





The main purpose of the conference was to examine the best ways in which to use knowledge and innovation to boost youth employment and foster the adoption of new technologies.

The conference was also looking at the current position ofmdigital finance technology (DFS) in Uganda, so that all concerned stakeholders (Lawyers, law makers, Financial Institutions government and regulatory authorities) are well acquainted with the concept of digital finance technology and what it entails. Digital Financial Technology has the potential to disrupt markets, commerce and traditional financial institutions as we know them today if it is not well understood and managed.

The conference was an avenue for the attendees to brainstorm with the relevant authorities and lawyers on how best technology (DFS, Block-chain etc) can be regulated and monitored in Uganda's legal regime.

Speaker Highlights



Simon Peter Kinobe President Uganda Law Society



Hon. Matia Kasaija Minister for Finance Planning and Economic Development in Uganda



Frank Tumwebazze Minister of Information Technology and Communications in Uganda



Stella Alibateese Director, Regulation and Legal Services - NITA -U



Candy Wekesa Okoboi Head of Legal & Company Secretary, Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited



Susan Wegoye Commission Secretary/Director Legal Affairs at the Uganda Communications Commission.



Hon. Steve Tikodri Scientist, Engineer, Academic, and Politician in Uganda.



Mable Ndawula Kasente Partner - Deloitte East Africa



Dr. Anthony Kakooza Dean - Faculty of Law UCU



Andrew Jombwe Chief Operation Officer TruIT Uganda Limited



Alice Namuli Blazevic Partner Katende, Ssempebwa & Company Advocates



Jamina Apio Mediation and Reconciliation Network Partner - ABM



Pheona Wall Vice President Uganda -Law Society



Vincent Bagiire Permanent Secretary -Ministry of ICT and National Guidance



Andrew Kabeera Chief Operating Office dfcu Bank



Lloyd Busuulwa Manager - Alternative Channels dfcu Bank



Abila Gerald Attorney & Managing Director - Barefoot Lawyers



Esther Katende Magezi Founder - EK Consulting Group.



Godfrey Mutabazi Executive Director Uganda Communications Commission (UCC)



Nalumansi Esther Mary Co- Founder /Advocate Lawyers for Farmers



Richard Byarugaba Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the National Social Security Fund



Gabriel Iguma Host - Spectrum Radio One



Ron Kawamara C.E.O - Jumia Group Uganda



Birungyi CephasPartner Birungyi Barata Co. Advocates



Silver Kayondo Partner - ORTUS LLP



Dennis Abigaba Kakonge Legal & Regulatory Director Airtel Uganda



William Byaruhanga Attorney General of Uganda



Olukayode Osunsan Managing Director Logix Technial Solutions



Neil Blazevic Manager - Technology and Human Rights Defenders Program



Capt. Mike Mukula Businessman and Pilot



Kwame Rugunda Chairman Blockchain Association of Uganda



Justice Paul Kahaibale Mugamba Justice - Supreme Court of Uganda



Brian Ndyaguma Business Development Manager -Hague Institute for Innovation of Law



Gloria Mbabazi Manager The Tech Hub



Rayner Magyezi Kampala Associated Advocates



Macgyver Mugamba Opportunity Bank



Ivan Ojakol KTA Advocates



Edgar Kasenene IoT and Emerging Business Africa ericsson, Johannesberg.



Teneyi Mawocha CEO Opportunity Bank



Dr. Tumubweinee Twinemanzi Executive Director Supervision Bank of Uganda



Kenneth Muhangi Partner KTA



Edgar Tabaro Partner -KTA Advocates



Edwin Tabaro Managing Partner KTA Advocates



Justus Karuhanga Partner KTA



The Symposium was kicked off by Mr. Simon Peter Kinobe, President of the Uganda Law Society who made welcoming remarks and especially thanked KTA Advocates for organizing what promised to be a great and enriching event highlighting the need for lawyers to innovate so as to grow the legal profession. He then welcomed Hon. Matia Kasaijja, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development who made the opening remarks by speaking on the sub-theme "ICT and its role in finance".



He encouraged lawyers and Ugandans at large to emulate countries like the United States where there is a new discovery on a daily basis.

He also emphasized the point that data is the new gold and how a number of data-driven disruptions are bound to emerge. That Artificial Intelligence will be applied more in Know Your Customer (KYC) documents by banks.

