

Introduction

- **THE MEETING:**

- A platform for the representatives of Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Association of Regulators and AUC to discuss specific Africa concerns, make an analysis of current and past ICT policy, Legislative and Regulatory harmonization, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) initiatives in Africa and compare with other international initiatives.

- **THE SESSION:**

- setting the scene for the workshop
- What brings us together
- What should we do
- Overview of PRIDA

WHAT BRINGS US TOGETHER?



COMMON DESTINY

- **A noble** ideals which guided the founding fathers of our Continental Organization and generations of Pan-Africanists in their determination to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States;
- **The heroic struggles** waged by our peoples and our countries for political independence, human dignity and economic emancipation;
- **Unity for the liberation** of the continent, the affirmation of a common identity and the process of attainment of the unity of our continent
- **A unique framework** for our collective action in Africa and in our relations with the rest of the world.
- **The need to accelerate** the process of implementing the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community in order to promote the socio-economic development of Africa and to face more effectively the challenges posed by globalization;
- **A common vision** of a united and strong Africa and by the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion among our peoples;
- **The need to promote peace**, security and stability as a prerequisite for the implementation of our development and integration agenda;

- **AU CONSTITUTIVE ACT**

- **Coordination, Cooperation and Harmonization of Policies**

- The necessity of coordination, cooperation and harmonization of policies, regulation and programs are encompassed in the major fundamental African Union document:

- **Article 15 of The Constitutive Act** of The African Union which has been signed and ratified by the 54 African countries

- **THE ABUJA TREATY**

- The Treaty establishing The African Economic Community also known as Abuja Treaty: Articles 3, 4, 28, 62, 63 and 64.

- **HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT DECISIONS (Katia on initiatives)**

- **AGENDA -2063 AND ITS 7 ASPIRATION**

• **Functions of the Specialized Technical Committees**

Each Committee shall within its field of competence:

- **(a)** prepare projects and programmes of the Union and submit it to the Executive Council;
- **(b)** ensure the supervision, follow-up and the evaluation of the implementation of decisions taken by the organs of the Union;
- **(c) ensure the coordination and harmonization of projects and programmes of the Union;**
- **(d)** submit to the Executive Council either on its own initiative or at the request of the Executive Council, reports and recommendations on the implementation of the provisions of this Act; and
- **(e)** carry out any other functions assigned to it for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Abuja Treaty: Articles 3 & 4

- **Article 3 (Principles)**

- (a) Equality and inter-dependence of Member States;
- (c) Inter-State co-operation, harmonization of policies and integration of programs;
- (d) Promotion of harmonious development of economic activities among

- **Article 4 (Objectives)**

- 1. (d) To coordinate and harmonize policies among existing and future economic communities in order to foster the gradual establishment of the Community.
- 2. (b) The conclusion of agreements aimed at harmonizing and co-coordinating policies among existing and future sub-regional and regional economic communities;
- 2.(e) The harmonization of national policies in order to promote Community activities, particularly in the fields of agriculture, industry, transport and communications, energy, natural resources, trade, money and finance, human resources, education, culture, science and technology;

Abuja Treaty: Articles 3, 4, 28, 63 and 64.

