

Preface

The deployment of efficient and effective information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure and services in developing countries faces several obstacles. Cost, awareness, availability, affordability, and accessibility are some examples. Nevertheless, this deployment remains a pre requisite for development. High-quality venues are therefore needed to discuss research and experimental results, and AFRICOMM is among these venues.

The first edition of AFRICOMM, which took place in Maputo, Mozambique in 2009, was the beginning of an exciting journey. Five editions followed before the latest edition that was held in Cotonou (Republic of Benin). The hosts of these five editions were: Cape Town (South Africa) in 2010, Zanzibar (Tanzania) in 2011, Yaounde (Cameroon) in 2012, Blantyre (Malawi) in 2013, and Kampala (Uganda) in 2014.

The topics generally discussed at AFRICOMM include (but are not limited to) energy-aware ICT infrastructure, existing/emerging wireless broadband access technologies, WiMAX, LTE, IT security issues in developing countries, as well as affordable and relevant mobile technologies and solutions. Discussions on the role that emerging ICT technologies—e.g., cloud computing, network function virtualization (NFV), software-defined networks (SDN)—could play in developing countries have also begun.

We now proudly present the proceedings of AFRICOMM 2015, which took place in Cotonou (Republic of Benin), during December 15–16, 2015. They include very high quality papers. The acceptance rate is 33 % (17 long papers out of 51 submissions, plus short papers and posters). The authors are from various countries including the Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Cameroon, Mozambique, Uganda, Malawi, South Africa, Tunisia, Italy, Portugal, Poland, France, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Canada, and the USA.

The papers were presented in four sessions: communication infrastructure; access to information; green IT applications and security; and health and communication infrastructure. The posters they were shown in two sessions. There were also two enlightening keynote speeches: The first was by Dr. Patrick Valduriez on cloud and big data in developing countries and the second by Prof. Nii Quaynor on Africa Internet technical institutions.

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