



PARADIGM
INITIATIVE

DIGITAL RIGHTS AND INCLUSION FORUM – DRIF22 REPORT

VENUE: Ramada Resort Hotel, Dar es Salaam – Tanzania

DATE: 11th May.

2022

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1.0 Introduction

On 11th May 2022 Zaina Foundation in collaboration with Paradigm Initiative (PIN) conducted a Digital Rights and Inclusion Forum which aimed to bring all digital rights stakeholders including (CSO's, media, government officials, law makers, policy makers, PWD's, students, private sectors, etc)together to discuss and have conversation about the sector in its totality, its success, challenges and areas of improvement. This year in Tanzania the event was held in Ramada Resort Hotel, Dar es Salaam. A total number of 30 participants attended the in-person event whereby 16 participants were female, 13 were male and 1 participant is non-conforming. The participants were from various parts of the country namely Arusha, Dodoma, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and coastal region.

1.1 An Overview of DRIF

The Digital Rights and Inclusion Forum (DRIF) is an important platform where conversations on digital policy in Africa are shaped, policy directions debated and partnerships forged for action. This year is the 9th Edition of DRIF Under the theme Towards a Digitally Inclusive and Rights Respecting Africa, DRIF22 is conducted in 17 African countries including Tanzania.

In Tanzania, DRIF 22 was organized by Zaina Foundation as country host, under the theme "Digital Rights and Inclusion for a Sustainable Development" where the guest of honor was Hon. Mwanaidi Ali Khamis who is the Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups.



Figure 1: A photo of Executive Director of Zaina Foundation giving her remarks at DRIF 22 event

2.0 DRIF 22 Proceedings

DRIF 22 was a one-day event, where participants' conversations and discussion focused on the following topics;

- Technology and PWD's
- Internet and its vast benefits
- EPOCA Regulations, 2020 analysis
- Online Content moderation
- Online gender based violence

2.1 Welcoming Remarks

This session covers remarks from various stakeholders as follows;

2.1.1 Remarks from Zaina Foundation Executive Director.

In her remarks, she thanked Hon. Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups for accepting invitation of Zaina Foundation and Paradigm Initiative and being Guest of honor in the Digital Rights and Inclusion Forum of 2022. In her remarks, she introduced her about Zaina Foundation and some of its implemented projects. She finalized her remarks by sending three requests to the guest of honor.

2.1.2 Remarks from PIN representative Mr. Samuel

In his remarks Mr. Samuel thanked Hon. Deputy Minister for coming to attend the DRIF 22, he also thanked Zaina Foundation for the great coordination and organization of DRIF22 in Tanzania. Further, he thanked the participants for coming to attend the DRIF 22. He finalized his remarks by introducing to the Guest of Honour about PIN and DRIF.



Figure 2: A photo of PIN representative giving his remarks during DRIF 22 event

2.1.3 Opening Remarks, the Guest of Honour, Hon. Deputy Minister Mwanaidi Ali Khamis (MP)

In her remarks, Hon. Mwanaidi Ali Khamis thanked Zaina Foundation and PIN for organizing this Forum and invited her to be a special guest. She further affirmed that if technology will be used appropriately it will have led to a sustainable development. However, due to the technological advancement there is a growing number of online gender based violence. Added that, her Ministry is aware of it and they are following it very closely. She further, requested the member of community to report the OGBV incidents to the responsible authority or dial the free number 116 to report any child or any violence.

Hon. Mwanaidi Ali Khamis ensured the participants that her Ministry will continue to work closely and collaborate with CSO's and other stakeholder's to empowering women and special groups on the use technology and to be secured online. She finally accepted all the request from Zaina Foundation and assured that the Ministry will work on it.



Figure 3: Hon. Mwanaidi Ali Khamis, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups presenting her Speech during DRIF 22

2.1.4 Vote of Thanks from Zaina Foundation Board Member

In her remarks, she thanked the Hon. Mwanaidi Ali Khamis Deputy Minister for accepting the invitation and joined Zaina Foundation and PIN in DRIF22.



Figure 4: A photo of board member offering a vote of thanks to the guest of honor during DRIF 22

2.2 Session 1: Technology and People with Disabilities in Tanzania

In this session we had two panelists who represented PWD groups. The panel was moderated by representative from Zaina Foundation who posed various guiding questions to the panelists. This session aimed to provide participants an overview of PWD's and technology advancement in Tanzania. The panelist provided insightful information with direct answers on the following questions. Are the PWD's recognized in Tanzania's laws/policies? What is their statistics? Does the technological advancement help them? If yes, how? In Tanzania do we include them in our digital rights platforms by considering their special needs? What challenges do they face with regards to the technological advancement? What can be done to improve the situation of digital inclusion with regards to PWDs in Tanzania?



Figure 5: A photo of Panelists during the session of Technology and People with Disabilities

2.3 Session 2: Internet and its Vast Benefits

This session was facilitated by representative from Internet Society Tanzania Chapter. This session aimed to provide participants with information on the benefits of internet. The facilitator elaborated various benefits of internet to participants. These include internet for research and e learning, job creation, online shopping, banking, payment of utility bills, e commerce online collaboration enabler (online meetings), online news, entertainment, etc



Figure 6: A photo of ISOC representative in Tanzania during DRIF 22

2.4 Session 3: EPOCA Regulations (2020) Analysis

This session was facilitated by representative from Zaina Foundation who took through DRIF22 participants on an analysis of Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Regulations) Regulations of 2020. The presentation based on strengths of the Regulations, challenges of the Regulations, government initiatives and recommendations.



Figure 7: A photo of representative from ZF presenting during DRIF22

2.5 Session 4: online Content Moderation

The session facilitated by TAMWA representative aimed to provide the participant with information about online content moderation and its importance. The facilitator explained to the participants that it's important for an organization to ensure the adherence of online content moderation in their organization social media and website.

Qn. From Mr. Rajabu – What is the different between online content moderation and Online Content Regulations?

Answer: Online content moderation is the process of reviewing, screening, and filtering social media content related to your business/ works. While Online Content Regulations are the regulations which were made under sections 103 of the Electronic and Postal Communications Act of 2010 to monitor the online services in Tanzania.

2.6 Session 5: Online Gender Based Violence (OGBV)

This session was a panel discussion with panelists from CSO's, media and university student's representatives. Miss Schola who is the director of child Labor organization represented CSO's, Ms. Suzan who is a journalist from TBC Arusha represented media and Ms. Sarah who is a University student from IFM University represented University students. The panelists shared their experiences and overviews on the matter, focusing on the source/ root cause of online gender based violence, impact of it and what can be done to combat this problem.



Figure 7: A photo of representative from ZF presenting during DRIF22