting would be implemented to the letter.

2.15 The Honourable Minister In his Keynote Address thanked the Executive Governor of Kaduna and good people of the State for accepting to host the meeting. He noted that the choice of Kaduna State was in recognition of the Governor's leadership qualities as demonstrated by his commitment and determination to use ICT to bring about transformation to the lives of the people of the State through various programmes. He said the theme for the meeting ' **ICT AS A FOCAL POINT FOR ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION** ' was apt considering that the nation was striving to find alternative sources of revenue and investments in the face of thinning resources. He disclosed that ICT had become a fulcrum of the nation's economy traversing all aspects observing that the challenge is how to harness and leverage the opportunities thrown up by the new economy powered by ICT to address the issues of revenue, investments and cost savings. He expressed the belief that this was not an impossible feat citing the cases of countries like Singapore, India and Thailand which have leveraged ICT to make a difference in their economies.

He highlighted the achievements of his administration to include aggressive sensitization of Nigerians on the benefits and potentials of ICT , human capital development. ICT roadmap, identification of priority projects and development of a sector strategic plan, sustenance of ICT in government initiatives, positive increase in the number of active telecoms subscribers ,rise in teledensity, broadband penetration, Foreign Direct Investment , groundwork on modernization of NIPOST, and setting of proper policy and strategic environment for the development of ICT in the country..

On the future trajectory of the ICT sector, the Minister said Government will expand its investments in ICT infrastructure, make more investments in building the capacity and harnessing the talents of our youth and pursue implementation of the e-government Masterplan .

He maintained that the NCCT platform enables him to interact with the Hon. Commissioners in charge of ICT matters at the State level towards brainstorming on the optimal approach to ensure effective implementation of ICT policies across the country. he expected the meeting to provide an opportunity to share thoughts on how to deepen the process of change and progress enshrined in the present administration's agenda as it concerns the ICT sector. The meeting would also consider recommendations from the technical officials on ways and means to reposition ICT in all tiers of government in the Country towards playing the critical role of diversifying the Nation's economy through emerging ICT opportunities . He hoped that at the end of the day there would be significant policy outcomes to take home in this regard.

Concluding, the Honourable Minister urged all stakeholders in the Nigerian ICT enterprise to join hands for the realization of the potentials of the sector as a vehicle for economic diversification.

2.16 The meeting was declared open by the Honourable Commissioner of Education, Science and Technology, Kaduna State, Professor Andren Jonathan Nok.

3.0 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 3RD REGULAR MEETING**

3.1 The meeting noted the following actions with respect to decisions of Council at the 3rd regular meeting:

3.1.1 On development of ICT policies, six states namely Delta, Cross River, Plateau, Ogun, Adamawa and Kano had developed their ICT policies in collaboration with NITDA as agreed during the last meeting. All other states were encouraged to do so; considering the benefits.

3.1.2 Implementation of the Smart States initiative was on course with six states signing Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Communications. All other states who are yet to sign were enjoined to key into the initiative while those who have commenced the process of signing were encouraged to hasten the process.

3.1.3 The pilot implementation of National Addressing Policy in six Geo political zones yet to commence. However, approval has been secured for the National Addressing Council which would commence sitting soon.

3.1.4 Much progress had not been recorded in the establishment of post offices in the states and the provision of ICT facilities in them by states and Local Governments due to the transition in Government.

3.1.5 NIPOST and ANCO had not submitted a proposal to exempt Postal operators from the Ban on motor cycles in states since the existing regulations provided exceptions which favour the operators as long as they comply with the conditions.

3.1.6 Members were yet to produce ICT gender policies and to replicate the Digital Girls club concept in the states owned secondary schools due to lack of awareness.

3.1.7 The e-government Masterplan had been developed and a memorandum submitted to the Federal Executive Council which has set up a cabinet Committee to finalise some grey areas. States were enjoined to adopt e-Government in their domains.

3.1.8 No state present reported the adoption of the open Data Policy since the last meeting. However, His Excellency, the President had signed Nigeria into membership of the Open Government Partnership during the last anti-corruption summit in London which would facilitate accelerated implementation of the Open Data Agenda going forward.

3.1.9 The disparate data base in the country were yet to be harmonised in a central data base which would provide opportunity for states to key into existing Federal government infrastructure.

3.1.10 Ministry of Communications is presently involved in monitoring of radio frequency users and type approval of equipment purchased by users. In the 2016 appropriation the Ministry made provision for installation of radio monitoring equipment at the international monitoring stations and the process of procurement has reached advance stage. State governments were encouraged to support the project by carrying out sensitisation

3.1.11 There was low awareness among the states regarding the Local Content Guidelines. NITDA was encouraged to do more in terms of awareness and sensitisation.

3.1.12 Although, there are many community based digital centres being implemented by the Agencies under the Ministry of Communication such as the IDEA centre in Lagos and the collaborative project with Cross River state located Tinapa, Calabar, there is inadequate awareness about their existence and value. With respect to the Digital Opportunities Centres, NITDA was discussing with some states with a view to creating necessary awareness. NITDA was encouraged to hasten action in this respect and to ensure that in locating the projects political considerations should be played down while using the model of PPPs to accelerate replication.

3.1.13 NIGCOMSAT was working on a new project roll out plan and was advised to deepen collaboration with NIPOST in order to achieve expectations regarding its role on financial inclusion.

3.1.14 Submissions had been made to the National Council on Establishment on the issue of creation of ICT cadre in the Scheme of Service. The Ministry was encouraged to expedite the process of approval.

3.1.15 The Cybercrime law has been approved and the Office of National Security Adviser has agreed to a joint programme of sensitisation with the Ministry of Communications.

3.1.16 Substantial compliance has been achieved at the Federal Level concerning the implementation of the states.gov.ng domain names. States yet to key in were encouraged to join while NIRA and NITDA should collaborate to ensure more sensitisation.

3.1.17 A Stakeholders workshop is being planned for major stakeholders in ICT data collection to be held before the next Council meeting. A Baseline study to consolidate ICT data has also been planned.

3.1.18 The Computer for all Nigerians programme (CANI) has been overtaken by events. NITDA however gives Type approvals for equipment supplied to schools by NCC. NITDA was encouraged to continue with its programme for local purchase of Made in Nigeria products and to pay attention to continue with its efforts at improving the Quality of locally produced computers.

3.1.19 The National Integrated Infrastructure Masterplan has been approved. Discussions are currently ongoing with the Ministry of Budget and National Planning which is responsible for coordinating activities regarding implementation of the National Integrated Masterplan. The Federal Government was seeking partnership with the states to allow investors deploy ICT infrastructure for improved penetration. A major issue of concern however was the issue of multiple taxation. The states were encouraged to assist the process of implementation by developing guidelines as it concerns them taking due cognisance of the need to streamline multiple taxation as exemplified by Kaduna state.

3.1.20 The main constraint to patronage of locally made computers and equipment was the issue of quality. NITDA is making concerted effort to improve standard of such goods through the instrumentality of monitoring and regulation. The Original Equipment manufacturers have formed an Association to share experiences and benefits of large scale procurement of materials which would impact on the quality of outputs. Federal and State Governments were encouraged to promote patronage of made in Nigeria ICT and patronise locally produced ICT equipment.

3.1.21 The Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) is driving the establishment of centralised purchasing system for procurement of ICT equipment and applications. A couple of years ago, BPP issued a circular on the subject. To make the system work, a number of steps need to be taken including the deployment of centrally pooled ICT personnel to MDAs which was already being worked on through the proposed ICT cadre management system. The Federal government through the Federal Ministry of Communications has proposed under the 2017 budget to set an ICT equipment repairs centre that would be responsible for minor repairs. States were encouraged to replicate the model in their domains.

3.1.22 In deploying ICT resources and innovation centres around the country, NITDA in the past had paid attention to political considerations and those who paid visits to it. In the new dispensation it would deploy based on more objective criteria such as need and sustainability.

3.2 The review of the matters arising was followed by presentations and discussions of memoranda by participants/delegates.

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF MEMORANDA

4.1 MEMO NO. 2016/NCCT(4)01
MEMO TITLE: NIGERIA ICT SECTOR ROADMAP 2016-2019
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

4.1.1 The purpose of the memo was to seek Council endorsement of the Nigeria Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Roadmap 2016-2019.

4.1.2 Council was informed that the ICT Roadmap was borne out of the need to address some of the glaring challenges observed in the sector over the past decade. The explosive growth recorded in the ICT sector over the past decade underperforms when compared to some Asian countries and had also produced an unintended uneven growth in the sector. The memo further stated that the growth in the sector had not translated into significant improvement in the well-being of the average Nigerian citizen.

4.1.3 The Roadmap aims at increasing the contribution of the ICT sector to the GDP from 9.8% to 20% in 2019 and wealth creation, job creation and increasing the capacity of Nigerians to participate in the ICT economy.

4.1.4 The Roadmap is a Federal Government document targeted at development of the Nigerian ICT Sector and commended same and also emphasized the need for each State of the Federation to have similar document to guide the integrated implementation of ICT programme and initiatives.

4.1.5 Council was invited to:

- i. Note** that the ICT Sector has the potential to be the arrowhead for weaning Nigeria off oil & gas and consequently, diversifying the economy;
- ii. Note** that for Nigeria to become a knowledge society and benefit from the opportunities in ICT sector, there must be an integrated approach to ICT development.
- iii. Note** that Nigeria ICT Roadmap 2016-2019 provides an integrated, multi-stakeholder framework that will be used to direct activities of the ICT sector for the period 2016 to 2019;

- iv. **Note** that there are 51 interlinked initiatives in the Roadmap to be implemented within the next 3 years (2016-2019) aimed at increasing wealth, job creation and improving Government revenue generation from the ICT sector;
- v. **Endorse** the Nigeria ICT Roadmap 2016-2019 for implementation
- vi. **Recommend** that States also develop ICT Roadmaps to ensure integrated framework for ICT sector in all the States.

4.1.6 DECISION

Council endorsed the Nigeria ICT Roadmap 2016-2019

4.2 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)02
MEMO TITLE: PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNANCE THROUGH OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA INITIATIVES
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

4.2.1 Memo was not discussed

4.3 MEMO NO. 2016/NCCT (4)03
MEMO TITLE: NATIONAL ICT STRATEGIC PLAN
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

4.3.1 The purpose of the memorandum was to seek Council endorsement of the Draft National ICT Strategic Plan for further consultation and further processing. The Memo recognised the strategic role of ICTs as a tool for facilitating economic growth and identified various challenges constraining medium, short and long term development of ICT in Nigeria as including Infrastructure deficits, skills & capacity issues, lack of synergy between Industry and Research, and low participation of Nigerians. The above developments necessitated the development of the draft National ICT Strategic Plan tagged ' **The Smart Nigeria Plan**' covering the period 2016-2024 . The plan is a long term cohesive set of national measures geared towards addressing the opportunities, challenges and possibilities of ICT.

4.3.2 The memo also stated that the National ICT Strategic Plan (NICTSP) 2016-2024 would ensure that requisite technologies are accessible and affordable for all Nigerian citizens and residents while ensuring that ICTs are fully able to support our national strategic interests, national as well as regional development agendas and policies.

4.3.3 The memo identified a number of key strategies for actualizing a SMART Nigeria which include: Public Service Delivery through e-Government; Local Content Development; Accelerating the creation of ICT Jobs; ICT Infrastructure Diffusion and Penetration and PPP Funding and Revenue Generation. Others are increasing ICT Utilisation, reorienting ICT Education and Training as well as bridging the Digital Divide.

4.3.4 Council was invited to :

- i. **Note** that ICT has become a veritable tool for economic development and diversification
- ii. **Note** that there are challenges constraining the optimal development of ICT in Nigeria
- iii. **Note** that the Draft National ICT strategic plan has been developed to enable Nigeria overcome the challenges that are constraining optimum development of the ICT sector in the medium, short and long term
- iv. **Endorse** the draft National Strategic plan 2016-2024 for implementation

4.3.5 DECISION

Council endorsed the National ICT Strategic Plan 2016-2024 for implementation

4.4 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 04
MEMO TITLE: DEVELOPMENT OF e-GOVERNMENT CAPACITY BUILDING IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: E-GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

4.4.1 The purpose of the memorandum was to apprise Council on the need to have holistic approach to the adoption of e-Government across the Country and to encourage Council members to work towards ensuring that State Governments key-in into the Federal Government e-Government Project.

4.4.2 Council was informed that the Ministry of Communications had developed the e-Government Masterplan which is awaiting the approval of the Federal Executive Council. The memo highlighted six initiatives undertaken by the Ministry towards the implementation of the e-Government initiatives pending the approval of the Masterplan.

4.4.3 Council was further informed that the Ministry of Communications and its Agencies are the main drivers of e-Government at the Federal level and proposed the adoption of the initiative by other MDAs and states across the country. The meeting emphasized the need for information on capacity building to be further disseminated to ensure MDAs of State level become aware of these programmes.

4.4.4 Council was informed that the capacity building programme had not been completed as it is an ongoing process which would be implemented in batches and will involve all states. It also proposed the adoption and implementation of e-Government programme by all tiers of government and requested that all States should designate desk officers to provide opportunity for proper communication between the States and the Federal Ministry of Communications. The Session also emphasized the need for the Federal Ministry of Communications to provide the technical/requisite support to states on the adoption of e-Government and capacity building.

4.4.5 Council was invited to:

- i. **Note** the need to improve internal efficiency in government by facilitating e-government which would have the ripple effect to enhance transparency, effectiveness, productivity and citizen engagement in government;
- ii. **Note** the need to ensure judicious use of the available resources as well as save cost on governance which could be achieved by the adoption of e-Government platforms;
- iii. **Note** that e-Government and ICT possesses the potential for the attainment of inclusive and sustainable national development;
- iv. **Note** that vision 20:2020 target could be achieved by leveraging on ICT for National development;
- v. **Support** the drive for national enlightenment, education and orientation on the role of e-Government and ICT for National Development;
- vi. **Approve** the adoption and implementation of e-Government programme by all tiers of government.

4.4.6 DECISION

Council recommended the adoption and implementation of the e-government Masterplan

4.5 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 05
MEMO TITLE: ICT INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION – MITIGATING THE TAX BURDEN ON DEPLOYMENT OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE: THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS
AUTHOR: NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

4.5.1 The purpose of the note was to propose collaboration with all tiers and agencies of government to support the efforts of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and the Federal Ministry of Communications in promoting increased ICT Infrastructure Deployment and Expansion through an efficient Tax Regime.

4.5.2 The memo reiterated the key role of telecommunications infrastructure in global information society and in economic growth and poverty reduction, it pointed out that a deficiency in telecommunications infrastructure decreases production, transaction and raises living costs. It however stated that Governments at various levels see telecommunications as one of the healthy sectors that can be tapped in terms of tax resulting in multiple levies and taxation.

4.5.3 Council was informed that the bone of contention is the indiscriminate shutting down of BTS by States and Local Governments. The meeting further observed that multiple taxation hampers telecommunication deployment and expansion of networks. Members suggested that adequate conditions should be put in place before introducing laws prohibiting the shutting down of BTS sites.

