

International Conference Strengthening Co-operation on Cybercrime and E-evidence in Africa

Bouznika, Morocco, 6-7 March 2023

Outline

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

Cybercrime is a complex and rapidly evolving transnational phenomenon that poses a significant threat to human rights, democracy and the rule of law as well as to national and international security. Moreover, with the increasing use of information and communication technologies, any type of crime may entail evidence on computer systems. Such electronic evidence is often stored in foreign, multiple, shifting or unknown jurisdictions; obtaining e-evidence poses major challenges to criminal justice authorities.

This is equally true for Africa where the internet use has evolved rapidly. The continent had around 570 million internet users in 2022, a number that more than doubled compared to 2015¹ and that placed the region ahead of other regions such as North America, South America and the Middle East². As of January 2022, Morocco had an internet penetration of approximately 84.1 percent, making it the country with the highest internet penetration in Africa.

Addressing cybercrime, while upholding human rights, has become a priority for many African countries that have adopted domestic legislation and taken steps towards adhering to agreements such as the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and the Malabo Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection to facilitate international cooperation.

Morocco is a Party to the Budapest Convention since 2018 and the first African signatory of its Second Addition Protocol on Enhanced Co-operation and the Disclosure of Electronic Evidence, which was open for signature on 12 May 2022.

Effective international cooperation has never been more relevant. Strengthened cooperation among African countries and at international level, as well as with the private sector, academia and civil society is further needed.

The benefits of such a cooperative approach was reconfirmed on the occasion of the First African Forum on Cybercrime³ and the Second African Forum⁴ organised by the African Union

¹ [Africa number of internet users by country 2022 | Statista](#)

² Interpol, 2021 African Cyberthreat Assessment Report, p.8.

³ Organized in October 2018.

⁴ Organized in June 2021.

Commission and the Council of Europe and supported by INTERPOL, the European Union, UNODC, the U.S. Department of Justice, Global Forum on Cyber Expertise, ECOWAS, the World Bank and many others.

In order to add further impetus to efforts on cybercrime by African countries, the Ministry of Justice of Morocco and the Council of Europe have, therefore, agreed to jointly organise the present conference.

OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The objective of the conference is to foster public/private and international cooperation on cybercrime and electronic evidence in Africa and in line with international standards.

By the end of the conference participants will have:

- shared experience on current threats and trends on cybercrime and measures taken to counter such threats;
- better knowledge of policies, legislation and other measures taken by countries as well as of good practices regarding public/private cooperation and international cooperation;
- better understanding of the tools available under the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and its new Second Protocol on enhanced cooperation and disclosure of electronic evidence and of the benefits of being Parties to this framework;
- identified strategic priorities to address the challenges of cybercrime and electronic evidence, including needs for further capacity building.

PARTICIPANTS

Countries are invited to nominate up to 3/4 participants each, senior officials from relevant ministries, including policy makers and legislators, representatives from the criminal justice sector and other national stakeholders with an active role in the cybercrime domain.

VENUE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The conference will be an in-presence event, taking place at Hotel VICHY CELESTINS, Conference Centre, situated at Bouznika, Morocco.

All sessions will be livestreamed on a dedicated webpage and recorded for further dissemination to the participants.

INTERPRETATION

Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, English, French and Portuguese languages will be provided.

Agenda

Monday, 6 March 2023	
Opening session	
09h30 – 11h00	<p>► Welcoming remarks</p> <p>Moderator: Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Council of Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Abdellatif Ouahbi, Minister of Justice of the Kingdom of Morocco - H.E. Séverin Quenum, Minister of Justice and Legislation of the Republic of Benin - H.E. Mohamed Lamin Tarawalley, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of the Republic of Sierra Leone - H.E. Sergio Esono Abeso Tomo, Minister of Justice, Cult and Penitentiary Institutions of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea - H.E. Cooper W. Kruah, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of Liberia - H.E. Patricia Llombart-Cussac, Ambassador of the European Union to Morocco - Abdul-Hakeem Ajijola, Chair of the African Union Cyber Security Expert Group, African Unioner - Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General (video message), Council of Europe
11h00 – 11h30	Coffee break and group picture
Session 1	
11h30 – 13h00	<p>► Threats and current trends on cybercrime</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this session is to enhance the understanding of current threats and trends of cybercrime and related challenges encountered in Africa. This will then serve as a basis for identifying responses to such challenges in subsequent sessions.</p> <p>Moderator: Rachid Ouadifi, Director of Cooperation and Communication, Minister of Justice, Morocco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kevin Andy, Information Management Officer, Cybercrime Directorate, INTERPOL - Marouan Hajouji, Chief Superintendent, General Directorate of National Security, Morocco - Jamila Akaaga Ade, Assistant Director, Head of the Cyber Crime Unit, Department of Public Prosecutions, Federal Ministry of Justice, Nigeria - Sachindra Reechaye, Information Security Consultant, Mauritian Computer Emergency Response Team, Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation, Mauritius - Chokri Ben Mansour, Director of Legal Affairs and Litigation, Ministry of Technologies and Communication, Tunisia - Yahya Ouzen, Law Enforcement Outreach Manager, Meta Legal, META <p>Q&A session (30 min)</p>
13h00 – 14h30	Lunch break