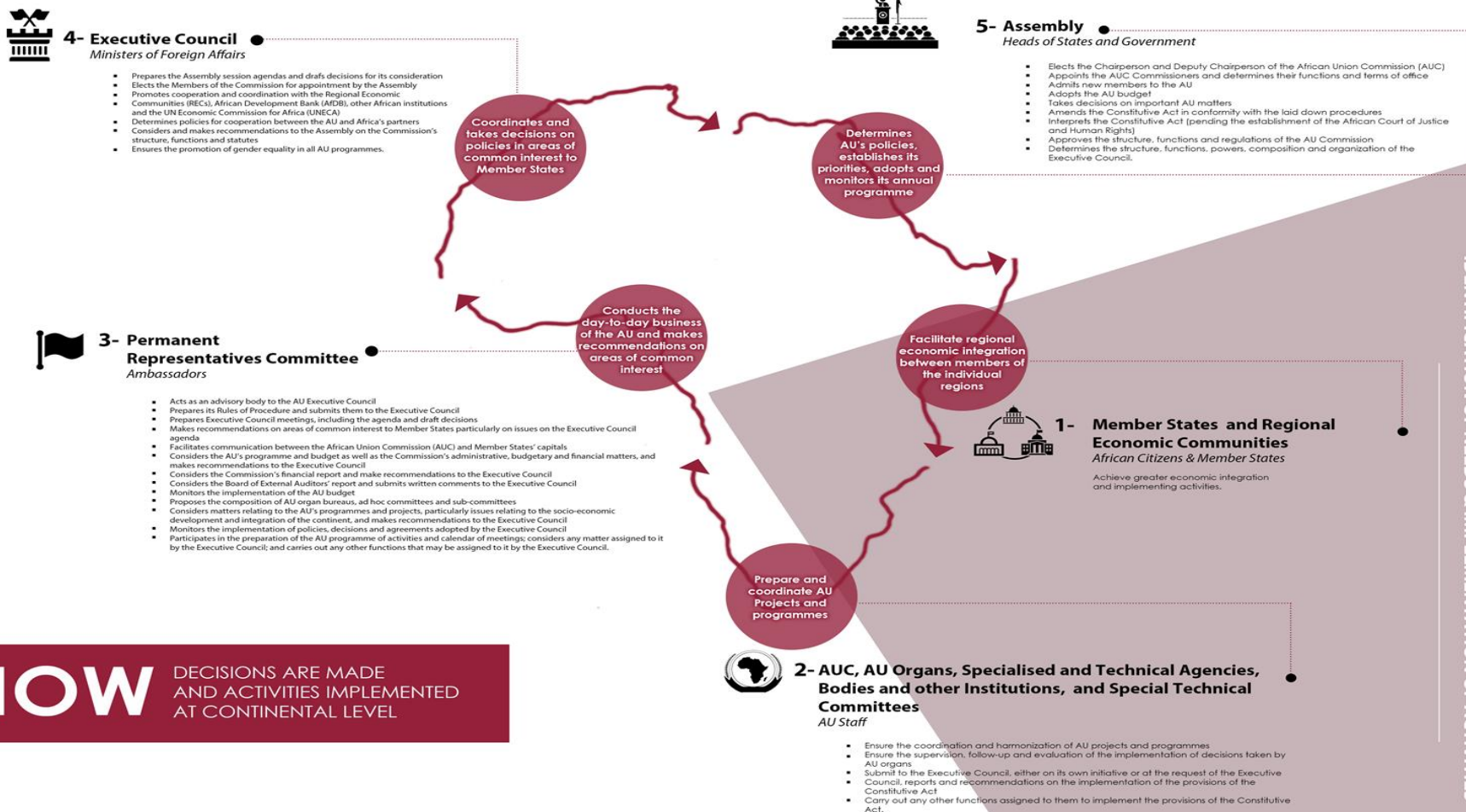
- **Article 28 (RECs):**
 - **Strengthening of Regional Economic Communities**
- **Article 63 (Post, Telecoms)**
 - **Establish a Pan-African Postal Network;**
 - **Develop, modernize, coordinate and STANDARDIZE their national telecommunications networks in order to provide reliable inter- connection among Member States;**
 - **... and to develop close collaboration among Post and Telecommunications administrations.**
- **Q1: STANDARDS AND HARMONIZATION**
- **Article 63 (Broadcasting)**
 - **Coordinate their efforts and pool their resources in order to promote the exchange of radio and television programs at bilateral, regional and continental levels**
- **Q2: CONTENT DEVELOPMENT – THE VITAL ISSUE**

- 1) A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development**
- 2) An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideal Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance**
- 3) An Africa of Good Governance, Democracy, Respect for human rights, Justice and the Rule of law**
- 4) A Peaceful and Secure Africa**
- 5) An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics**
- 6) An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of women and youth**
- 7) Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner**



The AU Decision adoption process

DECISION MAKING



HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE AND ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED AT CONTINENTAL LEVEL