4.5.4 Council was invited to:

- i. Note** that shutting down of BTS sites by Agencies of Federal, State and Local Governments has negative consequences on QoS and national security. Agencies should therefore refrain from shutting down BTS sites.
- ii. Note** the need to ensure that appropriate considerations are given to telecommunication taxes in the on-going review of the National Tax Policy (NTP to ensure the eradication of multiple taxes and levies.
- iii. Support** the expedited passage of the bill establishing telecommunication as a critical infrastructure.
- iv. Support** the collaboration with National and State Orientation Agencies on awareness creation on the negative impact of closing BTS sites and the illegality of such actions by Virtue of the provision of Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provision) Act CAP C29 laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004.
- v. Facilitate** the creation of a One-Stop-Shop for the collection of all legal taxes regarding telecommunication services.
- vi. Direct** that Agencies of Federal, State and Local Governments refrain from shutting down BTS site indiscriminately

4.5.5 DECISION

Council approved as recommended

4.6 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 06
MEMO TITLE: NIGCOMSAT – 1R STRATEGIC ROLE IN THE REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION AGENDA
AUTHOR: NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LTD (NIGCOMSAT)

4.6.1 The memo sought the support of Council to reposition NIGCOMSAT Ltd, using NIGCOMSAT-1R and Ground Infrastructure.

4.6.2 The memo argued that NIGCOMSAT-1R has the benefit of ubiquitous availability, security & privacy, terrestrial-free network, Reliability, Rapid Deployment & Installation. Flexibility & Expandability of Satellite network. It also outlined the various services provided by NIGCOMSAT Ltd and opportunities to conserve save foreign exchange, utilize ICT local content amongst others.

4.6.3 Council was informed that there was need for the repositioning of NIGCOMSAT Ltd. to showcase the profitability of communication Satellite services and Resources as a major enabler of revenue diversification agenda of the Government. 7.3

4.6.4 The Council is hereby invited to:

- i. Note the plan for acquisition of NigComSat-2 satellite via a Joint venture arrangement with equity participation;
- ii. Note the need for the establishment and implementation of a Policy of "Right of First Refusal" of services by NIGCOMSAT Ltd;
- iii. Recommend the purchase of satellite bandwidth requirements of State Governments from NIGCOMSAT Ltd as well as patronage of its ancillary services;

4.6.5 Discussions

Members raised concern on the low patronage and under-utilization of the services provided by the company and therefore reiterated the need for collaboration by critical stakeholders in the industry. The session also emphasized the need for State Governments to be encouraged henceforth to purchase their Satellite Bandwidth requirement and other ancillary services through NIGCOMSAT Ltd. and urged all MDA's and other Private companies who were yet to patronize NIGCOMSAT Services but prefer Foreign Companies to henceforth patronize NIGCOMSAT in line with Local Content Policy.

4.6.6 DECISION

Council recommended that stakeholders including state governments purchase satellite bandwidth requirements from NIGCOMSAT Ltd.

4.7 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 07
MEMO TITLE: POSTAL INFRASTRUCTURE AS A VEHICLE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)
AUTHOR: NIGERIAN POSTAL SERVICE (NIPOST)

4.7.1 The purpose of the memorandum was to encourage State Governments to recognize the importance of the extensive postal network at their disposal and seize the opportunity to utilize them for the development of their areas and the achievement of the United Nation's Sustainable Development goal of ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.

4.7.2 The important role post office plays among communities in urban, semi-urban and rural areas as an agent between them and government, businesses and individuals around the globe was emphasized. In this era of profound transformation due to the development of new

information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the booming of e-commerce, the Post presents a chance to be even more relevant to the society as the trusted intermediary and vehicle connecting governments, citizens, businesses and communities.

4.7.3 The memo maintained that remote areas can access vital government services through the extensive postal network in the country. Financial inclusion is another area where Posts are already making significant gains. The Posts facilitates global trade, especially among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), who often have difficulty to find markets for their goods. This is made possible by the Universal Postal Union's Easy Export trade facilitation programme.

4.7.4 In respect to the Stamp Duty, NIPOST is working on a review of the Stamp Duty Act with a view to resolve the problems arising from low level of acceptability and all related issues

4.7.8 Council was invited to:

- i. Note the vast network of postal outlets distributed across the country can be utilised to provide government services to citizens,
- ii. Note that the channel can be used to achieve the financial, digital and social inclusion for rural dwellers,
- iii. Note that the network can be used to distribute inputs to rural farmers and also facilitate selling and export of their produce,
- iv. Note that the National Addressing Policy approved at the last Council meeting has reached implementation stage
- v. Note that Government is losing revenue as a result of non compliance with affixing postage stamp on receipts as stipulated by the Stamp Duties Act;
- vi. Recommend that State Governments Partner with NIPOST to provide at least one Postal outlet in LGAs that do not have any;
- vii. Recommend that State Governments mobilise Local Governments under them to support the implementation of the National Addressing System;
- viii. Recommend that State Governments direct all agencies in their respective States to comply with the Stamp Duties Act;
- ix. Request that NIPOST should properly present their request to individual State Government so that could receive maximum cooperation.

4.7.9 DISCUSSIONS

Council noted that the target of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) is towards Poverty Reduction and Developing an all-inclusive Social Economic Development and the national spread of Post Offices can be leverage for financial, Digital Social inclusion purposes. The meeting observed that there is lack of awareness on the benefits of digital Post Offices and called on NIPOST to partner with State and Local Governments to bring about Social/Digital and Financial Inclusion. Members also agreed that Post Offices could be used to deliver essential Shared Services and that the National Addressing Policy approved by government defined roles for each Tier of Government.

4.7.10A member from Plateau State informed Council that the State has initiated the creation of ICT Hubs in 3 Senatorial Districts and is discussing with NIPOST on Shared Infrastructure and also informed of a pilot program involving Street Naming, but it has been waiting for NIPOST's response and has launched its own GIS Platform. The consensus among members was that all states are eager and interested in partnering with NIPOST on the project.

4.7.11 DECISION

Council acknowledged the postal infrastructure as a vehicle for the attainment of sustainable development in Nigeria

4.8 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 08:
MEMO TITLE: REDUCING THE COST OF GOVERNANCE THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARED SERVICES
AUTHOR: GALAXY BACKBONE LTD.

4.8.1 The purpose of the memo was to seek Council's support for the practice of sharing information and communications technology infrastructure and services in order to reduce the cost of governance and fast track the deployment of e-government programs.

4.8.2 The Memo identified a number of common ICT services and requirements which are common to government MDAs as including connectivity, Data Centre facilities, data hosting services, Servers, Software Tools, Productivity tools, Software licenses, Data Storage systems, Network Security appliances and communication devices amongst others and noted that a 65% saving could be achieved if these requirements are consolidated into a single shared services platform operated by a dedicated, accountable entity. The Memo emphasized that consolidation would also enable Government to focus and optimize investments in ICT through economies of scale and increased bargaining power of wholesale, rather than piecemeal procurements. It also detailed the reduction in cost of IT procurement by the Federal Government through the establishment of Galaxy Backbone.

4.8.3 Council was invited to:

- i) Note** that Shared ICT Services and Whole of Government approach is a global best practice which had been successfully implemented by many Governments world over;
- ii) Note** the need to promote the use of Shared Services through consolidation of budget planning and finance of ICT infrastructure and services to avoid duplication and wastage of resources which arises from implementation of projects in silos;
- iii) Note** the need to establish an independent and dedicated Service Provider Agency to replicate implementation the Shared ICT Services and Whole of Government approach as was being in all States;
- iv) Note** that the gains far outweigh the risks in the use of shared services and these risks can be ameliorated through institutional oversight on the dedicated Service Provider Agency by MDAs charged with finance and ICT policy and standardization
- v) Recommend** that State Government should key in and replicate the Federal Government model for shared services same.

4.8.4 DISCUSSIONS

Council noted the need for Galaxy Backbone to clearly indicate the type of shared services that are available as well as the need for the development of a framework under which State Governments can use ICT shared services by the state agencies using the Galaxy Backbone model as a case study.

4.8.5 DECISIONS

Council recommended that State Governments should key in and replicate the Federal Government's model hosted by GBB for shared services as a means of leveraging the economics of scale and reducing the cost of governance.

4.9 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4)09
MEMO TITLE: ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING MECHANISM FOR ICT FRAMEWORK THROUGH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) MODEL
AUTHOR: GALAXY BACKBONE LIMITED

4.9.1 The Memo sought Council's support for the establishment of a funding mechanism using public private partnerships (PPP) for the conceptualization, implementation and support of information and communication technology (ICT) programs of Government.

4.9.2 The Memo noted that current guidelines around the use of PPP in the execution of government projects in Nigeria focused on traditional infrastructure projects like road, rail construction etc and did not take into cognizance the peculiarities in the ICT sector. The memo also underscored the fact that many ICT projects are always self-sustaining with the potential to recoup investment over a period from revenue generated from such projects. It proposed integrating ICT infrastructure deployment into major infrastructure project as one option for financing such projects and also advocated for a PPP framework that would take cognizance of the peculiarities in the ICT sector and which enables private companies source funds and finance major ICT project with the expectation that such investment would be recouped over a period of time. The Memo noted that such framework would preclude such face-off that occurred between the National Assembly and the company that implemented the Single Account Project.

4.9.3 Council was invited to:

- i) Note** that the funding constraint faced by the Government in the discharge of its duties provides the opportunity to establish a PPP funding mechanism for ICT programs of Government;
- ii) Note** the need to classify data as new "infrastructure" in the ICT sector and therefore, seize every opportunity to secure allocation for this infrastructure and harness its potential for national development;
- iii) Note** the need to align ICT projects with traditional infrastructure projects to ensure that the funding mechanisms for the infrastructure are extended to the ICT project;
- iv) Note** the need to ensure that all ICT programs considered in the PPP funding framework must possess a sustainability component which will ensure they generate a steady flow of revenue for the stakeholders; government, private sector providers and service consumer(s) and
- v) Encourage** stakeholders to apply specific models to relevant ICT investment.

4.9.4 DISCUSSIONS

Council recognised the need for a program that trains MDAs on Public Private Partnership. It observed that the policy direction of Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission on the Federal level is mostly geared towards construction sector and reiterated the need to include ICT sector. The meeting also observed that the ease of doing business index cuts across the three tiers of Government and to encourage the Federal Ministry of Communications to liaise with the ICRC with a view to extending the Public Private Partnership guidelines to cover ICT projects. The meeting also noted the need to encourage states to engage with relevant bodies/agencies responsible for PPP at the state level to include ICT projects in the implementation of infrastructure projects. The meeting further noted the need to encourage the States to input ICT financial models (Grants e.t.c) into their existing guidelines. The session also noted the memo did not recommend specific models applicable to various types of investment in ICT

4.9.5 DECISIONS

Council noted

4.10 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 10
MEMO TITLE: ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (SITDA).
AUTHOR: NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

4.10.1 The memo sought to bring to the attention of Council and member states the need for State Governments to establish State Information Technology Development Agency (SITDA)

4.10.2 The memo noted that since ICT is now widely used for efficient service delivery for the overall wellbeing of the society, States would be more efficient and effective if they can establish an agency called State Information Technology Development Agency (SITDA) for rapid deployment, development and regulation of the IT sector for especially the operation of e-government services across the entire administration of State Governments. It also reiterated NITDA's commitment to collaborating with SITDA in ensuring that various organs of governments across the state will develop and formulate regulatory policy framework and guidelines for overall deployment and use of ICT goods and services within the state.

4.10.3 Council was therefore invited to:

- i. **Note** that effort is being made by NITDA to develop state ICT4D documents for various states in the country in line with their priority areas.
- ii. **Note** the need for all states to collaborate with NITDA in developing the ICT4D policy documents.
- iii. **Recommend** that all states should make both financial and human capital provision for sectoral implementation of the ICT4D documents.
- iv. **Recommend** that state shall establish SITDA through an act with all powers and responsibilities similar to that of NITDA at the federal level.

4.10.4 DISCUSSIONS

Members deliberated on the memo and agreed that in order to accelerate ICT development in the Federation, States should collaborate with NITDA to establish State Information Technology Development Agencies (SITDA's).

4.10.5 DECISIONS

Council encouraged States to establish their State Information Technology Development Agencies (SITDA).

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 11
MEMO TITLE: USE OF NIGERIAN PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (NGPKI) FOR BUILDING TRUST AND DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY
AUTHOR: NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

12.0 The memorandum sought to apprise Council on the need for use of PKI and cryptography to checkmate cybercrime and also to create trust in online transactions in Nigeria

12.1 The memo described ngPKI as a system that provides means of identification on networks and the internet for individual, private and govt. organs. It establishes and maintain a

trustworthy networking environment services that enable encryption digital signature capabilities across applications, in a manner that is transparent and easy to use. It is also the technology behind e-Commerce and other services that require proof of security and it complement the nations effort in fighting online crimes.

12.2 Council was informed of the need for security organisations to adopt ngPKI as a component of security infrastructure and to encourage the implementation of the National Root Certification Authority in order to establish confidence in online international transactions. The memo urged organizations to work towards the implementation of ngPKI mechanism and advised all government organizations to mainstream the use of ngPKI.

12.3 Council was therefore invited to:

- i. Note ngPKI and cryptography is a system that guaranty secured communication in the presence of third parties called adversaries;
- ii. Note that NITDA has deployed National Root Certification Authority (RCA). The project is at the final stage of completion. RCA is the primary component of the National PKI infrastructure. It has a primary site (operational center) in Abuja with a backup and disaster recovery site in Lagos. The RCA will be the trust anchor for the entire Certification Authority (CA)s in Nigeria with a self-signed certificate authority.
- iii. NITDA is in the process of bringing out standard and guideline for accreditation and certification of corporate entities in both private and public sector who will offer PKI series as CAs in Nigeria.
- iv. Approve that all government organizations should implement the global ISO27001 standards for its ICT infrastructure as soon as the policy documents is published by NITDA.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 12
MEMO TITLE: THE CREATION OF STATES CYBERSECURITY RESPONSE TEAMS (SCRT) AND ADVOCAY CAMPAIGN ON CYBER THREAT
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

13.0 The purpose of the Memorandum was to seek the approval of the National Council on Communication Technology (NCCT) for creation of States Cybersecurity Response Teams (SCRT) and to launch nationwide awareness campaigns on the present enormity of Cyber threat to the national economy and security.

13.1 The memo informed Council that many key stakeholders are yet to come up to speed in understanding and implementing the recently passed Cybercrime Act. It noted that the Ministry is collaborating with the Office of the National Security Adviser, Attorney General and Ministry of Justice for the enforcement of the Act.

13.2 Council was invited to:

- i. Note that Nigeria is losing about N89.55 billion annually to computer and Internet –related frauds and has lost N159 billion in 13 years due to cybercrime
- ii. Note the Ministry's effort at creating awareness on cyber threat through Seminars and Workshops;
- iii. That the Ministry is collaborating with the Office of the National Security

Adviser, Attorney General and Ministry of Justice for the enforcement of the Cybercrime Act 2015.