Technological advancement & innovation have aided women empowerment as this has given women financial independence Innovation & Technological advancement reduces the poverty rates in the country. That it is for that, reason, that the Ugandan government passed laws like the Computer Misuse Act, Electronic Transactions Act and the Data Protection Bill which in the offing.

He added that the use of ICT comes with a number of challenges like the endless high costs associated with using it.

In summing up, he noted that the government of Uganda has created an enabling environment for Ugandans to innovate and grow Uganda's economy and with increased innovation, Uganda will achieve middle income status.

ICT policy and law in uganda: the importance of innovation to the digital economy

The next segment of the symposium was on the sub-theme "ICT Policy and Law in Uganda: The Importance of Innovation to the Digital Economy."

The main speaker on this sub-theme was Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, the Minister of ICT, but unfortunately, he could not attend, so he sent a representative to deliver his remarks. In delivering the remarks of the Honourable Minister, he stated Uganda has among others developed a National ICT program. That this program should catapult Uganda to the 4th Industrial Revolution.

He noted that Intellectual Property is still a challenge and suggested that the Ministry and other stakeholders should come together and support the innovators.

To discuss this theme further, a panel constituting Stella Alibateese, Head Legal NITA-U, Edgar Kasenene, Head of Internet of Things and Emerging Business Africa Ericsson, Andrew Kabeera, Chief Operating Officer, DFCU, Sulaiman, Head Legal, Opportunity Bank, moderated by KTA Advocates Managing Partner, Edwin Tabraro.

Mr. Edgar Kasenene set the ball rolling by saying that the internet has completely demystified knowledge and the consumer is increasingly knowledgeable. Consumer experiences are changing every year and increasingly becoming knowledgeable. He also emphasized that Innovation is a way of life and especially highlighted that the banking industry is one of the most disrupted especially in the west.



Ms. Stella Alibateese then voiced her views on the sub-theme stating that there is need to review laws on technology in Uganda. However, adding that Uganda must be credited for being one of the most innovative countries.

Stella also gave credit to Applications like; UNZA, Paypal among others for easing work and doing business.

She called for Law Council to adopt the practice of approving chambers using Lexis Nexus other than using Red & Blue Volumes. Lawyers should brace themselves for legal services provided online and therefore need to be tech-savvy. That however, ICT poses a problem of consumer protection.

She also added that at NITA-U, they are working on a mobile ID, credited Uganda for the E-Visa and other ICT initiatives.

Sulaiman, Opportunity Bank chipped in by vouching for the need to identify the drivers of change in the banking industry. He also stated that lawyers do not understand IT transactions and that they must develop expertise in that area. Re-echoing the words of the previous speakers, he added that lawyers should be innovative and always available to their clients.

Taxing digital assets: challenges faced by the tax man.

The next panel was on "Taxing Digital Assets: Challenges Faced by the Tax Man"

A keynote address on this sub-theme was delivered Mrs. Doris Akol, Commissioner General of Uganda Revenue Authority (URA)..



In her address, she noted that digital assets manifest themselves in different ways especially in this day and age of trade in services other than trade in goods.

She also noted that there is another challenge of taxing these digital assets revolving around the fact that taxation rules are residence-based and yet there are different business models being adopted by these companies dealing in the digital space. For example if someone is transacting on Ali Baba; where is the point of sale for tax purposes? How do you tax these companies that lack a physical presence?

She called for the development of the nexus rule as a perhaps a solution to some of these problems and the taxation of Virtual Permanent Establishments.

To discuss the main speaker's presentation was a panel comprising Sheila Kawooya, Head Legal & Compliance, Uganda Revenue Authority, Silver Kayondo of Ortus LLP, Ivan Ojakol of KTA Advocates, Rayner Mugyezi of Kampala Associated Advocates, a representative from Deloitte.

Mr. Cephas Birungyi of Birungyi, Barata & Co. Advocates and the Commissioner General herself, Doris Akol. The moderator of this panel was Sheila Nyanzi of Econet.

Mr. Cephas Birungyi as a senior tax practitioner advocated for the importance of a solid tax policy and not the haphazard ones that we are used to. That there should be more evaluation and analysis when coming up with tax policy.