Decision - making mechanisms: Implementation, challenges and opportunities

- No coercive /fining tools:
 - If I don't implement so what!!??
- No Harmonization tools
- No common Objectives/ Priorities
 - Linkage between National and Regional Objectives
 - Linkage between Regional and Continental objectives
- Lack of Full engagement of experts at national / regional levels
- Opportunities
 - Involvement of EU National/Regional delegation in
 - The Formulation of projects- Bottom Up/ Top Down
 - Creation of linkage and synergy among projects
 - Digitalization of all sectors: Factoring ICTs in all Socio-economic development sectors
 - ICT expert of each sector or centralized entity supporting all
 - The implementation process of EU Funded projects
 - Digitalization: Setting common Objectives

NEW CONTEXT



THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION-

- The digital revolution is shaping our lifestyle with more information, more connection speed.
- **This is the unique opportunity for Africa to:**
 - **Transform itself.**
 - **Catch up in the area of :**
 - **Efficient Government, (e-Governance, e-Identity)**
 - **Health (e-Health),**
 - **Education (e-Education),**
 - **Agriculture and food security (e-Agriculture),**
 - **Inter-Africa trade and Integration (e-Commerce,)**
 - **etc...**
- If we miss the turn of Digital revolution, we will end in 21st dominated as it happened when we missed the industrial revolution a century ago.

- **Network-centric Organizations-**
creating economic returns by capitalizing on network advantages, such as:
 - co-creation with their customers (**Facebook**);
 - digital platforms (**Amazon**);
 - shared assets (**Uber and Airbnb**);
 - big data insights (**Netflix and Google**).
- The future of the industry is based on **intangibles** and **networks**.

DIGITAL COOPERATION

- Digital cooperation refers to the ways and means through which individuals, organizations, and countries work together and manage their social, economic, and legal relations in the digital realm.
- The digital transformation increasingly **pervades and impacts all aspects of our social, economic and political lives.**
- These impacts **span a wide array of issues** which through digitization become **more and more interconnected and interdependent**
- At the same time, at the global cooperation level, these **issues are still mainly addressed in silos,**
- with **little or no interconnection between the corresponding international actors.**

Policy and Regulation: The challenges

- Among the many policies and regulations which ones to select
 - Shall we keep ourselves in the classic and continue to harmonize those (updated)policies and regulations identified by AU reference framework, eg
 - *Intra-continental interconnectivity.*
 - *Open access to infrastructure*
 - *Infrastructure sharing.*
 - *mass e-literacy and promote wide ICT usage:*
 - *Development of ICT Applications*
 - *Deployment and utilization of ICT across all socio-economic sectors in Africa.*
 - *African Content*
 - Shall we look forward and address the new and emerging issues e.g.
 - IOT, OTT, 5G, Intelligent Connectivity (AI), Digital Economy, New business licensing, PDP, Cybersecurity, revenue sharing etc..,
 - Shall we keep policing ICT for ICT or Policing ICTs for development i.e. diffusion into all others
- To each policy correspond a regulation. e.g. Regulating ICT for Commerce, health , education etc..
- The harmonization approach to be selected will depend on it the Policing and regulating approaches
- Then the methodology: data collection, Monitoring and evaluation etc..

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

• START BY....

- Acknowledging the opportunity offered by ICT
 - Not to miss the turn of the “ digital economy” - the unique opportunity for Africa
 - Not miss the opportunity to transform ourselves and catch up with the rest of the world in the areas of Education, health, agriculture etc...
 - In the 17th -18th centuries our justification was the “colonization”- do we have one today
 - Avoid a new “DIGITAL COLONISATION OF THE CONTINENT”
 - Develop local content
 - Be an actor of the Digital Economy not only a consumer
 - Remember the current patterns of: Commodities / export, manufacturing/ Industrialization, localization /Export
- **Understanding the new business models and apply new economic development approaches, Network-centric Organizations, Diffusion of ICTs in all sectors, digital transformation and cooperation**
- **Abandon silo approach toward policy and regulating ICTs : Comprehensive approach**
- **Factor Cyber Anxiety and Privacy concerns**

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- **WORK TOGETHER: UNITED WE ARE STRONGER**



WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- INVOLVE ALL AVAILABLE TALENTS AND RESOURCES.... AND SET UP THE RIGHT GOVERNANCE

