



## 18<sup>th</sup> Global Symposium for Regulators (Geneva, 2018)

### *New Regulatory Frontiers*

## Speeches

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## BDT Director's Speeches



### **Thematic Event: Global Dialogue on AI, IoT and Cybersecurity**

**Geneva, Switzerland** 09 July 2018

**Thematic Event: Global Dialogue on AI, IoT and Cybersecurity – Policy and regulatory challenges and opportunities**

**9 July 2018, Geneva.**

#### **OPENING REMARKS**

**By Mr. Brahim Sanou**

**Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)**

Distinguished participants

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning

I warmly welcome you to the Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things and Cybersecurity, the thematic event of the 2018 edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators or GSR.

The thematic events of the GSR are designed to ensure that key emerging issues are addressed in a holistic manner to deepen our understanding of those issues and have open conversations about them, taking into account different perspectives and, enabling interaction, dialogue and collaboration.

Today we will explore together the policy and regulatory challenges and opportunities of Artificial Intelligence Internet of Things and Cybersecurity. The objective is to raise the awareness and empower us to leverage emerging technologies.

In such an interconnected world, a loophole anywhere in the global ICT network will represent a danger everywhere in the network.

Cybersecurity will continue to be a big challenge as we embark on using emerging technologies such the Internet of everything and artificial intelligence. The impacts could go far beyond simple hacking or data breach.

The good news is that we will be able to use the very IoTs and AI to improve security. Like in almost all ICT issues, the solution is always imbedded in the problem.

We have also been hearing a lot of discourse on IoT and AI built around threats and fear.

Data protection and privacy is also an important issue to be taken into account as a huge amount of data and personal data will be more and more available.

As ICT stakeholders, it is our responsibility to take into account all this and make sure we address it in the best possible way. We must include mitigation solutions in our products design and service delivery.

We are at the beginning of a qualitative transformation of our economies and societies. All stakeholders of the ICT ecosystem should work together to create an enabling environment for the future. It is our collective responsibility.

If we get it wrong in terms of policy, we will have a problem. If we get it wrong in terms of regulation, we will have a problem. If we get it wrong in terms of development, we will have a problem.

I am therefore happy that this meeting gives us the opportunity to interact on these important issues, to share experiences and learn from each other.

I am convinced that with our collective wisdom, the emerging technologies will boost the sustainable development for the benefit of all human beings.

Thank you.

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## BDT Director's Speeches



### Global Symposium for Regulators 2018

**Geneva, Switzerland** 10 July 2018

#### Global Symposium for Regulators 2018

##### Opening speech

**10 July**

**Mr Brahima Sanou,**

**Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau**

- Ministers and Deputy Minister here present
- CEOs and Chairman of Regulatory agencies
- Representatives of ITU Sector members
- Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary General of ITU
- Mr. Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary-General of ITU
- Francois Rancy, Director BR
- Distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen

I am so pleased to welcome you to Geneva for a very exacting GSR-18.

It is good to remember that it is under the auspices of ITU that the liberalization of the telecommunication sector was launched in the mid-1990s with the Green Book for Africa, the Blue Book for Americas and the White book for the Arab States.

The liberalization led to the introduction of competition and the establishment of telecommunication regulatory bodies.

The Global Symposium for Regulators was created in the year 2000 as a forum for experience sharing with the aim of strengthening and stabilizing regulatory frameworks across the world.

18 years later, things have changed and a lot more change is to come.

We are now in an era of digital transformation that is fundamentally changing our economies and societies and improving service delivery in many other sectors.

As we embark in using emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and, the Internet of Things (IoT) for accelerating the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, GSR is as relevant as it was when it was created.

The new challenges and the huge opportunities associated with them require coordination and sharing of best practices.

Innovative policy and regulatory measures are needed to respond to the changing landscape and to address the need for affordable and secure access and use of digital services.

As regulators, you need to keep pace with advances in technology, and address the new regulatory frontiers.

The World Telecommunication Development Conference held in Buenos Aires, in October 2017, reaffirmed the importance of joining forces to build a new ecosystem of opportunities for all, based on access, affordability, collaboration, value creation, partnership building and innovation.

ICTs are affecting all sectors, and there is a need for collaborative discussions, collaborative regulatory approaches and joint implementation of projects.

We are already working with our sister UN agencies: UNESCO on education, WHO on health, FAO on agriculture, ILO on digital skills for decent jobs, UNIDO on innovation and World Bank on digital financial inclusion.

We need to look at the new ecosystem to make sure that ICTs are used for development and to advance the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their targets.

The theme for GSR-18 is "New Regulatory Frontiers".

We will discuss what we can do together to ensure emerging technologies impact positively on our daily lives as consumers, businesses or simple citizens of the world.

To do so, we will work during GRS-18 under the chairmanship of Mr. Sorin Grindeanu, the President of the National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications of Romania (ANCOM).

Before becoming the President of ANCOM, Mr. Grindeanu was Minister of ICTs and Prime Minister of Romania.

Throughout, he has therefore embraced different aspects of the ICT ecosystem, which makes him the best choice to lead us during these 3 days.

Once again, thank you very much for joining us for GSR-18.

Thank you

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