- iv. **Approve** the designation of cyber security point of contact in each State and Local Government that would liaise and enhance collaboration with the national institutions involved in cyber security
- v. **Encourage** sectoral regulators to develop specific cybersecurity strategies, capabilities and institutional mechanisms.
- vi. **Encourage** the establishment of SCRTs by the Ministry of Communications in collaboration with States and Local Governments for proper coordination in order to achieve a national secured Cyberspace; and
- vii. **Approve** the development and adoption of a robust National Cyber Security Strategy and roll out a national scale awareness campaign programme on Cyber Threat

DISCUSSIONS

Council considered the memo and noted that the Cybersecurity Act has been passed and that Ministry of Communications is collaborating with the Office of the National Security Adviser to ensure effective implementation.

DECISIONS

States were encouraged to key in by creating awareness in their domains.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 13
MEMO TITLE: ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD AND HEALTH, COUNTERFEIT ICT DEVICES SENSITIZATION AND AWARENESS, MYTH FROM REALITY
AUTHOR: NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

14.0 The memorandum proposed a collaboration with all tiers and agencies of government to advance the effort of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and the Federal Ministry of Communications Technology in carrying out sensitization and awareness campaigns in the public domain against proliferation of Counterfeit ICT devices on the one hand and the unfounded belief that Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) emission from telecommunication infrastructure are harmful to health.

14.1 The Memo noted that concerns have been raised in public domains concerning health hazard associated with exposure to Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) due to emission from installations. It highlighted the negative impact of counterfeit telecommunication devices on health, revenue losses, quality of service delivery and brand loss by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). The memo also informed the Council that the consensus reached so far by experts is that EMF emission for BTS sites is non-ionising and no causal relationship between adverse health effects like cancer, leukemia etc.

14.2 Council was invited to:

- i. **Note** the erroneous information in the public domain and the deliberate misinformation often amplified by the media on the linkage between EMF emission from telecommunication infrastructure and adverse health effects have raised great concern and have hampered the deployment of needed infrastructure in the industry.
- ii. **Note** that the consensus of opinion from experts which was based on scientific

research, is that the power of the EMF emission from telecommunication Base Stations is far less than the magnitude that could expose humans to any adverse health or biological effects.

- iii. **Note** the revenue losses to the Nigerian economy due to the influx of illegally imported phones are conservatively put at N20billion annually.
- iv. **Note** that the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) is considering a technology initiative that is geared towards combating the influx of counterfeit and substandard ICT devices in the country using a Device Management Solution (DMS).
- v. **Recommends** that all tiers of government adopt the strategy of enlightenment and sensitization of its citizens on the truth about EMF Exposure and health,
- vi. **Recommend** that adequate public sensitization should be carried out at all levels of government to convey the dangers inherent in patronizing counterfeit ICT devices.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO. 2016/NCCT (04) 14
MEMO TITLE: NATIONAL ICT PROGRAMME FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES (PLWD) IN THE SOCIETY.
AUTHOR: NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

15.0 The purpose of the memowas to underscore the importance of Information Technology (IT) for the physically challenged, and to seek council support from all tiers of government to leverage on the use of (IT) to address developmental concerns impacting on vulnerable yet critical groups in the society.

15.1 NITDA by the memo, intended to leverage the use of ICT on PWD by developing various ICT programmes for the physically challenge as a means of Integrating and empowering them into the mainstream of socio-economic activity of the society

15.2 Council was invited to;

- i. Note the efforts being made by NITDA in building ICT capacity skills among PLWD members of the society.
- ii. Request Ministry of Education to collaborate with NITDA in developing national framework for ICT education for PWD in our educational system.
- iii. Ministry of education and Federal Ministry of Communications to make financial provision for Infrastructure and human capital, provision for development in all the special education centers across the country.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4)15
MEMO TITLE: IMPLEMENTATION OF ISO27001 INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ISMS) FOR MDA TO MINIMISE IMPACT OF CYBER CRIME
AUTHOR: NATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NITDA)

16.0 The Memo sought approval for the implementation of Information Security Management System (ISMS) for Ministries, Departments and Agencies across all tiers of government.

16.1 The Memo highlighted the importance of securing and protecting the underlying ICT infrastructures of Intelligent System and Networks that are deployed to run critical services and sensitive processes in a number of sectors that are vital to our national economy such as Telecoms, Energy, Financial Services amongst others, in order to boost consumer confidence. It also informed Council that NITDA has established a National Computer Emergency Readiness and Response Mechanism with Early Warning System (EWS) and Alerts for all cyber related emergencies in the country.

16.2 Council was invited to:

- i. Note that NITDA has established a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERRT) with EWS facilities in 2014;
- ii. Note that NITDA-CERRT has extensively collaborated with network administrators from MDA as it relates to vulnerability assessment of ICT infrastructure within the MDAs;
- iii. Note that a policy guide document for complete cyber security of government systems would shortly be released to the public to ensure compliance to standard framework for information security; and
- iv. Approve that all government organizations should implement the global ISO27001 standards for its ICT infrastructure as soon as the policy documents is published by NITDA.

DISCUSSIONS

Council reviewed the memo and opined that issue of national security needs to be addressed at a higher level. The meeting urged States to NITDA of a designated point of contact. It was also noted that NITDA is willing to provide support to states for implementing the ISO27001 information security standard and was in the process of producing a policy guide document for complete cyber security of government systems.

DECISIONS

Approve that all government organizations should implement the global ISO27001 standards for its ICT infrastructure as soon as the policy documents is published by NITDA

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 16
MEMO TITLE: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIGITAL LITERACY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

17.0 The purpose of the information Memo was to inform Council about the establishment of Digital Literacy Council of Nigeria.

17.1 The memo highlighted the objectives of the digital literacy programme and the

importance of the initiative in supporting the drive towards Nigeria becoming a knowledge based economy.

17.2 Council was invited to:

- (i) **Note** that digital literacy is a major requirement for any individual to be competitive and be best prepared for today's business world of advanced technology;
- (ii) **Note** that most jobs today require some form of computer literacy and therefore the need to prepare Nigerians for the job world;
- (iii) **Note** that **the establishment of Digital Literacy Council of Nigeria for the development of National Policy on Digital Literacy for the** promotion and implementation of appropriate digital literacy guidelines and standards in Nigeria

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 17
MEMO TITLE: DIGITAL JOBS AFRICA WORKSHOP
AUTHOR: HON. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

18.0 The Purpose of the information memo was to apprise Council on the conclusion of the Digital Jobs Africa Workshop programme and to appreciate members support in ensuring that the programme was a success.

18.1 The memo informed Council that the Digital jobs Africa Project was targeted at enlightening youths on digital jobs opportunities available online and empowering them with skills that would enable them take these opportunities thus earning new or supplementing their current income. The Memo also noted that workshops, sponsored by the Rockefeller foundation were held in 31 states of the Federation, with the exception of three North East states affected by insurgency, while few other states did not indicate interest in the programme.

18.2 The memo also further informed Council that following the conclusion of the programme, **a stakeholders' conference was held to** identify the key successes achieved in the implementation process, the challenges faced and how to resolve them in the future. It also noted that many of the beneficiaries of the project have become engaged and have started earning income from the platform.

18.3 Council was invited to:

- i. **Note** the conclusion of the Digital Jobs Africa Project;
- ii. **Approve** that members adopt the implementation of this initiative in their respective states because of the opportunities for alternative income presented to Nigerian youths across the country.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 18
MEMO TITLE: ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: A SECURED ICT PLATFORM FOR E-GOVERNMENT
AUTHOR: HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION

19.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of the Sponsors

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 19
MEMO TITLE: SERVICE WIDE RECORD AND ENTERPRISE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY
AUTHOR: HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION

20.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of the Sponsors

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 20
MEMO TITLE: INFOME PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION APPLICATION SOFTWARE: REQUEST FOR ADOPTION AS A MODEL IN FEDERAL MDAs
AUTHOR: MINISTRY OF SPECIAL DUTIES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

21.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of the Sponsors

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 21
MEMO TITLE: ADOPTION OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL CONTENT FOR THE INTERNET: ESTABLISHMENT OF A VIRTUAL MARKET FOR NIGERIAN ARTS CULTURE AND OTHER TOURISM PRODUCTS
AUTHOR: NATIONAL GALLERY OF ARTS (NGA)

22.0 The purpose of the memorandum was to seek the support of Council for the adoption of a national strategy for the development of local content for the Internet, and the establishment of a virtual market for the arts, culture and other tourism products, by leveraging ICT to establish a virtual market.

22.1 The memo identified availability of some useful and marketable content each country controls on the internet as the major determinant of patronage. A virtual market is a more viable option for the marketing and promotion of our arts, cultural and tourism products, as our cultural edifices such as Galleries, Museums and our heritage site have not been developed.

22.2 A national Strategy will provide a holistic approach to local content development for the internet and also recognize our cultural and linguistic diversities such that our uneducated can also do business on the internet, so that Nigeria artworks and antiquities can command the attention of local and international arts collectors and buyers.

22.3 Council was invited to note ;

- i. that there is no existing national strategy for the development of local content for the internet, for the arts, culture and tourism sector;
- ii. that the arts, culture and tourism sector need massive ICT support to be able to play its crucial roles in tandem with the administration's diversification to non-oil export to boost national income;

- iii. that the need for the establishment of a virtual market where arts, culture and other tourism products can be promoted and marketed to provide national income and wealth creation such as china and its successful e-commerce initiatives;
- iv. that the cultural edifices are not in a position to physically host events and also market their products using traditional methods, and that the virtual market is a major viable option;
- v. that the need to get on board relevant stakeholders, and to promote inter-agency cooperation as a basis for the success of the proposed project;
- vi. that capacity building is key to successful implementation
- vii. Approve the adoption of a national strategy for the development of local content for the Internet and the
- viii. establishment of a virtual market for the promotion and marketing of Nigerian arts, culture and other tourism products

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 22

MEMO TITLE: THE USE OF GIS IN PRODUCTION OF SUBGRADE SOIL MAPS FOR ECONOMIC PAVEMENT DESIGN

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NIGERIAN BUILDING AND ROAD RESEARCH INSTITUTE

23.0 The memorandum drew Councils attention to the need to generate and document technical data on the engineering properties of subgrade soil in Nigeria, produce a digitized subgrade soil map of the study area and commercialize such as a useful tool in road development. It also informed Council that the digitized engineering subgrade soil maps produced could thereafter be made available at a cost to construction industries contractors, consultants, highway engineers, regional and urban planners, etc.

23.1 The memo informed Council that the use of GIS in production of subgrade soil maps would reduce the cost of construction in future development plans because it would have precluded the need for conducting preliminary studies for every road project and thus achieving a great deal of economy in the design and construction of highways. It also stated that the production of the maps would enhance the utilization of the engineering soil data for road planning and design thus improving the conditions of the roads, provide comprehensive reference data on the characteristics of landforms, engineering soil properties and construction materials and store such data in a national database and also generate data/information on the extent of damage of specific sites and establish potential soil erosion areas. The memo affirm that these maps would be valuable tools for soil conservation plans and also useful as key planning tools for road construction in the study area.

23.2 The memo also identified the States of the Federation where subsurface in-situ Subgrade soil investigations were conducted for the Subgrade soils maps developed

23.3 Council was invited to :

- i. **Note** that subgrade soil maps are invaluable tools for preliminary designs of roads and because they provide good guide in road planning thus reducing the

- drudgery and costs of preliminary fieldwork.
- ii. **Note** the economic benefits of using ICT to enhance the safety of buildings and roads in Nigeria and the need for the Federal Government should provide adequate funding in its annual budget for procurement of the state-of-art ICT (GIS) facilities
 - iii. **Note** the need for government at all levels to embark on mass public awareness on the economic and societal benefits of using GIS maps in the process of designing and constructing buildings and roads
 - iv. **Note** the need to mandate relevant agencies and construction companies to use GIS maps in the design and construction of buildings and roads; and
 - v. **Recommend** to the Federal Government the expansion of NBRRI's Mandate to cover commercialization of its R & D products because of its revenue generation potential

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 23
MEMO TITLE: REFOCUSING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC GROWTH
AUTHOR: NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

24.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4) 24
MEMO TITLE: EQUITABLE SPREAD OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AS A PLATFORM
AUTHOR: FEDERAL CHARACTER COMMISSION

25.0 Memo stepped down due to the absence of the Sponsors

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)25
MEMO TITLE: PUBLIC RELATIONS, ICT AND THE GLOBAL VILLAGE
AUTHOR: PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS.

26.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 26
MEMO TITLE: THE AUTOMATION OF SEC PROCESSES AS A TOOL FOR IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY IN THE CAPITAL MARKET
AUTHOR: THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC)

27.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 27
MEMO TITLE: DEPLOYMENT OF COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION PROCESSES OF NAQS
AUTHOR: NIGERIA AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE SERVICE.

28.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 28
MEMO TITLE: NATIONAL POPULATION DATABASE SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE
AUTHOR: NATIONAL POPULATION COMMISSION

29.0 The memo provided a detailed description of the **Commission's Roadmap** for the delivery of accurate, credible and acceptable census.

29.1 The Memo noted that the National Population Commission has been repositioned to be a professional and responsive public institution and with the mandate for population data management. The Roadmap recognised the existence of uncoordinated population data management and prescribed a transition process from the Commission's coordination to consolidation of population data. The memo further noted that the ROADMAP articulated the Strategic Architecture, Plans and Budget for the accomplishment of this mandate and urged

29.2 Council was invited to:

- i. **Note** that in consideration of existing laws, only National Population Commission could produce accurate, reliable and sustainable national cartographic, demographic and biometric census, vital registration including migration data and that any other citizen identity information in whatever configuration is only value added service to the NPopC POPULATION DATA and does not require a parallel organizational structure as that will be wasteful to our national resources.
- ii. **Note** that the centralisation of National Demographic data in NPopC and socio-economic data in National Bureau of Statistics will encourage specialization in data production leveraging on each agency's core competence. The combined outcomes of this specialization will be used by National Planning Commission in formulating a robust evidence based planning for national development;
- iii. **Endorse** the recommendation that all wasteful expenditure on projects whose outcomes will be reversed by NPopC professional population data management after the next census should cease in over ridding national interest.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 29
MEMO TITLE: ENHANCING ICT AS A TOOL IN REGULATING, ENFORCING AND COORDINATING ROAD TRAFFIC AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AS PART OF NATIONAL SECURITY.
AUTHOR: FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS (FRSC)

30.0 The memorandum sought to provide FRSC input into positioning ICT as the focal point

of the nation's economy in alignment with the efforts of the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology. The memo informed Council that most of the Agencies in the country especially concerning identity such as that of FRSC have no integrated database with the National Identity Management Commission. Due to the ever increasing need to boost the nation's revenue base therefore there is need for the Corps to further engage the Council to fast track the integration of the enhance more National Driver License (NDL) and Vehicle Number Plate as well as enhance security of the highways and other e-government services.

30.1 Council was invited to note the following:

- iv. The Corps is yet to be integrated into the database of other MDA's (NIMC).
- v. FRSC was not considered in the implementation of the Closed Circuit television project which involved surveillance of some highways.