Ministry of Telecommunications

Universities

Regulatory Authorities

Service Providers

Media Stations

Ministry of Education

Software Developers

Civil Society

Content Developers

End Users

Ministry of Culture

Judicial Authorities

Research Centers

DIGITAL COOPERATION

- POLICIES FOR/OF EACH SECTOR AR NOW INTELINKED BECAUSE OF DIGITAL PLATFORM AND DIGITALIZATION SHOULD CONSIDER ECH OTHER

• THE RIGHT GOVERNANCE

- **Multistakeholder**
- **ICT unit in /for EACH sector**
- **OR....**
- **Coordination unit for all at the highest level possible**

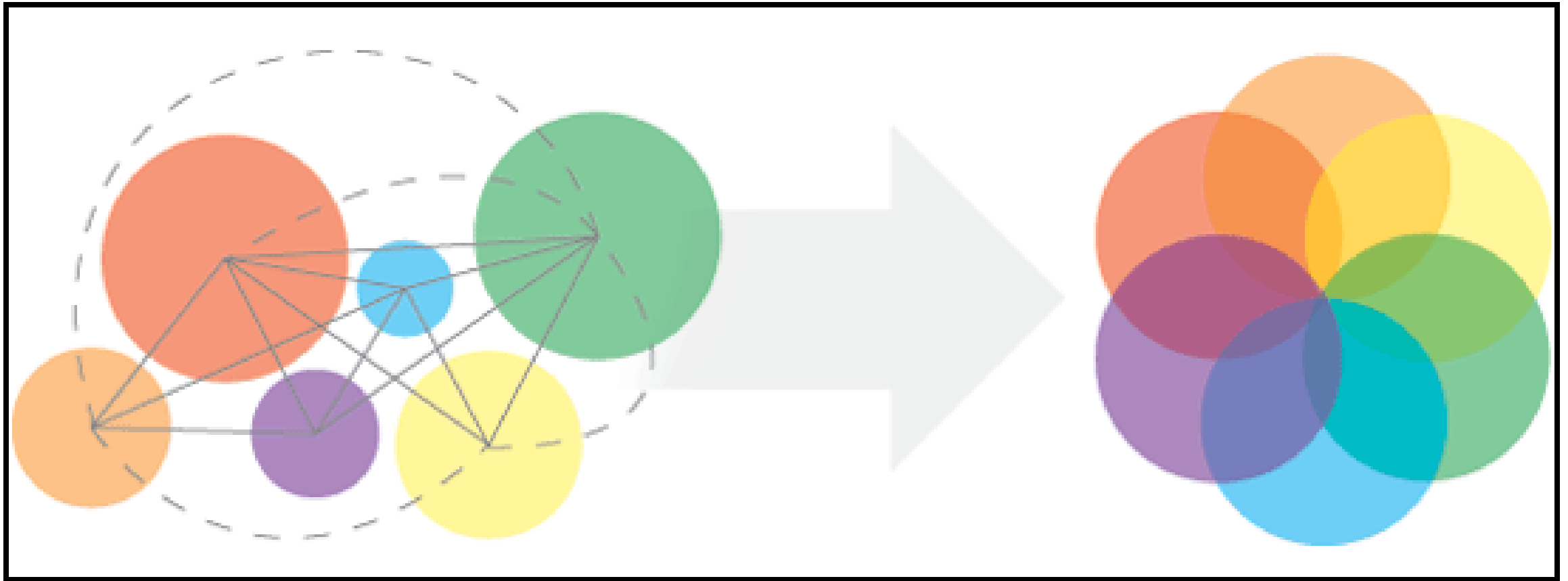
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

