

**Remarks by Ezra Chiloba, Director General, Communications Authority of Kenya (CA)
During the AFRALTI Liaison Forum 2023**

THEME: *Capacity Building, Research and Innovation in ICT in The Sub-Saharan Africa*

**Our Guests of Honor,
AFRALTI Member States Present: - Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Zimbabwe and
Mozambique.**

AFRALTI Director, Mr. William Baraza

Our Guest Speakers:

- 1. Mr. John Ombagi, CEO, Plena Solutions**
- 2. Ms. Diana Mutua, Head of Public Relations iLab Africa at Strathmore University.**

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon

1. It is our pleasure as the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) to host you during the this AFRALTI Liaison Forum.
2. As an AFRALTI member and Governing Council Chair for Financial Year 2023-2024, the Authority is delighted to drive and actualize the agenda of this year's liaison forum on building capacity, research and innovation in ICT in the Sub-Saharan Africa.
3. The developments in ICTs have impacted human endeavor in ways unimaginable in the most recent past to the extent that countries have developed plans for growing GDP driven ICTs.
4. The future of ICTs will indeed shape the role and mandate of the Institute, more so against the backdrop of COVID-19 to become a better enabler by providing a whole range of value-added services.
5. We commend AFRALTI for striving to build and offer authentic world class capacity building services in ICT over the years in the region and beyond.
6. It is our duty as regulators and AFRALTI member states to support the institute in achieving its mandate as this plays an important role in the achievement of several SDGs by creating and sustaining a conducive environment for the growth of ICT sector.
7. With the new entrant of research and innovation as AFRALTI's mandate, the authority is keen to pursue programs and projects geared towards research and development in partnership with AFRALTI and we invite all other regulators represented here to join in.
8. As the ICT regulator, we are mandated to protect consumers of ICT services including children. Children are a vulnerable group and there have been many cases of children unknowingly getting into dangerous situations that sometimes have detrimental effects to them.

9. Protecting children online is a global challenge that requires concerted efforts of parents, guardians, the government and organizations that focus on children, among others.
10. We have partnered with AFRALTI since 2019 to build capacity on child online protection with over 1000 stakeholders certified. This is an initiative that can be adopted by all regulators as we are all mandated to invest in capacity building, awareness creation and collaboration among other efforts as a means of addressing the global challenges of cybersecurity.
11. With those few remarks, it is my pleasure to declare this forum officially closed.
12. I wish you well in your endeavors and safe journey mercies back to your various countries.

Thank you for your attention.