

**#FIFAfrica 2018**  
**Accra –GHANA**



**PANEL SESSION PROMOTING AFRICAN DECLARATION RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS**

THE OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION

Panel group session gathered 4 members including PROTÉGÉ-QV from Cameroon, CIPESA from Uganda, RUDI International from DRC and MRA from Nigeria.

Participants attending the session in room 2 at La Palm Royal hotel in Accra-Ghana, were more than 45. We also noticed the presence of APC staff namely Mrs Chat, Mrs Deborah and Mr. Karel.

The Panel presented the ongoing advocacy activities at national level around the African Declaration Key principles with emphasis on their implementation in each African country.

One of the best practice shared by Avis Momeni from PROTÉGÉ QV in Cameroon, was the implementation in Cameroon of the above named African Declaration. This was done through a survey on the understanding by the local population of the thirteen key principles, coupled to authors' articles on the implementation of each of the key principle in Cameroon with emphasis placed on opportunities, trends, threats and violations. The study comes out with a measurement tool on internet rights and freedoms Index (IIFR) for the country's situation that can be replicates in other African countries.

Lillian from CIPESA in Uganda shared with participants the advocacy and actions carried by CIPESA for many years on Digital Rights and on internet freedoms.

The advocacy made by Rudi International in DRC consisted of approaching parliamentarians in other to take into account the key principles of the African declaration on the current digital draft bill process in DRC.

The last speaker Morisola Alaba from Media Rights Agenda (MRA) based in Nigeria emphasized on media commitment to sensitize government and people on the resolution passed on the "Freedoms to information and expression on the internet" the 4<sup>th</sup> of november 2016 at Banjul by the African commission on Human and people Rights.

Interactions with participants brought to light some key points including the strategical approach of the issue related to the sexual discrimination which must respect domestic law in force in Africa countries.

The participants also outlined the necessity to raise awareness about the African Declaration Key principles before local authorities, including law and policy makers, not forgetting the parliamentarians.

The panel moderator Mr Adebayo shared the case study of Digital Rights Coalition 's action in Nigeria lead by Paradigm Initiative organization, on civil society expertise approach on drafting digital bills as a strategic approach when reaching the policy makers. The work still has a long way to go, the bottom line being the dissemination of the African declaration key principles, just as CIPESA and MFWA did by promoting digital rights through #FIFAfrica.

*MOMENI/PROTEGE QV/CAMEROON*