START SOLVING POLICY HARMONIZATION PUZZLE IN AU AT CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

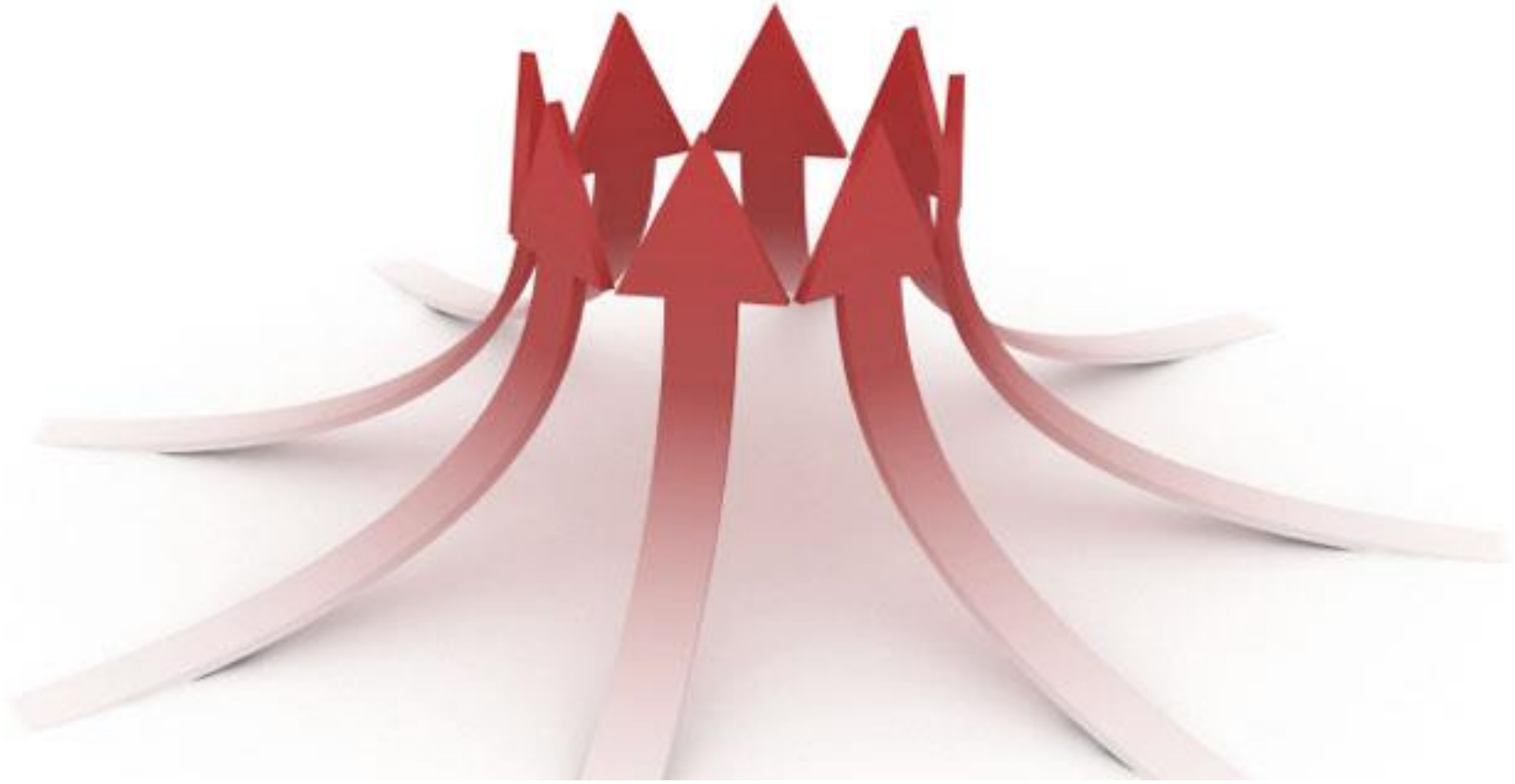


WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- **AND THERE IS NOTHING MORE VITAL FOR US THAN MOVING FROM THE CURRENT CACOPHONY TO THE HARMONIZED SITUATION**



Together we can make it!!!!



