



**RESOLUTIONS OF  
THE MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
ICTS AND / OR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOR  
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA**

**ADOPTED DURING THE MEETING FOR THE  
SIGNING OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE NEPAD ICT  
BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK  
FOR  
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA**

**29 AUGUST 2006  
KIGALI, RWANDA**

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**We,**

**THE MINISTERS** responsible for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and /or Telecommunications, meeting in Kigali, Rwanda for the purpose of signing the Protocol on the NEPAD ICT Broadband Infrastructure Network for Eastern and Southern Africa;

**DESIROUS** to accelerate the reduction of poverty through the greater use of ICTs and especially through affordable broadband infrastructure;

**DETERMINED** to ensure the expeditious implementation of the plans to have the network operational during 2008;

**RESOLVE** to extend the period for signature of the protocol to the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006;

**FURTHER RESOLVE** to extend the life of the Credentials Committee to 30 November 2006;

**DECIDE** that the ratification of the Protocol by the High Contracting Parties should occur by June 30 2007;

**DETERMINE** that, with reference to Articles 12 and 13 of the Protocol, March 2008 shall be the month by which our national policies, legislation and regulations shall have been harmonised to be consistent with the principles of the Protocol;

**AGREE** to intensify the dialogue between the governments, their regulators and their telecommunication entities with the aim to strengthen the public-private partnership character of this project;

**COMMIT** to convey, by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006, to the NEPAD e-Africa Commission, the names of the telecommunications entities within our jurisdictions that are authorised to become shareholders in the Special Purpose Vehicle/s;

**RECOMMEND** that the first meeting of shareholders and prospective shareholders takes place by 15 December 2006;

**DECIDE** to hold the first meeting of the interim Inter-Governmental Assembly (IGA), to which non-signatory governments will be invited as observers, before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006;

**FURTHER DECIDE** to embark on a number of diplomatic initiatives, aimed at encouraging the governments of all the 23 countries in the region to sign the Protocol;

**RESOLVE** to convey to the Government and people of Rwanda our felicitous appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to our delegations and for the professional organisation of the meeting; and

**EXPRESS SPECIAL APPRECIATION** to His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, for his personal commitment and support for this project, especially for his decision to agree to host the Headquarters of the sub-marine SPV in Rwanda, as well as for his leadership in promoting ICTs for development in Africa.

## Attachment 1

<b>Tabular representation of Activities in the Ministers' Resolutions</b>	
<b>Period for signature of the protocol</b>	<b>Aug 29 - Nov 30 2006</b>
<b>Life of Credentials Committee</b>	<b>Aug 28 - Nov 30 2006</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of shareholders and prospective shareholders</b>	<b>By Dec 15 2006</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of interim IGA (Non-signatory governments as observers)</b>	<b>By Nov 30 2006</b>
<b>Diplomatic initiatives</b>	<b>Aug 29 – Nov 30 2006</b>
<b>Ratification of Protocol</b>	<b>By Jun 30 2007</b>
<b>Harmonisation of national policies, legislation, and regulations</b>	<b>By Mar 31 2008</b>
<b>Governments to nominate potential shareholders.</b>	<b>By Nov 30 2006</b>