

NCC-ACRAN INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Theme: “The challenge of social media regulation: modalities of collaboration between African media regulators and digital platforms”

Yaounde, 8 and 9 November 2023

Closing speech by the President of the National Communication Council

- The Prime Minister Head of Government, Personal representative of His Excellency the President of the Republic;
- The Minister of Communication;
- Members of Government;
- The President of the Haute Autorité de la Communication et de l’Audiovisuel of Morocco and Current President of ACRAN;
- Fellow Presidents of the Member Authorities of ACRAN and REFRAM;
- Representatives of digital platforms;
- Heads of diplomatic missions and International Organisations;
- Special guests;
- The Managing directors of print, audiovisual, and online media;
- Fellow experts;
- Distinguished guests;
- Ladies and gentlemen,

As we conclude these two days of intense reflections on **“the challenge of social media regulation: modalities of collaboration between African media regulators and digital platforms”**, I would like to share, with you, my joy as President of the National Communication Council of Cameroon and host of this successful event.

Your massive turnout attests to your willingness and resolution to find tailored solutions to the problems media regulators are dealing with on the complex issue of online regulation.

Thank you for coming to Yaounde, in your numbers.

I personally like to note the very active participation of some countries that are returning to our network of regulators. Particularly, the English speaking countries of South Africa, Kenya, and Nigeria. Let us equally acknowledge the presence of the Democratic Republic of Congo in our midst. We warmly welcome you back to our Network.

I remain optimistic that such attendance will be reached during our upcoming events organised by fellow member authorities, who were not able to physically participate in this meeting.

I would like to thank our special guests for their invaluable insights and the commitment they showed by travelling to Yaounde.

Besides this massive attendance, I believe we can pride ourselves for the depth and accuracy of the various recommendations recorded during this meeting. Our fruitful discussions have enabled us to cover the agenda of proceedings, which has resulted in favourable recommendations to the implementation of an effective regulation of social media in Africa. This meeting should considerably foster the much-needed collaboration between regulatory organs and digital platforms, with the view to achieve a media landscape that is commensurate with the laws and customs of African countries.

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I would like to avail myself of the opportunity given me to express my sincere gratitude to the Head of State of Cameroon, President Paul Biya, for his watchful eye and guidance he provides always to the National Communication Council of Cameroon, in order to clean the mass communication sector of Cameroon.

This gratitude equally extends to the Prime Minister Head of Government for his permanent availability.

Let me conclude by sincerely thanking, once more, the various delegations of the member authorities of the mass communication sector who made it to Cameroon. I wish you a safe trip back to your respective homes.

With that, I declare closed the proceedings of the Yaounde international forum on **“the challenge of social media regulation: modalities of collaboration between African media regulators and digital platforms”**.