ALONG ... COMES PRIDA

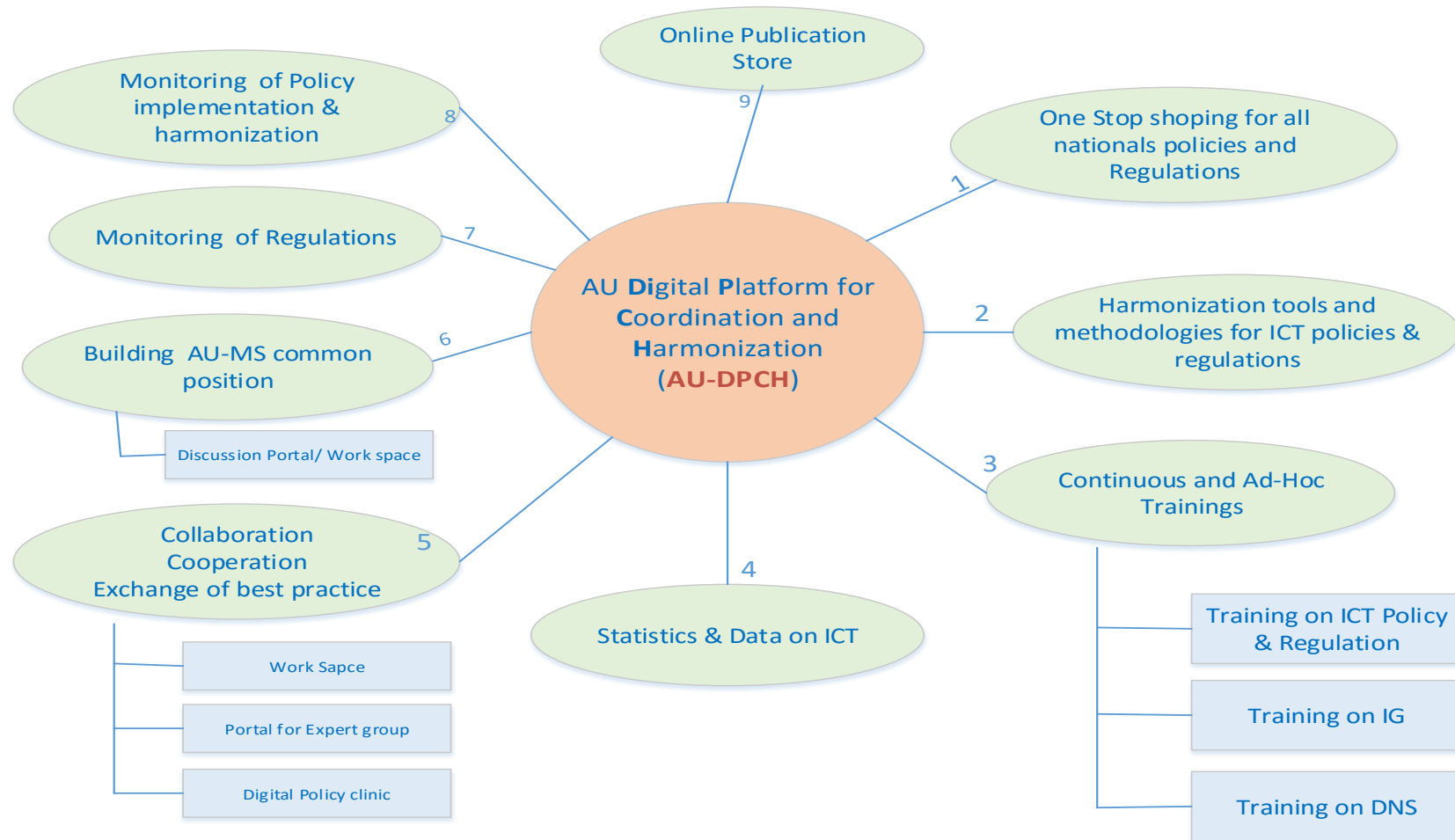
Policy and **R**egulations **I**nitiative for **D**igital **A**frica