4. Council was also invited to grant the following prayers:

- i. Council should promote the implementation of the Nigeria ICT Sector Roadmap (2016-2019) to tap the gains of economic diversification.
- ii. Council should facilitate the approval of the e-government roadmap in order to boost the revenue base of the country.
- iii. The implementation of CCTV project should also be used to track traffic offences and strengthen litigations associated with road traffic offences

DECISIONS

Members observed that it is not the mandate of the agency to provide ICT solutions but should collaborate with relevant MDA's to achieve their prayers. It was also agreed that the title of the memo should be adjusted

DECISIONS

Memo was adopted after adjustment

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 30
MEMO TITLE: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)
AUTHOR: NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (NESREA)

31.1 The memorandum sought to bring to the attention of the Council , the progress made by NESREA towards actualizing the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programme in Nigeria and the need for awareness creation, stakeholders' engagement, corporate responsibility and collaborative efforts from all relevant sector players.

31.2 Council was informed that the primary purpose of the EPR is to evolve a process whereby the manufacturer of a product imbibes the cleaner production principles of conserving raw materials and energy by taking responsibility for the entire life cycle of the product and ensuring that the wastes from that product are minimized and reused. Council was further informed that the ICT sector is a generator and contributor to Electrical-Electronic waste Sector particularly in view of the transition to digital broadcasting.

The memo also indicated the following:

1. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a programme whereby the manufacturer of a product imbibes the cleaner production principles of conserving raw materials and energy by taking responsibility for the entire life cycle of the product and ensuring that the wastes from that product are minimized and reused in one form or the other.
2. The transition from Analogue to Digital will generate a lot of E-waste which requires measures to be put in place to manage the E-Waste;

3. The full implementation of the EPR Program is to commence from 1st Quarter of 2017;
4. National Council to encourage all telecommunication sector stakeholder to key into the EPR programme;
5. Operational Guidelines for the EPR programme has been developed and available in Hard Copies for the Stakeholders. NESREA is to develop EPR e-Portal and publish the operational guidelines and other essential information on the Portal;
6. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) should be facilitated to commence the e-waste management for the anticipated from analog to digital transition.

Council was invited to note: :

- i. the importance and benefits of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programme;
- ii. the effort of Government in the implementation process of the EPR programme in Nigeria;
- iii. that NESREA has developed and published the Operational Guidelines for the EPR programme in Nigeria;
- iv. the need for the Business and Industry to quicken action in operationalizing the EPR Programme in the country;
- v. the need for support from the National Council on Communication Technology towards the implementation of the EPR in the EE sector; and
- vi. the need for FMCT to facilitate ICT as a key tool in the change agenda for Nigeria for the seamless implementation of the EPR Electronic-Platform Operational Framework, in the areas such as online access to information, payments, signatures and approvals, eliminating redundancies and bureaucratic bottlenecks. This system will increase transparency and accountability thereby enhancing economic growth. Council was also invited to approve that
 - i. Broad-based Participation of all stakeholders, including the three-tiers of Government, Communities, Industries and Businesses in the EPR Programme;
 - ii. NESREA and Ministry of Environment to carryout Intense Public awareness campaigns on the implementation of the EPR Program;
 - iii. Creation and Implementation of the EPR E-Platform.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4) 31
MEMO TITLE: PROMOTING LOCAL CONTENT POLICY FOR EFFECTIVE ICT INFRASTRUCTURE IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: NATIONAL AGENCY FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INFRASTRUCTURE (NASENI)

32.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(04) 32
MEMO TITLE: THE ROLE OF ICT IN JOB CREATION
AUTHOR: NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYMENT

33.0 The purpose of the memowas to examine how strategic policy direction and guidance will sustain economic development and job creation through the application of ICT.

33.1 The paper stated that ICT as a major tool, has been integrated into the operation and management of every economy and has sparked up a spectrum of job creation opportunities owing to its potential to drive other sectors.

33.2 Furthermore, NDE noted that, it has been acknowledged that ICTs are influencing employment both as an industry that creates jobs and as a tool that empowers workers to access new forms of work in new and flexible ways. It is estimated that the ICT sector currently employs over six million Nigerians directly and indirectly. This has a great contribution to the country's GDP and more than the number employed in the banking sector that is less than 100, 000.

33.3 The paper proposed some policy direction for the sustenance of ICT in job creation which included:

- i. Provide equitable access to ICTs training and education in all parts of the Country.
- ii. Promotion of public private partnership, PPP
- iii. Promotion of e-learning and associated materials
- iv. Make the acquisition of applicable ICT equipment affordable
- v. Promote training in software development that is local-content driven
- vi. Promote ICT institutionalization and coordination between the Federal, State and Local Government
- vii. Institutionalization of e-government at the three system of government in Nigeria

33.4 In the light of the foregoing, Council was invited to:

- i. Consider the implementation WSIS action plan in policy formation
- ii. Promote a policy that will create a synergy amongst three system of government in Nigeria.
- iii. Promote local- content software development policy.
- iv. Promotion of local languages in ICTs development to enable its utilisation, adoption and demystification by locals.
- v. A create rally point and focus that will develop national ICT vision and mission.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 33
MEMO TITLE: MAINSTREAMING CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION PROCESS
AUTHOR: CENTRE FOR BLACK AND AFRICAN ARTS AND CIVILIZATION

34.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016 NCCT(4) 34
MEMO TITLE: STRATEGIES FOR REPOSITIONING ICT FOR NIGERIA'S ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION
AUTHOR: INFORMATION MEMORANDUM BY SENATE COMMITTEE ON ICT AND CYBERCRIME

35.0 The memorandum proposed seven strategies that Government could adopt to leverage on ICT as an alternative revenue earner. The strategies include provision of massive and suitable infrastructure, establishment of an ICT free trade zone and industrial park, provision of grants/soft loans for local small scale investors, Provision of measures for effective ICT education, provision of right policy frameworks, provision of a safe cyber environment and effective institutions-industry collaboration and partnerships are some strategies identified by Senate Committee on Cybercrime

35.1 The memo emphasised the need to improve ICT penetration through extension of mobile telephony and broadband services to the nooks and crannies of Nigeria. This would positively affect health services, financial services, trade, insurance, transport and automatically affect GDP, improve quality of life, reduce dependency on foreign exchange and improve the value of the Naira.

35.2 Establishment of a trade zone with tax and import duties exemptions for strictly ICT business would make a great incentive for massive investment in the sector. Most Nigerian school leavers roaming the streets seeking employment that is hardly available have the desire and requisite skills to start up business ventures, but availability of start-up capital is a mirage. Grants and/or soft loans should therefore be made available to such willing local investors.

35.3 Concerted efforts should be made to provide the right man power to stimulate massive investment in the ICT sector. Deliberate policies and laws should be provided to compel compliance with regulations or legislations, such as the local content Act. The ability of a country to effectively secure its cyber space enhances ICT growth and economic development. Synergy between institutions of learning and the industry should be promoted

35.4 The memo recommended the following:

Re-enactment of holistic cyber security policy and strategy;

Promote collaborations among security agencies

Promote synergy amongst stakeholders

Builds institutional capacity and develop human capacity;

Increase cyber security awareness and education

Promote effective partnership between government and private sector

Strengthen ngCERT (Nigeria Computer Emergency Response Team) with adequate resources and encourage private sector to establish their own CERTs;

Collapse all the numerous gateways into a single and efficient gateway;

Develop an effective legislative and legal framework to combat the crime.

DECISIONS

Council noted.

MEMO NO: 2016NCCT(4) 35

MEMO TITLE: ISSUES RELEVANT TO MAKING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY THE FOCAL POINT OF NIGERIA'S ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

AUTHOR: NIGERIA SOCIAL INSURANCE TRUST FUND (NSITF)

36.0 The purpose of the Memo was to examine the challenges that should be addressed before Information and Communications Technology (ICT) becomes the focal point of Nigeria's economic diversification.

36.1 The Memo advocated that interventions should concentrate more on individuals rather than simply on innovation. In this regard, it is imperative to create both the ICT vision and technique considering individuals. The memo further states that ICT development and deployment is most likely to yield success in human, social and economic development over the longer term.

DISCUSSIONS

Council noted .

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04)36
MEMO TITLE: COORDINATION OF AUTOMATION INITIATIVES IN NIGERIA PORTS
AUTHOR: MEMORANDUM BY NIGERIAN SHIPPER'S COUNCIL

37.0 The Purpose of the memorandum was to draw the attention of Council to the proposed establishment of a Department of Government to coordinate automation initiatives in Nigerian sea ports.

37.1 The memo pointed out the need for synergy among Government agencies scheduled for operations in the Nigeria Ports in order to reduce wastage, duplication of services and to be more effective and efficiency in service delivery

Council ws invited to note that:

- i. automation of port processes is currently a top priority of the current Government administration;
- ii. agencies of government and stakeholders have begun to embrace automation of port processes;
- iii. however, there is currently no establishment or agency responsible for coordination of the various initiatives being implemented.

Approve:

- iv. that a department of government be established (or if already existing, be saddled with the responsibility) to coordinate ICT initiatives in the nation's ports and maritime domain.
- v. that the department be situated in appropriate Ministry or Agency duly considering existing mandates.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)37
MEMO TITLE: TITLE: NON-COMPLIANCE OF TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES IN PAYMENT OF STATUTORY LEVIES TO NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY
AUTHOR: NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY (NIWA)

38.0 The memorandum sought to draw the attention of the Council to the issue of non-compliance of Telecommunication companies in the payment of statutory levies due to National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) and hence, seek the Council's consideration towards redressing this anomaly.

38.1 Council was informed that the Authority in pursuit of its regulatory and land-lord functions is faced with difficulties and challenges in getting the Telecommunication companies such as Airtel Nigeria Limited and MTN Nigeria Limited and others to honour its Demand Notices as regards the payment of statutory levies for the usage of its declared Right-Of-Way for the passage of these company's Fibre Optic Cables, most and other equipment. In line with the enabling Act, Section 13 of NIWA Act of 2004, the Authority to charge statutory levies as regards the use of Right-of-Way, failing which the Authority may impose the necessary prescribed fines.

38.2 The memo also informed Council that most of the Telecommunication companies that have been operating on NIWA's Right-of-Way are owing its several Billions of Naira in arrears and as a result necessitating series of legal litigations for and against the Authority in an attempt to recover these debts on behalf of the Federal Government.

38.3 Council was invited to :

- i. Note the report by NIWA on non-compliance of the Telecommunication companies with the payment of statutory levies on Right of Way on inland waterways.
- ii. **Approve** that NIWA and NCC meet and come up with a joint memo on the subject for deliberation at the next Council Meeting

DECISIONS

Council noted and approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 38
MEMO TITLE: PROVISION OF DEDICATED BROADBAND TO SUPPORT NOSDRA'S WEB GIS AND OIL SPILL INCIDENCE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SMART ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT.
AUTHOR: NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY

39.0 The purpose of the memo was to request for technical assistance for dedicated broadband internet access from the Ministry of Communications as a key member on the governing board of the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) through the support of the National Council on Communications (NCCT). This assistance would enable NOSDRA operationalize the Agency's WebGIS and Spill Incidence Management Infrastructure to professionally and proactively address the menace of oil spills incidences in Nigeria using Information Communication Technologies (ICT)

DECISIONS

Council considered the memo and was of the view that the request is within the purview of the Federal Ministry of Communication. NOSDRA was therefore advised to forward request directly to the Ministry.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4) 39
MEMO TITLE: CREATION OF LOCAL CONTENT BY NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA
AUTHOR: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA

40.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 40
MEMO TITLE: THE NEED FOR COMPANIES USING PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSGOF) BEFORE CARRYING OUT ACQUISITION/ DISSEMINATION OF GEOSPATIAL DATA RELATING TO NIGERIA
AUTHOR: OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION

41.0 The memorandum sought to apprise Council on the need for companies using photogrammetric and remote sensing techniques to obtain permission from the Office of the

Surveyor General of the Federation (OSGOF) before carrying out acquisition/ dissemination of geospatial data relating to Nigeria.

41.1 Council was invited to:

- i. Note that Survey Coordination Act of 1962 and its amendments mandate persons responsible for carrying out surveying and mapping work to notify OSGOF in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- ii. Note that the survey activities of Google Nigeria and other companies using photogrammetric and remote sensing techniques are carried out without proper notification of OSGOF in accordance with the Survey Coordination Act of 1962 and its amendments and therefore illegal;
- iii. Note that OSGOF should verify the data source to ensure data integrity, specification and standard for Nigerian users;
- iv. Note that the procedure if fully complied with will generate revenue for Nigeria;
- v. **Approve** that companies using photogrammetry and remote sensing techniques should obtain permission from the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation before carrying out acquisition/ dissemination of geospatial data relating to Nigeria as spelt out in the Survey Coordination Act of 1962 and its amendments.

DECISIONS

Council noted and approved

4.41 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 41
MEMO TITLE: THE NEED FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSGOF) TO COORDINATE THE AS-BUILT AND AS-LAID SURVEYS OF SUBMARINE TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES
AUTHOR: OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION

4.41.1The memorandum sought to apprise Council on the need for the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation to coordinate the As-built and As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities, installed by telecommunication firms and other stakeholders in the maritime environment in order to provide responsive accessibility to information for guidance and maintenance of maritime facilities and ensure safety of navigation.

4.41.2Council was invited to:

- i. Note that the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation (OSuGOF) was established to perform the Constitutional roles of Cadastral surveys, Topographical surveys and Trigonometrical Surveys in their ramifications in air, land and sea
- ii. Note that the coordination of Survey Activities in Nigeria by OSuGOF, inclusive of As-built/ As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities, falls within the mandate of the Agency,
- iii. Note that access to marine geospatial data by government and other users will minimize damage to submarine telecommunication facilities, including fibre optic cables and its peripherals, and ensure marine safety particularly in areas of high maritime traffic.
- iv. Approve the Coordination of As-built/As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities by the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation in collaboration with the Nigerian Communications Commission.

4.41.3 **DISCUSSIONS**

Council deliberated on the memo and agreed that the request was the statutory mandate of the Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (OSuGF) and therefore urged the OSuGF to relate directly with the Ministry of Communications on the matter.

4.41.4 **DECISIONS**

OSGOF was advised to carry out its duties in collaboration with Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC).

4.42 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)42
MEMO TITLE: THE NEED FOR TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS TO COLLABORATE WITH THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSuGF) IN CARRYING OUT AS BUILT SURVEY OF SUB-SURFACE TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES FOR SAFETY AND PROPER DOCUMENTATION
AUTHOR: OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSuGF)

4.42.1 The memorandum sought the support of Council on the need for telecommunication regulators and service providers to collaborate with the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation (OSGOF) in carrying out As-Built Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities for the safety of the facilities, aviation safety and proper documentation.

4.42.2 Sub-surface utility alignments, its burial depths and sizes together with relevant geospatial and attribute data of surface facilities shall be captured in addition to topographic survey of the environment. All geospatial information so captured, relating to the surface and sub-surface utilities, shall be stored in the National Geospatial Data Repository approved by the Federal Government, managed and domiciled in the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation. This will help prevent possible damages to those utilities during construction, ensure aviation safety and also provide useful information to government and other stakeholders.

