Reports for 27 February meeting

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1. Formalising Alliance Steering Committee:

Entering the Alliance's 2nd year, the Alliance can build sustainability through get formal involvements from participants. Accord is needed in this meeting on structural specifics, and then the next Alliance meeting can put names to relevant offices. The Alliance current has four parts in its structure:

1.   Alliance steering committee: Responsible for overall strategy, governance, and operational output, meeting once a month.

2.   Alliance associate members: Can participate in the work of subcommittees and inform the work of the steering committee, meeting once every two months.

3.   Sub committees: Can design, supervise, and participate in specific research, outputs, or other initiatives of the Alliance, meeting as needed.

4.   Host institution/s: Provide institutional and administrative support to the Alliance, and undertake fundraising as mandated.

To crystallise these more:

A.   The key governing organ is the Steering Committee. It needs a membership composition, plus election of a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Discussion to date suggests unpacking membership as follows:

•   Individuals from different regions: West, North, East, Central and Southern Africa

•   Representatives of prominent pan-African bodies, particularly:, AFIC, AFEX, African Network of Information Commissioners, the African Editors Forum, Africa Open Science Platform.

•   Representatives of the host institutions: RIA, Centre for Human Rights (UP).

Monthly meetings would still be open to all members, including associate members some of whom may volunteer to support eg. the Chair and Secretary in convening and minuting meetings.

Formalising sub-committees, with convenors, could consider:

•   Elections and data

•   Access to information and data

•   Media and Data

•   Data literacy

•   Research and data

•   Policy and data

•   Communications and website content

Calendar of relevant events:

February 26-27: Africa Media Festival (Nairobi)

March 1-7: Open Data day

Meeting of ACHPR 82nd session (first 2 weeks)

April:

29th to May 1: Digital Rights and Inclusion Forum (Lusaka)

May:

3 May - World Press Freedom Day

29-31 African Media Convention (Marakesh)

29-31 – Cybertech conference (Lusaka)

June:

13 – 14 G20 – UNESCO High Level workshop on Data Governance, consultation on Issue Brief.

September:

3-5 Media viability conference (GIBS, Johannesburg)

M20 media conference (tba)

24-25: planned launch of G20 Digital Economy Working Group guidelines on Data for MSMEs, start-ups and researchers to promote data sharing with and by the public and private sectors.

28th - International Day for Universal Access to Information

Possible AI conference on 25th AI with G20, AU, UNESCO and others.

Fifafrica (tba)

October:

1-2 African Fact-Checkers Summit

November:

 5-7 African Investigative Journalism Conference (Johannesburg)

African IGF (tba)