PRIDA: AN EXAMPLE OF INITIATION OF PROGRAMS

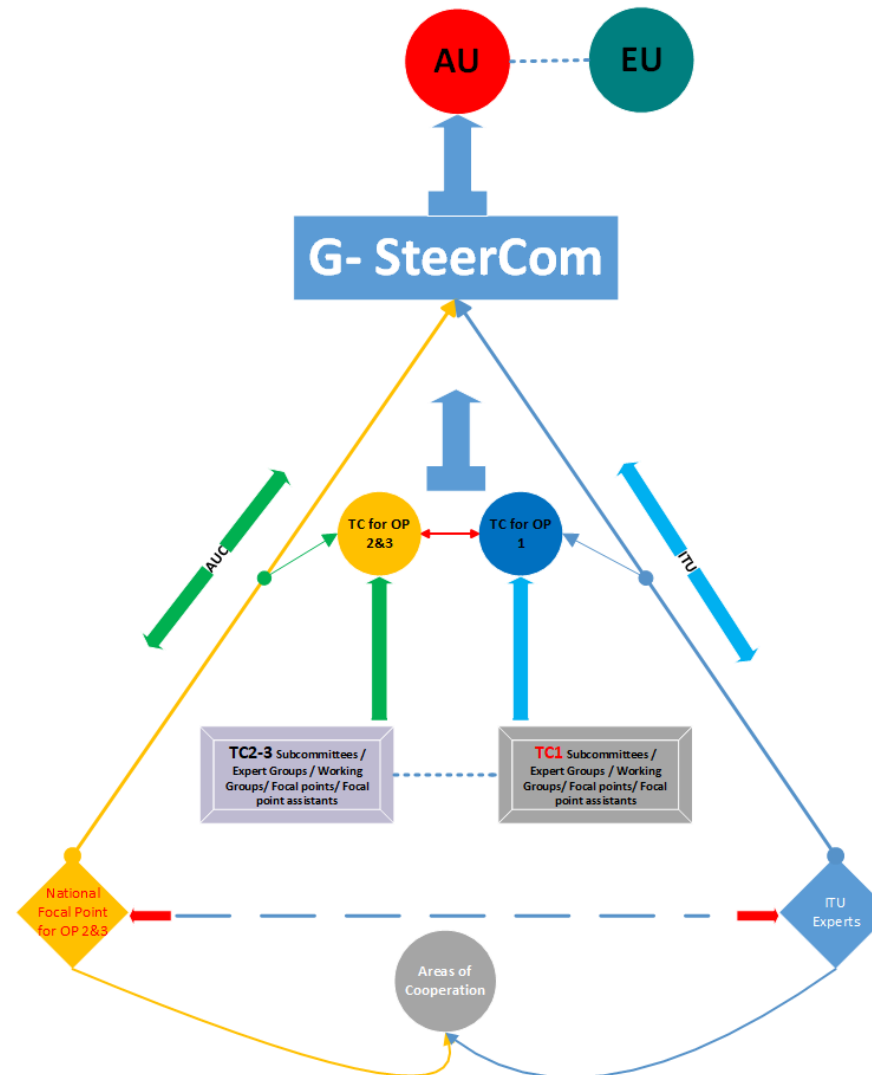
- Five years of negotiations
- Good coordination and implementation mechanism for project implementation
- More involvement of the EU (Country) delegations
- An opportunity for better cooperation
- A bed rock for the digital transformation
- A test for a new approach for integration
- A mechanism to emulate by other sectors
- Never been done before. UNIQUE
- Involve Africans on the Global debate of the IG, Digital Economy, Management of CIR etc..
- Enhance coordination, innovative Policy Development Process (PDP), Science of harmonization, example for Integration tools etc..
- Could be replicated by other sectors

- **FOR INTERNET GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA : CAPACITY BUILDING**
 - Training on IG of personal in AU Member states from :
 - Training on IG of African Trainers
 - Setting up IG RELATED Institutions and for a
- **FOR POLICY AND REGULATION : HARMONIZATION AND M&E**
 - Review and assessment of policies, regulation and legislation
 - Enhance development and harmonization methodology of policy and regulation
 - Set coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation methodologies and mechanism
- **FOR COORDINATION : SET UP DIGITAL PLATFORM**

(AU-DPCH) Design Structure to be hosted in Africa on Dot Africa Domain



PRIDA THE GOVERNANCE



CONCLUSION

- We are bind by A noble ideals and, a common vision of a **united and strong Africa**
- **Coordination, Cooperation and Harmonization** of Policies is a DEMAND from the fundamental treaties ratified by our nations
- Our organs have adopted some major decisions we have committed to implement
- We must consider the context of evolution of ICT sector and seize the moment to **transform ourselves**.
- PRIDA is the unique opportunity provided to meet our objective for digital transformation

Thank you