4.42.3 Council was invited to note:

- i. that the OSGOF is established to perform the Constitutional roles of Cadastral, Topographical and Trigonometrical Surveys in their full ramifications in the country.
- ii. that As-Built Survey of Sub-Surface utilities within 10m depth of project sites has been considered and approved at the National Council on Works held in Katsina, Katsina State from 26th to 30th September, 2016.
- iii. that Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation is the National Repository of all photogrammetry and remote sensing geospatial information as encapsulated in the Survey Coordination Act of 1962 and its subsequent amendments.
- iv. that the As-Built survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities in collaboration with the Telecommunication Regulators and Service Providers will help to prevent damages occasioned by construction companies and reduce waste of scarce resources already expended on such facilities.
- v. that the As-Built survey of surface telecommunication facilities is vital in the production of aeronautical charts, obstacle maps, flight height grid maps amongst others for aviation safety.
- vi. that As-Built Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities overlaid on topographic map sheets of the environment will ensure proper

documentation at seamless scale. This allows for quick recovery of such facilities for future expansion, development and informed decision making by the government and stakeholders.

Council was also invited to approve that Telecommunication Regulators and Service Providers collaborate with the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation in carrying out As-Built Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities and the geospatial data obtained be stored and managed at the National Data Repository hosted by Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation.

4.42.4 DECISIONS

Council approved

4.43 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 43
MEMO TITLE: ESTABLISHMENT OF DIGITAL LITERACY CENTERS AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF ICT PROFESSIONALS TO STRENGTHEN THE COMPUTER BASED TEST IN NIGERIA.
AUTHOR: JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD (JAMB)

4.43.1 The memo sought Council support to reach out to critical Stakeholders/Professionals in ICT to join the accreditation centre and examination monitoring team of the Board and to encourage them to establish and manage Computer Based Test. Council was informed that JAMB which is responsible for determining matriculation requirements and the placement of suitably qualified candidates to Tertiary Institutions has been fully and completely transitioned from Paper and Pencil Test to Computer Based Test.

4.43.2 Council was further informed that the literacy level of secondary students in ICT has improved as a result of the Board's introduction of Computer Based Test in the conduct of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME). The memo states that the Nigerian Communications Commission is building and equipping Virtual E-Learning centers for the Board.

4.43.3 Council was invited to note;

- (i) The successful transition of the Board's Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) from Paper and Pencil Test to Computer Based Test, thus becoming the first examination body in Africa to conduct a large-scale assessment using the Information and Communication Technology in Public Examination for over one million, five hundred thousand (1,500,000) candidates at one examination;
- (ii) that the Board is working out new guidelines on the establishment and accreditation of Computer Based Test centres to be in consonance with best practices;
- (iii) the Board's efforts on advocacy and sensitisation campaign on Computer Based Test and its desire to extend it to all Local Government Areas Headquarters throughout the country;
- (iv) the improvement in the literacy level of secondary students in Information and Communication Technology as a result of the Board's introduction of Computer Based Test in the conduct of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME);
- (v) the partnership between the Nigerian Communications Commission and the Board in the establishment of Virtual E-Learning centres to serve as Computer Based Test centre and serve as a panacea for the enhancement of Information and Communication Technology in Nigeria;
- (vi) the Board's requests to Information and Communication Technology

- professionals to be involved in the monitoring of the Board's examination in order to improve the delivery and administration of the examination;
- (vii) the Board's call on Information and Communication Technology professionals to get more involved and interested in the establishment and management of Computer Based Test centres in order to enhance the development and growth of Information and Communication Technology in Nigeria and take it to the level of excellence;
- (viii) the Board's passionate call on Government and major service providers particularly, Galaxy Backbone to provide free or subsidized internet and other Information and Communication Technology services to educational institutions and educational related bodies in order to make these services available and affordable for students.

4.43.4 **DISCUSSIONS**

Members raised the issue of limitation and ability of students on the use of the CBT due to lack of capacity. It was suggested that the agency should seek support from States and Investors for the building of the CBT centers and they should also create a concept for engaging these centers for other uses apart from examinations that come up only once in a year. This suggestion was made to attract investors and it was agreed therefore that the centers should be renamed as Digital literacy centers to reflect the suggestions made. Though the issue of limitation of students on the use of computers has been raised as a concern, the ministry should be forward looking and build on the momentum the CBT test is gaining despite the apathy people had to its introduction in the country. These centers should be tools to use for deepening of ICT use and capacity building and should have multiple uses apart from using them for only the conduct of exams.

4.43.5 **DECISIONS**

Council encouraged Federal, States and Local Governments in the Country to set up Digital Centres as a means of promoting ICT capacity building in the Country.

4.44 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 44
MEMO TITLE: TEACHER NETWORKING AND COOPERATIVE PRACTICE
AUTHOR: TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (TRCN)

4.44.1 The memo highlighted the need to create Teacher Networking and Cooperative Practice (TNCP) which is aimed at promoting easy and accessible way of disseminating relevant information by teachers among themselves without necessary meeting at a designated place or point.

4.44.2 TNCP interest on Teacher Networking is borne out of its belief that the world has become a global village and ICT has opened new channels of communication which are capable of taking teachers beyond the classroom confines, as electronic dialogue with colleagues inside and outside the school system, with parents, ICT suppliers and the wider community would promote teaching and learning and improve the standard of education to meet national and international standards.

4.44.3 The advantages of Teachers Networking according to TRCN are;

- ? To serve as a platform for cross breeding of ideas and best practices.
- ? To identify area of needs of teachers and provide avenue for dialogue and interaction
- ? To ensure that teachers are abreast of new innovation
- ? To motivate teachers to continuously seek for relevant information that will improve their pedagogical skills and competency.

4.44.4 To achieve its objective, TRCN has constituted a committee to analyse the status of the ICT infrastructure in the office and come up with modalities for implementation

4.44.5 Council was invited to

- i. Note TRCN is desirous of providing technological driven processes to promote the teaching and learning process through the teacher networking and cooperative practice.
- ii. NCCT should provide avenue for infrastructure linkages for the deployment of the teacher networking and cooperative practice in Nigeria.
- iii. NCCT to act as a medium for liaising with providers of necessary apparatus towards implementation of the strategy.

Council was also invited to approve that TRCN partner with NITDA in order to benefit from the apps NITDA has developed for Schools

4.44.6 DISCUSSIONS

Council agreed that the tools that promote teaching and learning are not well harmonized to reach the teachers and Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) is working towards using ICT as a leverage to bridge the gap by using Teacher Networking and Cooperative practice;

- ii. Majority of the teachers do not possess ICT skills and are reluctant to improve themselves;
- iii. TRCN has been organizing Capacity Building Programs for Teachers but has problems with the availability of relevant ICT tools and applications;
- iv. Deployed ICT facilities in Schools are not utilized due to lack of trained manpower.

4.44.7 DECISIONS

Council approved

4.45 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 45
MEMO TITLE: NATIONAL TEACHER ON – LINE REGISTRATION AND E – EXAMINATION FOR PQE
AUTHOR: TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (TRCN)

4.45.1 This memo apprised and sought the support of Council on activities of Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria in respect to the use of online registration and also to use ICT infrastructures to assess, admin, score and release the results of candidates for the Professional Qualifying Examination (PQE).

Council was invited to:

- i. Note that TRCN has developed the PQE benchmark modules in preparation for the restoration of PQE as benchmark for professional registration/ licensing of teachers.
- ii. Note that TRCN is set to deploy technology in sensitizing teachers and stakeholders about the PQE implementation.
- iii. Note that TRCN is soliciting the support of NCCT toward the implementation of on-line registration and examination by providing technical support and necessary logistics.
- iv. Urge members to support the deployment of ICT infrastructure for the implementation of the PQE.

4.45.2 DECISIONS

Council noted

4.46 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 46
MEMO TITLE: NEED FOR REVIEW OF ASPECTS OF THE CURRENT ICT POLICY TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION OF THE NIGERIAN ECONOMY.
AUTHOR: BEUREAU OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISE

4.46.1 The purpose of the memorandum was to apprise Council on the need for a review of the Nigeria Telecoms policy to further promote the growth and development of the sector and the Nigeria Economy.

4.46.2 Objective of reviewing the ICT Policy was

- i. Development of Broadband Capacity
- ii. Development of Fixed/Wireless Telephony
- iii. Mandatory listing on Nigeria Stock Exchange
- iv. Expansion of Broadband Access through NIPOST structure
- v. Promotion of better interconnectivity policies more favourable to small operators to enhance access, increase competition and deepen penetration

4.46.3 In the light of the above, Council was invited to :

- a) Note the need for review of the Nigeria Telecom Policy to further promote the growth and development of the sector;
- b) Note the need to encourage development of CDMA and Fixed (Wired) Broadband

4.46.4 DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

Council observed that use of fixed wireless for broadband penetration is archaic technology and very expensive. It was however argued that all ICT investment is capital intensive and the memo was noted on its merits.

4.47 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 47
MEMO TITLE: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AS THE FOCAL POINT OF NIGERIA'S ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION
AUTHOR: DIRECTOR GENERAL/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNOLOGY INCUBATION (NBTI)

4.47.1 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

4.48 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 48
MEMO TITLE: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AS A CATALYST FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NABDA)

4.48.1 The memorandum sought to establish the fact that, through excellent partnership between National Biotechnology Development Agency and the Ministry of Communication Technology, Nigeria would make a successful seamless entry into the global field of modern biotechnology to achieve Industrialization in agriculture, health and environmental protection.

4.48.2 The memo emphasized on Bioinformatics which is the creation of tools such as algorithms and databases that solve problems using computational techniques to the

management of biological information which is an interdisciplinary field of science, statistics, mathematics and engineering to interpret biological data.

4.48.3 Bioinformatics approaches are used to understand the function of genes, the regulation of cells, drug target selection, drug design, and disease. Without quantitative analysis of the massive amounts of biological data generated by various systems, biology and genomics data cannot be interpreted or exploited.

4.48.4 Council was invited to:

- i. Note that Bioinformatics is the creation of tools such as algorithms and databases that solve problems using computational techniques to the management of biological information. Computers are used to gather, store, analyze and integrate biological and genetic information which can then be applied to gene-based drug discovery.
- ii. Approve the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with clear objectives for a seamless partnership between the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology and the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) for the purposes of achieving further coordination of biotechnology research and knowledge in Nigerian products, health care delivery systems including the treatment of diabetes and use of many vaccines, and in mitigating climate change in our environment.
- iii. In the industrial sector, the process technologies include: classical methods of selection, recombinant DNA techniques, cell fusion, tissue culture, forensic DNA technology (DNA databank and fingerprinting), protein engineering and bioprocessing.
- iv. The combinations of these technologies are applied to the research and development of a large number of products such as insulin, interferon, vaccines, enzymes, proteins, ethanol and new plant varieties.
- v. NABDA's institutional arrangements with the six Zonal Centres of Excellence in the six top Universities located in the six geo-political zones and the twenty-six Bioresources Development Centres located across the length and breadth of Nigeria provide the platform for an industrial revolution in agriculture and food security, health care delivery services, environmental stability, and the proliferation of industrial goods and services.
- vi. NABDA has challenges with inconsistency of service providers; inadequate training on use of relevant ICT skills; Poor internet access hampers ability to deploy ICT; Need for application softwares; Acquisition and installation of super computers; and Lack of steady power supply.
- vii. Approve the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with clear objectives for a seamless partnership between the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology and the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) for the purposes of achieving further coordination of biotechnology research and knowledge in Nigeria.

4.48.5 **DISCUSSIONS**

Council agreed that National Biotechnology Development Agency should key into the NCC/NUC NgREN initiative which is creating a fibre optic network linking all universities, Teaching Hospitals and Research Institutes for better collaboration. The meeting proposed that the National Biotechnology Development Agency should engage NITDA that has the mandate to support research relating to the use of ICT.

4.48.6 **DECISIONS**

Council advised National Biotechnology Development Agency to key into the existing NCC/NUC NgREN initiative

4.49 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4) 49
MEMO TITLE: ROLE OF NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT IN BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ICT SECTOR
AUTHOR: NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT IN BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ICT SECTOR

4.49.1 The memo was stepped down due to absence of sponsor

4.50 MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 50
MEMO TITLE E-GOVERNMENT AND THE NEED FOR STATE ADOPTION FOR GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND SERVICE DELIVERY
AUTHOR: DELTA STATE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

4.50.1 The memorandum emphasised the need to have a holistic approach towards the adoption of e-Government across all states and to strengthen their effort towards the implementation of e-Government.

4.50.2 Council was informed that technological development has created an opportunity for the government to ensure that it is keeping pace with citizens' rising expectations on how they will engage with government and access public services and information online.

4.50.3 The memo argued that Government must show considerable level of e-readiness in its technological infrastructure, policies and procedure, human resource development and communication infrastructure.

4.50.4 State Ministries, Directorate and Department in charge of ICT should create and develop standardized templates for websites design for all their MDAs and also ensure the use of .gov.ng domain name string for their websites. They should also replicate and implement the government service portal (GSP) "single window portal" as present at Federal level (www.service.gov.ng).

4.50.5 Procurements and deployment of technologies in all states should be done under a centralised system. NITDA should come up with a strategic plan to strengthen its supports to states without ICT policy. Provision of services in an electronic form will derive efficiency, ensure accessibility and guarantee more transparency in government's dealings.

4.50.6 **Council was invited to note:**

- (i). that it is imperative for States to adopt e-Government platforms in ensuring both in keeping pace with citizens' rising expectations about how they want to engage with government and access public services and information online;
- (ii). that some of these resolutions have not been driven effectively and implemented in some States and the areas for development in need of a holistic approach towards effectively getting State's government ready for e-Government implementation;

And **approve:**

- (iv). that all State Ministries, Directorate and Department of ICT create and develop standardised templates for website design for all MDAs at their State levels and also ensure the use of .gov.ng domain name string for their websites;

- (v). that States through its Directorates, Ministries and Departments of ICT to replicate and implement the "Single Window Portal" present at Federal level(www.services.gov.ng), which is known as the Government Service Portal (GSP);
- (vi). that States Government should establish a centralized system mandated for the procurement and deployment of technologies to its ministries, departments and agencies and Directorates, Ministries and Departments of ICT in the States should be fully responsible for such procurement and deployment;
- (vii). that NITDA should come up with a strategic plan to strengthen its support to States who have no ICT Policy.