Mrs. Doris Akol, once again voiced her concerns about taxing these digital assets and that Uganda should borrow a leaf from a country like India that has attempted to tax digital assets. Ms. Sheila Kawooya stated that because of Uganda's harsh tax policies, that do not involve contributions and consultations from elites and peasants, there has been a huge drop in consumer trust. She gave the example of the 40% drop in the utilization of services of mobile money.



Mr. Rayner Mugyezi spoke about how ICT can play a role in easing the chain of evidence giving the example of how a video was used as evidence in a recent Court case where a young lady had recorded a pornographic video of herself.

Mr. Ivan Ojakol stated that lawyers must advise their clients well especially the e-commerce ones that play across a number of countries and in the region of Africa as far as the taxation of their digital assets is concerned. This advice should relate to the management and commercialization of their Intellectual Property assets, thorough counsel on the different regional laws like the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AFCFTA) and its impacts on clients' digital assets and re-echoed the need for a more comprehensive and robust tax policy so as to give businessmen certainty and predictability.

Mr. Silver Kayondo called for more creative ways of taxing digital assets through giving comparative examples of how it is done elsewhere through the creation of "Virtual Permanent Establishments". He also advised Uganda Revenue Authority to come up with more innovative ways of encouraging tax compliance such as praising tax compliance champions.



The importance of data in online transactions

The next segment was on "The importance of Data in Online Transactions". The main speaker on this topic was **Ron Kawamara, Managing Director Jumia Uganda.**

In his address, he stated that Jumia collects data so as to understand marketing trends. Adding that "Big Data" is more than technology and that it not a passing phase. It is here to stay and it is ever evolving. That Jumia uses a method known as "Anticipatory shipping".

Jumia's use of "Big data" to enhance its sales, for product maximization and ad maximization. He concluded "Data is a great equalizer. Even the small companies can be able to harness and optimally serve their customers."

A panel was constituted to discuss this theme composed of; Godfrey Sserwamukoko of Iway Africa, Lindsay Handler, Fenix International, Aggrey Omara, Internet Solutions and Andrew Jombwe of TrulT. This particular panel was moderated by Alice Namuli Blazevic, Katende, Ssempebwa & Co. Advocates.

Ms. Alice Namuli Blazevic started by quoting a book "The future of tomorrow will be owned by those who own data...humans will live under digital dictatorships as is in China and the U.S." She then asked how each of the panelists handles data.

Mr. Godfrey Sserwamukoko of IwayAfrica went first. He stated that they consider three things when it comes to data; confidentiality, the integrity of data is of utmost importance to them and how it is made available.

He added that getting into his data center has a number of protection mechanisms.

Ms. Lindsey Handler also stated that at Finex, they use different technological tools to protect information.

Mr. Aggrey Omara of Internet Solutions opined that as long as data is available, there will always be criminals trying to steal it. However, he was quick to add that the data companies are winning because only a few have had their data centres hacked into. So they are working tooth and nail to keep ahead of the criminal minds.





Mr. Andrew Jombwe of TrulT also made his contribution by adding that there is a cultural problem in Uganda. He warned that phones and different devices are collecting data on us; that the things that we have with us are transacting with us every day.

Ms. Alice Namuli Blazevic then asked them about the regulatory policies impeding innovation. There was general consensus that to some extent UCC's regulation can be restrictive towards the innovation.

Mr. Godfrey Sserwamukoko further added that innovation should move from companies to individuals and lawyers have a big role to play in this.

Ms. Alice Namuli Blazevic then asked about finding a middle ground; between government and the private individual, who will be in charge of the data?

Ms. Lindsey Handler also added that every business should have a lawyer and also in answering Alice's question about how she navigates EU law with Uganda which has a simplified regime. Ms. Lindsey Handler stated that he thinks that it is the consumer that should be in charge of the data.

Mr. Godfrey Sserwamukoko however, gave the Ugandan government credit for their efforts thus far as far as promoting innovation is concerned like the E-visa and the National Broadband Strategy which explicitly states that the Ugandan government wants 50% of the rural community covered by 2020. There is need to transform what the government is doing into information to people.

Ms. Alice Namuli Blazevic also about how technology contributes to the economy. Mr. Andrew Jombwe submitted that there should be synergies towards technology and innovation across the board; from academics, to doctors etc. The need to use data collectively is paramount and that big data should be used progressively.