14h30 – 15h00	<p>► International frameworks: overview of the Budapest and Malabo Conventions</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this session is to provide an overview of the frameworks of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and Malabo Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection. This is to facilitate subsequent sessions on legislation and policies and on tools for cooperation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Council of Europe - Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo, Associate Professor of Law, Vice-Chair of the African Union Cybersecurity Experts Group
Session 2	
15h00 – 16h30	<p>► Legislation, policies and strategies on cybercrime</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this session is to provide a better understanding of policies, legislation and other measures taken at domestic levels to address the challenges of cybercrime and electronic evidence, including links between criminal justice and cybersecurity responses.</p> <p>Moderator: Carmen Morte-Gomez, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Morocco</p> <p><i>Introductory presentations (5 min each):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albert Antwi-Boasiako, Director-General of the Cyber Security Authority, Ghana - Papa Assane Touré, Magistrate, Deputy General Secretary of the Government, Senegal - Sulakshna Beekarry Sunasse, Assistant Solicitor General, Attorney General's Office, Mauritius <p><i>Panel discussion with participating countries (30 min):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mohamed Amine Jardani, Magistrate, Directorate of Criminal Cases and Penal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Morocco - Lourino Alberto Chemane, Chairman of the Board of the National Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Mozambique - Sanusi Drammeh, Principal ICT Officer, Ministry of Information & Communication Infrastructure, The Gambia - Balbine Manga, Lawyer and founder of @JURIS.TIC, Cameroon - Nametso Mothoka, Deputy Secretary for Legislative Drafting Attorney General's Chambers, Legislative Drafting Unit, Botswana - Akilimali Shema, Division Manager, Cybercrime Investigation, Rwanda Investigation Bureau, Rwanda - Lina Oueidat, Adviser to the Prime Minister for Information Technology Affairs, Lebanon <p>Q&A session (30 min)</p>
16h30 – 17h00	<p>► Key findings</p>
End of Day 1	

Session 3

09h00 – 10h30

► Tools of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and its protocols

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to provide a better understanding of the framework and tools of the Convention on Cybercrime, its First Protocol on Xenophobia and Racism and its Second Protocol on enhanced cooperation and disclosure of electronic evidence. The session will provide practical examples of implementation and of the benefits of joining this framework.

Moderator: **Catalina Stroe**, Programme Manager, Glacy+ Project, Council of Europe

- **Jamila Akaaga Ade**, Assistant Director, Head of the Cyber Crime Unit Department of Public Prosecutions, Federal Ministry of Justice, Nigeria
- **Alexander Oppong**, Head, Capacity Building and Awareness Creation, Cyber Security Authority, Ghana
- **Eudoxie Akouavi Marie Christiane Akakpo**, Magistrate, Court of Appeal of Abomey, Benin
- **Papa Assane Touré**, Magistrate, Deputy General Secretary of the Government, Senegal
- **Marlene Brito Barreto Almeida Dias**, Director General of Justice Policy, Ministry of Justice, Cape Verde

Q&A session (30 min)

10h30 – 11h00

Coffee break

Session 4

11h00 – 13h00

► Regional and international initiatives

Purpose: The purpose of this is to facilitate coordination between different cooperation initiatives and agreements and to permit participants to make better use of the opportunities that they provide.

Moderator: **Sam Hall**, Cyber Policy Lead, UK Office to the African Union

- **Abdul-Hakeem Ajijola**, Chair of the African Union Cyber Security Expert Group, African Union
- **Lauren Missler**, Regional Cybercrime Specialized Officer, Cybercrime Directorate, INTERPOL
- **Folake Olagunju**, Principal Programme Officer Internet, Cybersecurity & E-Application, Commission Economic Community of West African States
- **Guichard Tsangou**, Director of Posts, Telecommunications and Digital Economy, Economic Community of Central African States
- **Jacob Munodawafa**, Southern Africa Telecommunications Association Executive Secretary, Southern African Development Community
- **Ben Ruhinda**, Senior Systems Officer and Project Coordinator dSkills@EA, Inter-University Council for East Africa

Q&A session (30 min)

13h00 – 14h30	Lunch break
Session 5	
14h30 – 15h30	<p>► Cooperation with the private sector and academia</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this session is to obtain a better understanding of the tools and opportunities for public/private cooperation. Such cooperation and public/private partnership are essential to counter cybercrime and obtain electronic evidence.</p> <p>Moderator: Samia Chakri, Director of Modernization and Information Systems, Ministry of Justice of Morocco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Younes Guida, Director of Legal Affairs, Telecom Morocco - Youssef Bentaleb, President of Moroccan Center for Polytechnic Research and Innovation, Ibn Tofail University - Samir El Ghalmi, Head of the International Cooperation Service, Superior Institute of Magistracy, Morocco - Clementine Marcq, Investigation Specialist, Flavio Tonon, Investigations Specialist, BINANCE <p>Q&A session (15 min)</p>
15h30 – 15h45	Coffee break
Session 6	
15h45 – 17h00	<p>► Capacity building initiatives in the fight against cybercrime</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this session is share experience on capacity building on cybercrime and electronic evidence, to facilitate synergies and coordination between different initiatives and to identify further needs for capacity building.</p> <p>Moderator: Alexandra-Adina Asgari, Advisor Working Group Cybercrime, Global Forum on Cyber Expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conrad C Daly, Senior Counsel, Human Development and Technology, The World Bank - Anand Ramaswamy, ICHIP Addis Ababa, USDOJ, US Mission to the African Union - Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, Co-Executive Director, Network of African Women in Cybersecurity - Eva Pastrana, Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division, Council of Europe - Hein Dreis, Key Expert, OCWAR-C the «West African Response on Cybersecurity and Fight against Cybercrime » - Catalina Stroe, Programme Manager GLACY+, Council of Europe - Denise Mazzolani, Programme Manager CyberSouth, Council of Europe <p>Q&A session (30 min)</p>
17h00-17h30	<p>► Key findings and conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E Abdellatif Ouahbi, Minister of Justice of the Kingdom of Morocco

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Carmen Morte-Gomez, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Morocco- Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Council of Europe |
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End of conference