4.50.7 Discussions

4.50.8 DECISIONS

Council recommended that State Governments should key in and replicate the Federal Government's model hosted by GBB for shared services as a means of leveraging the economics of scale and reducing the cost of governance.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 41
MEMO TITLE: THE NEED FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSGOF) TO COORDINATE THE AS-BUILT AND AS-LAID SURVEYS OF SUBMARINE TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES
AUTHOR: OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION

42.0 The memorandum sought to apprise Council on the need for the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation to coordinate the As-built and As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities, installed by telecommunication firms and other stakeholders in the maritime environment in order to provide responsive accessibility to information for guidance and maintenance of maritime facilities and ensure safety of navigation

42.1 Council was invited to:

- v. Note that the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation (OSuGOF) was established to perform the Constitutional roles of Cadastral surveys, Topographical surveys and Trigonometrical Surveys in their ramifications in air, land and sea
- vi. Note that the coordination of Survey Activities in Nigeria by OSuGOF, inclusive of As-built/ As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities, falls within the mandate of the Agency,
- vii. Access to marine geospatial data by government and other users will minimize damage to submarine telecommunication facilities, including fibre optic cables and its peripherals, and ensure marine safety particularly in areas of high maritime traffic.
- viii. Approve the Coordination of As-built/As-laid surveys of submarine telecommunication facilities by the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation in collaboration with the Nigerian Communications Commission.

DISCUSSIONS

Council deliberated on the memo and agreed that the request was the statutory mandate of the Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (OSuGF) and therefore urged the OSuGF. It was observed that the prayer being proposed for consideration is the statutory responsibility of OSGOF.

DECISIONS

OSGOF was advised to carry out its duties in collaboration with Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC).

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)42
MEMO TITLE: THE NEED FOR TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS TO COLLABORATE WITH THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSuGF) IN CARRYING OUT AS BUILT SURVEY OF SUB-SURFACE TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES FOR SAFETY AND PROPER DOCUMENTATION
AUTHOR: OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (OSuGF)

43.0 The memorandum sought the support of Council on the need for telecommunication regulators and service providers to collaborate with the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation (OSGOF) in carrying out As-Built Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities for the safety of the facilities, aviation safety and proper documentation.

43.1 Sub-surface utility alignments, its burial depths and sizes together with relevant geospatial and attribute data of surface facilities shall be captured in addition to topographic survey of the environment. All geospatial information so captured, relating to the surface and sub-surface utilities, shall be stored in the National Geospatial Data Repository approved by the Federal Government, managed and domicile in the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation. This will help prevent possible damages to those utilities during construction, ensure aviation safety and also provide useful information to government and other stakeholders.

43.2 Council was invited to note:

- i. that the OSGOF is established to perform the Constitutional roles of Cadastral, Topographical and Trigonometrical Surveys in their full ramifications in the country.
- ii. that As-Built Survey of Sub-Surface utilities within 10m depth of project sites has been considered and approved at the National Council on Works held in Katsina, Katsina State from 26th to 30th September, 2016.
- iii. that Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation is the National Repository of all photogrammetry and remote sensing geospatial information as encapsulated in the Survey Coordination Act of 1962 and its subsequent amendments.
- iv. that the As-Built survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities in collaboration with the Telecommunication Regulators and Service Providers will help to prevent damages occasioned by construction companies and reduce waste of scarce resources already expended on such facilities.
- v. that the As-Built survey of surface telecommunication facilities is vital in the production of aeronautical charts, obstacle maps, flight height grid maps amongst others for aviation safety.
- vi. that As-Built Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities overlaid on topographic map sheets of the environment will ensure proper documentation at seamless scale. This allows for quick recovery of such facilities for future expansion, development and informed decision making by the government and stakeholders.

Council was also invited to approve that Telecommunication Regulators and Service Providers collaborate with the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation in carrying out As-Built

Survey of surface and sub-surface telecommunication facilities and the geospatial data obtained be stored and managed at the National Data Repository hosted by Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 43

MEMO TITLE: ESTABLISHMENT OF DIGITAL LITERACY CENTERS AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF ICT PROFESSIONALS TO STRENGTHEN THE COMPUTER BASED TEST IN NIGERIA.

AUTHOR: JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD (JAMB)

44.0 The memo sought Council support to reach out to critical stakeholders/Professionals in ICT to join the accreditation centre and examination monitoring team of the Board's and to encourage them to establish and manage of Computer Based Test. Council was informed that JAMB which is responsible for determining matriculation requirements and the placement of suitably qualified candidates to Tertiary Institutions has been fully and completely transited from Paper and Pencil Test to Computer Based Test.

44.1 Council was further informed that the literacy level of secondary students in ICT has improved as a result of the Board's introduction of Computer Based Test in the conduct of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME). The memo states that the Nigerian Communications Commission is building and equipping Virtual E-Learning centers for the Board.

44.2 Council was invited to note;

- (i) The successful transition of the Board's Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) from Paper and Pencil Test to Computer Based Test, thus becoming the first examination body in Africa to conduct a large-scale assessment using the Information and Communication Technology in Public Examination for over one million, five hundred thousand (1,500,000) candidates at one examination;
- (ii) that the Board's is working out new guidelines on the establishment and accreditation of Computer Based Test centres to be in consonance with best practices;
- (iii) the Board's efforts on advocacy and sensitisation campaign on Computer Based Test and its desire to extend it to all Local Government Areas Headquarters throughout the country;
- (iv) the improvement in the literacy level of secondary students in Information and Communication Technology as a result of the Board's introduction of Computer Based Test in the conduct of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME);
- (v) the partnership between the Nigerian Communications Commission and the Board in the establishment of Virtual E-Learning centres to serve as Computer Based Test centre and serve as a panacea for the enhancement of Information and Communication Technology in Nigeria;
- (vi) the Board's requests to Information and Communication Technology professionals to be involved in the monitoring of the Board's examination in order to improve the delivery and administration of the examination;
- (vii) the Board's call on Information and Communication Technology professionals to get more involved and interested in the establishment and management of Computer Based Test centres in order to enhance the development and growth of

- Information and Communication Technology in Nigeria and take it to the level of excellence;
- (viii) the Board's passionate call on Government and major service providers particularly, Galaxy Backbone to provide free or subsidized internet and other Information and Communication Technology services to educational institutions and educational related bodies in order to make these services available and affordable for students.

DISCUSSIONS

Members raised the issue of limitation and ability of students on the use of the CBT due to lack of capacity. It was suggested that the agency should seek support from States and Investors for the building of the CBT centers and they should also create a concept for engaging these centers for other uses apart from examinations that come up only once in a year. This suggestion was made to attract investors and it was agreed therefore that the centers should be renamed as Digital literacy centers to reflect the suggestions made. Though the issue of limitation of students on the use of computers has been raised as a concern, the ministry should be forward looking and build on the momentum the CBT test is gaining despite the apathy people had to its introduction in the country. These centers should be tools to use for deepening of ICT use and capacity building and should have multiple uses apart from using them for only the conduct of exams.

DECISIONS

Council approved with a proviso that the centres be renamed Digital resource centers.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 44
MEMO TITLE: TEACHER NETWORKING AND COOPERATIVE PRACTICE
AUTHOR: TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (TRCN)

45.0 The memo highlighted the need to create Teacher Networking and Cooperative Practice (TNCP) which is aimed at promoting easy and accessible way of disseminating relevant information by teachers among themselves without necessary meeting at a designated place or point.

45.1 TNCP interest on Teacher Networking is borne out of its belief that the world has become a global village and ICT has opened new channels of communication which are capable of taking teachers beyond the classroom confines, as electronic dialogue with colleagues inside and outside the school system, with parents, ICT suppliers and the wider community would promote teaching and learning and improve the standard of education to meet national and international standards.

45.2 The advantages of Teachers Networking according to TRCN are;

- ? To serve as a platform for cross breeding of ideas and best practices.
- ? To identify area of needs of teachers and provide avenue for dialogue and interaction
- ? To ensure that teachers are abreast of new innovation
- ? To motivate teachers to continuously sought for relevant information that will improve their pedagogical skills and competency.

45.3 To achieve its objective, TRCN has constituted a committee to analysis the status of the ICT infrastructure in the office and come up with modalities for implementation

45.4 Council was invited to

- ii. Note TRCN is desirous of providing technological driven processes to

- promote the teaching and learning process through the teacher networking and cooperative practice.
- ii. NCCT should provide avenue for infrastructure linkages for the deployment of the teacher networking and cooperative practice in Nigeria.
- iii. NCCT to act as a medium for liaising with providers of necessary apparatus towards implementation of the strategy.

Council was also invited to approve that TRCN partner with NITDA in order to benefit from the apps NITDA has developed for Schools

DISCUSSIONS

Council agreed that the tools that promote teaching and learning are not well harmonized to reach the teachers and Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) is working towards using ICT as a leverage to bridge the gap by using Teacher Networking and Cooperative practice;

- ii. Majority of the teachers do not possess ICT skills and are reluctant to improve themselves;
- iii. TRCN has been organizing Capacity Building Programs for Teachers but has problems with the availability of relevant ICT tools and applications;
- iv. Deployed ICT facilities in Schools are not utilized due to lack of trained manpower.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 45
MEMO TITLE: NATIONAL TEACHER ON – LINE REGISTRATION AND E–EXAMINATION FOR PQE
AUTHOR: TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (TRCN)

46.0 This memo apprised and sought the support of Council on activities of Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria in respect to the use of online registration and also to use ICT infrastructures to assess, admin, score and release the results of candidates for the Professional Qualifying Examination (PQE).

Council was invited to:

- v. Note that TRCN has developed the PQE benchmark modules in preparation for the restoration of PQE as benchmark for professional registration/ licensing of teachers.
- vi. Note that TRCN is set to deploy technology in sensitizing teachers and stakeholders about the PQE implementation.
- vii. Note that TRCN is soliciting the support of NCCT toward the implementation of on-line registration and examination by providing technical support and necessary logistics.
- viii. Urge members to support the deployment of ICT infrastructure for the implementation of the PQE.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 46
MEMO TITLE: NEED FOR REVIEW OF ASPECTS OF THE CURRENT ICT POLICY TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION OF THE NIGERIAN ECONOMY.
AUTHOR: BUREAU OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISE

47.0 The purpose of the memorandum was to apprise Council on the need for a review of the NigeriaTelecoms policy to further promote the growth and development of the sector and the Nigeria Economy.

47.1 Objective of reviewing the ICT Policy was

47.1 Objective of reviewing the ICT Policy was

- vi. Development of Broadband Capacity
- vii. Development of Fixed/Wireless Telephony
- viii. Mandatory listing on Nigeria Stock Exchange
- ix. Expansion of Broadband Access through NIPOST structure
- x. Promotion of better interconnectivity policies more favourable to small operators to enhance access, increase competition and deepen penetration

47.2 In the light of the above, Council was invited to :

- c) Note the need for review of the Nigeria Telecom Policy to further promote the growth and development of the sector;
- d) Note the need to encourage development of CDMA and Fixed (Wired) Broadband

DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

Council observed that use of fixed wireless for broadband penetration is archaic technology and very expensive. It was however argued that all ICT investment is capital intensive and the memo was noted on its merits.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 47
MEMO TITLE: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AS THE FOCAL POINT OF NIGERIA'S ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION
AUTHOR: DIRECTOR GENERAL/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNOLOGY INCUBATION (NBTI)

48.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of its sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 48
MEMO TITLE: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AS A CATALYST FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NABDA)

49.0 The memorandum sought to establish the fact that, through excellent partnership between National Biotechnology Development Agency and the Ministry of Communication Technology, Nigeria will make a successful seamless entry into the global field of modern biotechnology to achieve Industrialization in agriculture, health and environmental protection.

49.1 The memo emphasized on Bioinformatics which is the creation of tools such as algorithms and databases that solve problems using computational techniques to the management of biological information which is an interdisciplinary field of science, statistics, mathematics and engineering to interpret biological data.

49.2 Bioinformatics approaches are used to understand the function of genes, the regulation of cells, drug target selection, drug design, and disease. Without quantitative analysis of the massive amounts of biological data generated by various systems, biology and genomics data cannot be interpreted or exploited.

49.4 Council was invited to:

- viii. Bioinformatics is the creation of tools such as algorithms and databases that solve problems using computational techniques to the management of biological information. Computers are used to gather, store, analyze and integrate biological and genetic information which can then be applied to gene-based drug discovery.
- ix. Approve the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with clear objectives for a seamless partnership between the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology and the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) for the purposes of achieving further coordination of biotechnology research and knowledge in Nigeria.f products, health care delivery systems including the treatment of diabetes and use of many vaccines, and in mitigating climate change in our environment.
- x. In the industrial sector, the process technologies include: classical methods of selection, recombinant DNA techniques, cell fusion, tissue culture, forensic DNA technology (DNA databank and fingerprinting), protein engineering and bioprocessing.
- xi. The combinations of these technologies are applied to the research and development of a large number of products such as insulin, interferon, vaccines, enzymes, proteins, ethanol and new plant varieties.
- xii. NABDA's institutional arrangements with the six Zonal Centres of Excellence in the six top Universities located in the six geo-political zones and the twenty-six Bioresources Development Centres located across the length and breadth of Nigeria provide the platform for an industrial revolution in agriculture and food security, health care delivery services, environmental stability, and the proliferation of industrial goods and services.
- xiii. NABDA has challenges with inconsistency of service providers; inadequate training on use of relevant ICT skills; Poor internet access hampers ability to deploy ICT; Need for application softwares; Acquisition and installation of super computers; and Lack of steady power supply.
- xiv. Approve the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with clear objectives for a seamless partnership between the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology and the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) for the purposes of achieving further coordination of biotechnology research and knowledge in Nigeria.

DISCUSSIONS

Council agreed that National Biotechnology Development Agency should key into the NCC/NUC NgREN initiative which is creating a fibre optic network linking all universities, Teaching

Hospitals and Research Institutes for better collaboration. The meeting proposed that the National Biotechnology Development Agency should engage NITDA that has the mandate to support research relating to the use of ICT.

DECISIONS

Council advised National Biotechnology Development Agency to key into the existing NCC/NUC NgREN initiative

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT(4) 49
MEMO TITLE: ROLE OF NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT IN BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ICT SECTOR
AUTHOR: NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT IN BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ICT SECTOR

50.0 The memo was stepped down due to absence of sponsor

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 50
MEMO TITLE E-GOVERNMENT AND THE NEED FOR STATE ADOPTION FOR GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND SERVICE DELIVERY
AUTHOR: DELTA STATE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

51.0 The memorandum emphasised the need to have a holistic approach towards the adoption of e-Government across all states and to strengthen their effort towards the implementation of e-Government.

51.1 Council was informed that technological development has created an opportunity for the government to ensure that it is keeping pace with citizens' rising expectations on how they will engage with government and access public services and information online.

51.2 The memo argued that Government must show considerable level of e-readiness in its technological infrastructure, policies and procedure, human resource development and communication infrastructure.

51.4 State Ministries, Directorate and Department incharge of ICT should create and develop standardized templates for websites design for all their MDAs and also ensure the use of .gov.ng domain name string for their websites. They should also replicate and implement the government service portal (GSP) "single window portal" as present at Federal level (www.service.gov.ng).

51.5 Procurements and deployment of technologies in all states should be done under a centralised system. NITDA should come up with a strategic plan to strengthen its supports to states without ICT policy. Provision of services in an electronic form will derive efficiency, ensure accessibility and guarantee more transparency in government's dealings.

51.6 Council was invited to note:

- (i). that it is imperative for States to adopt e-Government platforms in ensuring both in keeping pace with citizens' rising expectations about how they want to engage with government and access public services and information online;
- (ii). that some of these resolutions have not been driven effectively and implemented in some States and the areas for development in need of a holistic approach towards effectively getting State's government ready for e-Government implementation;

And **approve:**

- (iv). that all State Ministries, Directorate and Department of ICT create and develop standardised templates for website design for all MDAs at their State levels and also ensure the use of .gov.ng domain name string for their websites;
- (v). that States through its Directorates, Ministries and Departments of ICT to replicate and implement the "Single Window Portal" present at Federal level(www.services.gov.ng), which is known as the Government Service Portal (GSP);
- (vi). that States Government should establish a centralized system mandated for the procurement and deployment of technologies to its ministries, departments and agencies and Directorates, Ministries and Departments of ICT in the States should be fully responsible for such procurement and deployment;
- (vii) that NITDA should come up with a strategic plan to strengthen its support to States who have no ICT Policy.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 51
MEMO TITLE: DRIVING THE PUBLIC SECTOR USING ICT AS A TOOL
AUTHOR: OSUN STATE OFFICE OF INNOVATION

52.0 The memo sought to draw Councils attention to the use of ICT in Public Service. Council was informed of the need to Integrate the benefits of using ICT in public service, and the present inevitable challenges of the ICT professionals in the public sector that needed to be addressed for smooth ICT implementation in Govt. business.

52.1 Council was invited to note:

- i. the need for use of home-made customized software applications in Public service for efficiency in core socio-economic sectors;
- ii. the need for establishment of well-equipped ICT training centre by the 36 States and FCT Abuja;
- iii. that the Ministry of Communication should draw a framework of Curriculum, Training Scheme, Course Outline and Service Examinations that shall be pre-requisite for appointment, promotion, conversion and inter cadre transfer for all public servants;
- iv. that the CPN, the Federal Ministry of Communications and the Federal Ministry of Education should work together to evaluate the grade ICT professional certificates in advisory capacity for placement into the National Scheme of Service and
- v. that the National Council on Establishment should be persuaded appropriately to review, update and upgrade the current scheme of Service to create new Cadres to accommodate the highly skilled and professionalized disciplines of System Administrator, Web Designer, Network Administrator, Database Administrator, Network Security

DISCUSSIONS

- i. It was observed that States are losing their personnel to the private sector due to unattractive conditions of service for ICT personnel in the public service and that the Office of the Head of Service of the Federation is working on the final approval to FEC on the proposed ICT Cadre. States were advised to submit their inputs

before final approval. The Ministry of Communications to compile inputs from states regarding different levels of proposed ICT Cadres before final approval.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 52
MEMO TITLE: THE ROLE OF ICT EDUCATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AUTHOR: HON.COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.

53.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of its Sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 53
MEMO TITLE: DEVELOPMENT OF STATE ICT POLICY: A PANACEA FOR THE BUILDING OF KNOWLEDGE BASED ECONOMY
AUTHOR: HON.COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PLATEAU STATE

54.0 The purpose of the memowas to inform Council that, in line with the resolution of the last Council meetings held in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State on the 15th – 16th September, 2014, Plateau State Government has since engaged the intervention of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) to review the current state ICT policy with the view of reflecting the current developmental focus of the state and broaden its scope.

54.1 It was recalled that arising from the Bayelsa meeting, Council urged NITDA to:

- a. Site more ICT development interventions in Communities and schools in Plateau State.
- b. Build more capacity the relevant areas of ICT applications for sustainability.

53.2 In line with the above, Council was invited to:

1. Note that Plateau State has commenced the review of its ICT policy through an intervention from the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA)
2. Note that the policy will seek to define appropriate MDA that will drive/ coordinate all ICT activities in the state thereby eliminating duplications and wastages
3. Note that the State is currently implementing the Digital Land Management System through the deployment of Plateau State Geographical Information System (PLAGIS).
4. Note that Plateau State is among the States that benefitted from the Digital Job African Initiative training where over eight hundred youths participated. The training was sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology in collaboration with Rockefeller Foundation.
5. Note that Plateau State Government intends to established a Data Centre in the State

54.3 PRAYERS:

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 54
MEMO TITLE: COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: PANACEA TO ILLEGAL MINING IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION CULTURE AND TOURISM, ZAMFARA STATE.

55.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of its Sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 55
MEMO TITLE: THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EKITI STATE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME (EDTP)
AUTHOR: HEAD OF SERVICE, EKITI STATE

56.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of its Sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 56
MEMO TITLE: PROMOTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP/YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND EMPOWERMENT BY CREATION OF ICT HUBS – THE ANAMBRA VISION
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER, ANAMBRA STATE MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

57.0 The memo sought Council's support For the Promotion of Entrepreneurship/Youth Employment and Empowerment by Creation of ICT Hubs. Council was informed that Nigeria is blessed with so many talented young people whose talents have remained largely undiscovered and therefore not utilized. The creation of Government facilitated ICT hubs is an initiative that can help young people who are technologically inclined to develop their talents in software engineering and other IT areas.

57.1. The envisioned ICT hubs will be a dedicated Government facility with provision for Green Power Solution, Redundant Internet Connectivity, Local Data Center, Software Engineering Labs, Distributed office space and cubicles, Training rooms, Conference Center and Co-location hub for the State. Such facility within the State will provide the enabling environment for young entrepreneurs to jumpstart their ICT initiatives.

57.2. Some features of the ICT hubs include: enabling environment that will provide work station and offices for young talents and entrepreneurs ,a platform to train youths in various sectors of ICT ,exposing talented youths in the State to appropriate technology events ,providing a platform for the cross fertilization of innovative ideas between young minds in the state, promoting Software Engineering (programming languages, etc) and a platform for collaboration with other countries and International Organizations.

57.3 The vision for creation of ICT hubs will help to catalyse and invigorate the rapid development of ICT manpower in all the States. If this initiative is deployed across the Federation, it will revolutionize the development of computer technology in Nigeria and create employment for a higher percentage of our unemployed youths.

57.4 Council was invited to:

Consider the Memorandum and approve that a committee of States and other respected stakeholders such as NITDA, Galaxy Backbone, private sector organizations etc. be setup to

work out the modalities for the roll out of ICT hubs in a coordinated manner across the country and report back to council within a specified timeframe.

57.5 DISCUSSIONS

Council observed that there is concentration of ICT hubs in only a few parts of the country (Lagos, Abuja). There is need for hubs to be created across all states of the Federation for quantum leap in the development of ICT on the Country. NITDA is making efforts in establishing at least one ICT hub in each of the six (6) geo-political zones. There is need for collaboration between the Ministry of Communications through NITDA and the states in the creation of incubation centres.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 57
MEMO TITLE: STAFF ATTENDANCE CONTROL SYSTEM
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, BAYELSA STATE

58.0 Memo was stepped down due to duplication

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4)58
MEMO TITLE: REVIEW OF ENTRY POINT DATA PROCESSING OFFICER CADRE WITH HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA (HND) CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE INTO GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENT FROM GRADE LEVEL 07 TO GRADE LEVEL 08
AUTHOR: BUREAU OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, OGUN STATE

59.0 Memo was stepped down due to the fact that it was overtaken by events because the National Council on Establishment had considered and approved the request.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 59
MEMO TITLE: ICT AS THE FOCAL POINT OF NIGERIA'S ECONOMY DIVERSIFICATION
AUTHOR: NATIONAL PRESIDENT ASSOCIATION OF TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES OF NIGERIA (ATCON)

60.0 The memo sought to emphasise the capacity of the ICT sector to be a key revenue earner for Government. Council was informed that liberalization and growth of the Information and Communication Technology sector has impacted positively on revenue accruable to government. ICT at various fora has been identified as a key agent to enable Nigeria diversify partly or completely and for employment generation (both Direct and Indirect), Foreign Direct Investment (in tens of billions of dollars) and a host of other positives. Consequently, ATCON has at various fora emphasized the urgent need to diversify partly or completely from depending on the revenue derivable from oil depending to an ICT driven economy to run our economy. Our country is currently in recession and one of the pragmatic options to take our country out of this is to deliberately diversify our revenue base with the sole aim of adopting ICT as an alternative.

60.1 However, challenges confronting the telecoms and ICT sectors are myriad and as a matter of urgency we would like to recommend that speedy attention be given to the following:

- i. Urgent implementation of the National Broadband Plan**
- ii. provide a waiver for telecom providers to access Foreign Currency at the inter-bank rate
- iii. Discontinuation of Proposed 9% Communication Service Tax bill**
- iv. Government At All Levels Must Make the ICT Sector A Top Priority In Nigeria**
- v. Educational Policies must be Refocused to Science related subjects**
- vi. Government should Increase the Budget of ICT**
- vii. Enactment of Appropriate ICT Policies**
- viii. Regulation and Subsidy⁹
- ix. Local content within ICT sector**

DECISIONS

Council noted .

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 60
MEMO TITLE: STAKEHOLDERS MEETING ON THE DEARTH OF INDIGENOUS TECHNICIANS, ARTISANS AND THE STATE OF TECHNICAL COLLEGES IN NIGERIA.
AUTHOR: COUNCIL FOR THE REGULATION OF ENGINEERING IN NIGERIA(COREN)

61.0 The Purpose of this Memorandum is to apprise Council on the upcoming stakeholders meeting on "Addressing the crises of Technical Manpower Shortage in Nigeria" and to seek support for creating awareness and for Council members to join in the mobilization of participants for the event.

61.1 Accordingly, Council is invited to note:

- i. the need for Government at all levels to ensure the resuscitation of Technical Colleges and Vocational Centres as well as;
- ii. the need for States to restructure the funding of Technical Colleges to reflect the current realities;
- iii. the need for States Government to facilitate partnership of Technical Colleges with the industries for effective Manpower Development;
- iv. the need for curriculum review to meet 21st Century Technical manpower requirements;
- v. the need to Ensure quality control in certification and progression of Technical Manpower Development to meet the National Demand;
- vi. the need to support the stakeholders meeting by creating awareness and join in the mobilization of participants

Council was invited to encourage states to support COREN in the resuscitation of Technical Colleges through restructuring of their school curriculum, rehabilitation of their infrastructure and provision of relevant ICT facilities.

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO No: 2016/NCCT (4) 61
MEMO TITLE: MAKING NITDA INTERVENTIONS IN POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS MORE EFFECTIVE AND VALUE DRIVEN
AUTHOR: AAA INFOTEK LIMITED

62.0 The memorandum highlighted the need for NITDA to fine tune its intervention in the deployment of the ICT devices and internet connectivity in public post primary schools in Nigeria.

62.1 Council was informed of the effort of the Federal Ministry of Communications through NITDA in the provision of computers and other ICT/Internet devices and infrastructure in public schools.

62.2 The memo emphasized the need for proper usage and application of these tools in order to achieve the purpose for which they are designed.

62.3 Council was informed that inadequate bandwidth was a major challenge in the deployment of NITDA's interventions (RITCs, PAVs, KAV) and that Monitoring and Evaluation exercises carried out indicate that the initiatives are mostly not sustainable after three (3) years. While NITDA is making plans to fine tune the operational model of the intervention and Memoranda of Understanding would be signed with states before deploying future intervention to improve sustainability of such project. The need for the establishment of State Information Technology Development Agencies was highlighted in order to mitigate political risks that could have an adverse effect on such interventions. Council was invited to direct NITDA to fine tune the operational model of the interventions in Schools

DECISIONS

Council approved

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 62
MEMO TITLE: CLASSIFICATION OF BTS SITES AS CRITICAL NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE (CNI)
AUTHOR: IHS TOWER

63.0 This memo was to inform Council on the need to make BTS sites a Critical National Infrastructures (CNI).

63.1 IHS explained that access restriction to telecommunication site has a huge socio economic impact and a significant security threat to the nation. Therefore, telecoms sector requires all the state protection it can get as a major contributor to the nation's gross domestic product. The organisation noted that it is of strategic importance to have a deliberate policy or legislation to keep ICT equipment safe from wilful destruction.

63.2 The memo maintained that Nigeria telecom sector is one of the major stakeholders in the area of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the Nigerian economy. It accounts for over \$326 of the Country's FDI and contributes about 8.7% to Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

63.3 The memo made the following suggestions;

- i. There is an urgent need to pass into law the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) Bill in order to protect the Base Transceiver Stations from spurious fee and charges as well as arbitrary site lock up. The Bill if passed into law would ensure

that telecoms infrastructure all around the Country is protected and identified as an important nation asset.

- ii. Implementation of the National Executive Council Resolution on multiple taxation, levies and charges on ICT infrastructure in Nigeria.
- iii. The urgent need to review and amend the taxes and levies (Approved list for collection) Act (Amendment) Order, 2015 which has legalized taxes and levies that were hitherto contested as not applicable to our operations.
- iv. Possible implementation of the Smart State Initiative in all the states of the Federation in order to create sanity and properly stream line fee and levies chargeable by states.
- v. The need to further educate the general public of the legal implications of site lockup as stated under the criminal justice (miscellaneous) provisions Act CAP. C39 L.F.N (2004).

DISCUSSIONS

Council observed that the issues the memo raised have been taken care of by the Cyber-Crime Act of 2015. It also noted that there was an ongoing exercise to compile list of Assets to be designated as Critical National Infrastructure.

DECISIONS

Council encouraged States and Stakeholders to compile lists of their infrastructure stock to be designated as Critical national Infrastructure and pass same on to the Ministry of Communications for gazetting.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 63
MEMO TITLE: ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH INCREASED INTERNET ADOPTION AND USAGE IN NIGERIA USING INTERNET BUSES.
AUTHOR: IHS TOWERS, MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZED PRIVATE SECTOR

64.0 The Nigerian telecom sector has been identified as one of the fastest growing telecom markets in the world and number one in Africa. The sector accounts for over \$32b of the country's FDI (in 2014) and the sector directly contributes about 8.7% to Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product ("GDP"), and is expected to continue to play a lead role in the Nation's drive for development and a re-focusing of the economy.

64.1 However, the full potential of the internet and its ability to lift millions out of poverty in Nigeria is yet to be realized. Despite the impressive adoption statistics, there is a bigger problem of low commercial or educational usage of the internet in Nigeria; with well over 70% of users of the internet going online for, either a combination of steaming movies, news, music entertainment and retail services (such as Jumia, Knoga.com etc). This leaves plenty of room for increased adoption and usage across other important and strategic parts of the economy, such as; Financial Services, Skills and Educational Training, M-Health and Primary and Secondary Education Skills Development.

64.2 The proposed CSR program will be a partnership between the Federal Government, The National Council On Communication Technology, International NGOs, foreign partners (such as Andela); The Nigerian private sector, including but not limited to, Telcos, ISP providers, industry business partners and customers; the wider commercial private sector in Nigeria and of course IHS.

64.3 The objectives of the proposed consortium will be two folds:
Develop and provide free value added Internet access to the public, via select new Mobile Busses, (with ICT Internet capabilities), as well as, fixed local location Libraries catering to the Nigerian public. The busses will be similar in design to mobile cyber cafés, but access online is strictly controlled via a walled garden, with regards where the public can go when using these sites. Just like select public libraries in the US and Europe).

Provide limited Internet Access (via walled online gardens) to preselected websites, where the public can obtain real, invaluable ICT skills based training and knowledge, including how the Internet works, how to access the preselected sites on the Internet and receive internet skills training in a number of corporate sponsored training topics; via customized training videos for select vocations and ICT knowledge training courses.

An additional side benefit of the public internet access and capacity building initiative will be the ability of corporate sponsors to immediately identify potential future workers for their respective companies, via internet users who demonstrate exceptional and strong learning and adaptation of the skills acquired online. The gifted online students and learners, can be identified for further training, via after school programs affiliated with select colleges and universities that offer hands on vocational and knowledge based courses and degrees and eventually move into corporate designed training programs for participating companies.

64.5 IHS will, as part of our CSR outreach initiative and contribution help lead and coordinate the proposed program, including providing specific details and guidance on how the overall initiative will work, recommended bandwidth requirements (and related costs) ideal signal and internet access points and identify physical locations for the Internet training and information centers across the country.

64.6 We want to demonstrate that we are truly committed and engaged in helping to diversify the local economy, by providing the building blocks of knowledge and skills training that will eventually allow the average Nigerian take action towards diversifying the local economy. Recent articles on the lack of investment in Nigeria point to a serious dearth in technical skills acquisition and a lack of formal training of the Nigerian workforce. We can help by directly addressing this skills and knowledge shortage by engaging the private sector in helping with capacity building in the country via the internet.

64.7 It is an initiative that should be embraced to promote access to internet in buses for use by commuters. The initiative has potential to boost e.commerce and compensate for loss of time when in transit for long hours.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 64
MEMO TITLE: UNLOCKING THE POTENTIALS OF INDIGENOUS SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: THE INSTITUTE OF SOFTWARE PRACTITIONERS OF NIGERIA (ISPON)

65.0 Memo was stepped down due to the absence of its Sponsor.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 65
MEMO TITLE: THE POTENTIAL OF THE POSTAL SERVICE SECTOR FOR REVENUE/EMPLOYMENT GENERATION
AUTHOR: INTEGRATED SPATIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGERS LTD MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

66.0 Memo was stepped down due to inadequate information and the authors were referred to NIPOST for further consultation.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 66
MEMO TITLE: TRAINING OF TEACHERS ON INNOVATION OF ICT
AUTHOR: NATIONAL TEACHERS INSTITUTE

67.0 This memorandum was intended to present a way that information communication technology can be used in teaching and learning in order to breed innovative children, which mean preparing children to face the future challenges by exposing them and familiarizing them with new technologies.

67.1 The National Teachers' Institute Is mandated to provide courses of instruction leading to the Development, Upgrade and certification of Nigerian Teachers as stipulated in the relevant syllabuses, using the Distance Learning System (DLS) through education delivery across the country.

67.2 Council was invited to note that NTI has its Headquarters in Kaduna with Six Zonal offices across the six Geopolitical Zones and Thirty-six State Offices including FCT-Abuja, and Over 350 Study Centres spread within the country.

- i. That this collaboration with NTI, will go a long way in taking the ICT, Economic Diversification drive to the door steps of Nigerian students and in line with current technological practices and advancement in education.
- ii. That NTI is requesting discount on broadband for Educational Institutions. Council was invited to
- iii. Approval considering the fact that NTI has the Capacity and spread network mechanisms to collaborate with Agencies of your Ministry to achieve these goals.
- iv. To initiate between NTI and relevant Agencies under its umbrella to Train Teachers across the country on innovative ICT.
- v. Collaboration with NITDA & Galaxy Backbone Setting Robust ICT Infrastructure to meet the present day innovations for the National Teachers' Institute Headquarters, its zonal offices, State office and Study Centres across the country.
- vi. Request to join the National ICT Incubation Scheme
- vii. Encourage the ministry of education to dedicate an online platform where teachers from all across the country will meet virtually to share ideas.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 67
MEMO TITLE: STAFF ATTENDANCE CONTROL SYSTEM
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, BAYELSA STATE

67.0 The purpose of this memorandum was to highlight the need for the introduction of staff attendance control system and the possible implementation in all Federal and State MDAs so as to improve punctuality, regularity and productivity.

Council was invited to note the need for effective management of staff attendance in all MDAs at all tiers of Government and approve the use ICT based solutions for management of staff attendance centrally at all levels of Government

DISCUSSIONS

Council observed that it was not right to compel management of MDAs in Federal, State and Local Governments to adopt the single administration.

DECISIONS

MDAs were encouraged to use ICT based solutions for management of staff attendance rather than enforce a policy that would compel the adoption of

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 68
MEMO TITLE: ELECTRONIC VOTING FOR CREDIBLE FREE ELECTIONS
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, BAYELSA STATE.

69.0 The memorandum sought to highlight the need to introduce electronic voting in Nigeria's electoral system. Council was informed that Election is very paramount to a sustainable democratic system. There should be an effective method of installing a legitimate government through popular participation.

69.1. There has been a wide spread and indiscriminate manipulation of election figures by Electoral Commission officers to suit the interest of their favoured candidates, because of the use of the manual voting system. However an electronic system would among other things discourage these vices associated with the manual voting system. Therefore, there is an urgent need to embrace an electronic voting system, which is the bane of free and fair election.

69.2 Council was invited to note :

- i. the need for the federal government to streamline the tenure of local government to enable State governments adhere strictly to election timetable.
- ii. All tiers of government to employ the use of electronic voting to embrace biometric registration and accreditation whose goal is to eliminate multiple registrations.
- iii. An electronic voting system would effectively carryout the task of voting automatically and timely.
- iv. It would minimize the vices associated with the manual voting system mentioned above
- v. with an electronic voting system credible candidate would be elected to office that can generate ideas that will bring about the diversification of the economy .

69.3 DISCUSSIONS

- i. It was noted that the National Assembly had looked into the proposal for Electronic Voting and resolved that Nigeria was not ripe for E-Voting; At the

- moment, Nigeria lacks the infrastructure to carryout E-Voting and High level of illiteracy will be a hindrance to E-Voting.
- ii. No country is using e-voting for election because of the problems associated with it.
 - iii. Nigeria's ICT Infrastructure has not attained the level of confidence required for e-voting .

DECISIONS

Council canvassed the use of ICT in improving efficiency and effectiveness of election processes rather than full blown electronic voting

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 69
MEMO TITLE: REVISITING ICT PENETRATION AND DIFFUSION IN NIGERIA CASE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ICT CENTRES IN EACH SENATORIAL DISTRICT OF NIGERIA
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER , SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY , TARABA STATE

70.0 The purpose of the memo was to apprise Council of Taraba state initiative to promote ICT penetration and Diffusion in Taraba state ICT in order to boost the economy especially of the teeming mass in the remote villages or rural areas.

70.1 Council was informed that Taraba State Ministry of Science and Technology collaborated with Federal Ministry of Communication and Technology and has trained over 1000 unemployed youths in the Micro work Job Creation Workshop, as recommended by the previous NCCT (2013/NCCT (2)18).

70.2 Taraba State Ministry of Science and Technology under the guide of ICT department has also facilitated the distribution of 300 laptops to Taraba State university students to help them in their research and ICT related activities. Also the rescue agenda of the Governor of the State website is reactivated. This has led to inter-ministerial connectivity.

70.3 The memo highlighted the State Digitization of its Radio and Television station which is presently at completion stage and is ready to collaborate with NITDA, Galaxy Backbone, USPF to ensure that the State reap from the innumerable benefits of ICT policies of the Federation.

70.4 Council was further informed that network connectivity (especially in the Mambila Plateau, Karim and Kurmi areas) is poor compared to the other parts of the State and these areas need ICT for their agricultural products marketing/research, showcasing the State tourism potential and projecting its mining capabilities/potential to the world and also connecting with other established miners globally.

70.5 In the light of the foregoing, Council was invited to Note:

- i. That several LGAs (mostly highlands, inland areas cut off by water, erosion bad road, mountainous areas etc.) within the Country are unreached with ICT (especially the personal computers PC)
- ii. Most schools (both public and private) lack computers for teaching/learning and computer related fields in schools,
- iii. That there is shortage or insufficient computer teachers/instructors in Nigerian schools.
- iv. Agriculture, tourism, power, potentials that could boost the economy of the Country is lying untapped due to inadequate ICT infrastructure in areas with such deposits/disseminations.

70.6 Council was further invited to note

- i. That several LGAs (mostly highlands, inland areas cut off by water, erosion bad road, mountainous areas etc.) within the Country are unreached with ICT (especially the personal computers PC)
- ii. Most schools (both public and private) lack computers for teaching/learning and computer related fields in schools,
- iii. That there is shortage or insufficient computer teachers/instructors in Nigerian schools.
- iv. Agriculture, tourism, power, potentials that could boost the economy of the Country is lying untapped due to inadequate ICT infrastructure in areas with such deposits/disseminations.
- v. Due to the difficult terrain in Taraba State, Connectivity is very low and is affecting Social, Economic and Educational activities in the State;
- vi. Operators complained of the Security of their facilities and indicated their willingness to partner with the States once assurance for the security of the infrastructure is guaranteed.
- vii. The establishment of ICT Centres by the Federal Government in atleast three(3) Senatorial Districts is too expansive.
- viii. Federal , State and Local Governments should promote the establishment of ICT Centres.
- ix. Emphasis on establishment of ICT Centres should be on consolidation not to create the impression as if nothing has been done as NITDA, NCC and others have done a lot in this regard.
- x. There was an appeal that Telecomm services should be restored to the North East which was destroyed by BOKO HARAM. However , it was clarified that Government has set up a Committee that addressed the issue.

DECISIONS

Council noted

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (4) 71
MEMO TITLE: THE CROSS RIVER STATE SMART CITY INITIATIVE
AUTHOR: HON. COMMISSIONER, CROSS RIVER STATE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

72.0 The Memorandum was to apprise the National Council on Communication Technology with the level of ICT development in Cross river State and strides taken towards achieving the Smart City Initiative.

72.1 Council was informed that :

- i. Cross River State has prepared its ICT policy and is ready for adoption
- ii. For capacity building the state has equipped computer science students as well as civil servants with laptops an also put into effect training programs and institutions e.g Institute of Technology and Management, to increase literacy in ICT.
- iii. The state has improved eGovernance through implementation of a fully equipped Data Center for state-wide network, improved communication and collaboration between MDAs

- iv. Implementation of cloud services helped to by-pass infrastructural issues faced such as connectivity downtime, power failure etc, allowing for information access to: databases, email, intranet, legislative management system, project information and unified communications, from anywhere.
- v. Tinapa Knowledge City was established as a regional digital hub that links education and business , attract private investment, facilitates research, create skills, incubates technology SMEs and creates jobs for our youth. TKC is the home for information technology developers accelerator (IDEA)
- vi. Cross River was the first state to implement Identity Management and e-payment program in Nigeria , to provide social services to citizens businesses and tourists.
- vii. 120km of fiber optic cable spanning across the entire city of Calabar, with plans to extend to all Local Government Areas, currently linking all MDAs and soon to include businesses.
- viii. The pioneer state in Smart City implementation utilizing the 120km fiber optic cable the benefits would include provision of new streams of jobs, improved standard of living, effective and efficient service delivery across all sectors, enhancement of the responsiveness of government and the growth in e-governance as well as value for services in various sectors

72.2 PRAYERS :

- i. Council should help in fast tracking the issuing of licenses such as transmission license and broadcast licenses.
- ii. There is a need to establish adequate knowledge access venues (KAV) in more rural areas to boost capacity for technology and its applications in everyday living. This will prepare our citizens residing in these areas ahead for the cascading of the smart city services to them.
- iii. Due to the innovative nature of smart city scheme, there is a need to create a hub for development of smart solutions that are tailored to suite our needs. In the light of this, we seek the council's consideration in prevailing on federal agencies that can help the state revitalize the tinapa knowledge city (technology hub) to encourage young developers to utilize the hub to develop smart solutions for traffic management, smart health information systems, smart waste management etc. This feat will encourage the development of solutions that are completely based on local content .
- iv. There is a need for implementation of specialized compensation plan for ICT staff within the state and local government areas. To discourage staff from leaving to the private sector.

DISCUSSIONS

- i. Cross River acknowledged NITDA's support in the Tinapa Knowledge City and requested for more support.
- ii. NITDA requested for more information about the programme.

DECISIONS

Council noted and commended the achievements of Cross River State in the deployment of ICT and encouraged other States to emulate the State.

MEMO NO: 2016/NCCT (04) 74
MEMO TITLE: DIGITAL LITERACY AS A MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA
AUTHOR: COMMIT TECHNOLOGY AND CONSULT LTD, MEMBER OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

75.0 The purpose of the Memo was to bring all basic ICT or Computer appreciation training in Nigeria to a minimum of Digital Literacy (curriculum, content and assessment) and to make Digital Literacy the minimum requirement for employment (of new entrants) and promotion (of current workforce) in Nigeria, especially in Public Service.

75.1 Council was informed that Digital Literacy is the ability to find, evaluate, utilize, share and create content using Information technologies and the Internet. Unfortunately, despite the fact that every profession or vocation requires some level of computing skills today, Digital Literacy is yet to be pervasively applied on employment and appointment of new personnel and capacity development of current workforce or neither is it considered a factor nor criterion for promotion and career advancement.

75.2 Council was further informed that individuals tend to over-assess their ICT capability when applying for employment and where there is no agreed standard around particular skill sets; there may be a mismatch between the candidate's actual ability and the employer's expectation. Public Service Rules of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, section 020205 of 2008 requiring applicants for appointment into Public Service to possess a minimum qualification to include computer literacy have lost potency due to lack of standard of framework to guide quality outcomes, thus raising huge challenges for those grappling with the detail of the on-going transformation and restructuring of Public Service to respond to challenges of work, life and advancement.

The memo argued that the requirement of Computer literacy as a condition for appointment into Nigeria Public Service is vague, open, cannot be defined, assessed or quantified and has no standard attached to make it measurable. Optimum Public Service system today requires technology platform and a new set of capacities, competencies and professional skills which Digital Literacy provides to develop and sustain a knowledge based and vibrant Public Service for Nigeria.

75.3 Council was invited to approve:

- a. Digital Literacy as minimum requirement for employment and promotion into Public Service in Nigeria.
- b. Digital Literacy as gate skill and standard for computer appreciation or basic ICT training for student's preparation and workforce capacity development across sectors in Nigeria.

DISCUSSIONS

Members agreed that NITDA can handle all the functions of the Digital council and all issues on curricula must be initiated and domesticated in ministry of education. Members however requested that the word "promotion" in the title should be substituted with "in the public service".

DECISIONS

Council approved Digital Literacy as minimum requirement for employment in public service to be implemented in phases ;and Digital Literacy as gate skill and standard for computer appreciation or basic ICT training for students' preparation and workforce capacity development across sectors in Nigeria.

**MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
(NCCT - 04), AREWA HOUSE, KADUNA 24TH – 29TH OCTOBER 2016**

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