In the Q & A session, Mr. Rama Omonya of ABN Advocates asked Uganda can benchmark on the Asian Tigers who collect information on how one residing in a hotel likes their stay, spending habits etc, but unfortunately, it is not the same in Uganda and also how they are benchmarking on the GDPR.

Mr. Ron Kawamara answered that question by stating that almost 70% of Jumia users will ask that we remember their password next time.



Mr. Edgar Kasenene, Head of the Internet of Things and Emerging Business at Ericsson started off the 2nd day of the symposium by making a presentation on the topic "Digital Now-"Time to re-purpose?"

He got the ball rolling with "If you are not continuously learning, you are in trouble."

That with changing technology, there will be changing competition and changing customer care.

The aspect of value is going to disrupt many organizations.

He posed this question "Do we are about improving consumers life or we are obsessed with "self-preservation?". The Credit departments in banks need to be disrupted.

He added that Netflix has caused major disruptions in South Africa where DSTV has now announced that they are going to cut around 3000 jobs.

He fronted the idea of "Exponential" that you could be about 2-3 days away from disruption.

In the internet era, control has moved from consumer to society and that one cannot control the digital era, you can only engage.

Giving the example of Amazon which started in the same year as MTN but has grown way more exponentially because it fascinates about its customer and that is why it grows; that I why the customer must always be key. Now, Amazon can buy the top 100 companies in Africa and continue to grow. We must stop seeing the world through the lens of our product but start seeing it through the lens of our customer.

Most of the big companies use your insights to anticipate one's next move. Also stating that a company must remain a "Day 1" company, "Day 2" is what causes complacency among companies.

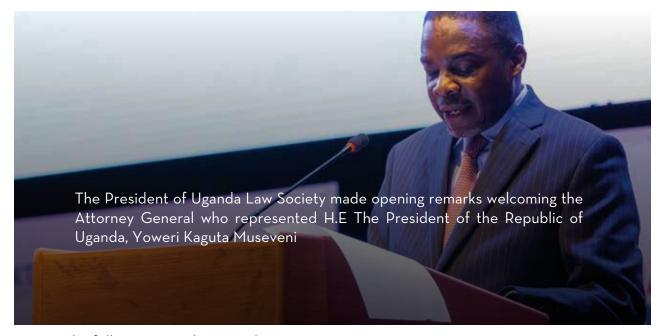
He also warned the audience to stop making career plans because one can never know what their next job will be. He ended with "It is about you, start innovating."

In the Q & A session, **Mr. Solomon Mukuye** asked about how one can balance between different cultures i.e people who are tech-savvy and those who are not.

Mr. Edgar Kasenene answered this by stating that the conversation starts now and slowly the innovation and disruption will take place.

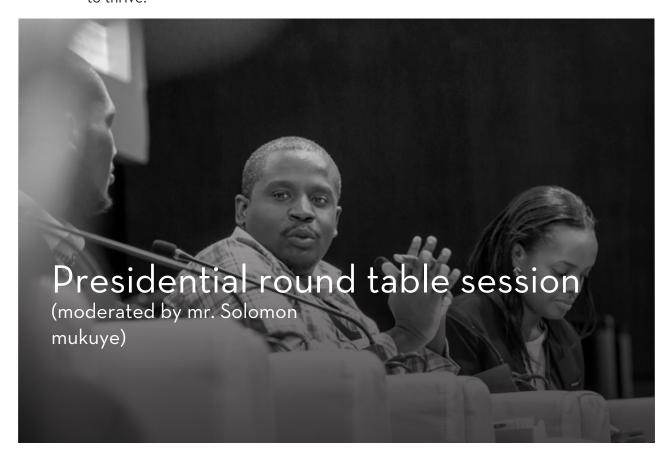
Ms. Olivier Kiratu also asked about closing the gap between a generation of risk and one of opportunity and how to bring everyone on board.





The following were his remarks:

- Uganda as a country is a top importer of technology mostly from Asia and Europe
- 2. There is an increase in the use of social media and E-commerce all of which is shaping the economy towards Vision 2040.
- 3. The Government is working on a National ICT policy and Electronic Trans actions policies.
- 4. Young people to come up with more innovations that can be helpful to the community.
- 5. That Uganda is still experiencing a few challenges but thankfully, the government of Uganda has created a conducive environment for innovation to thrive.



The moderator Mr. Solomon Mukuye emphasized the aspect of promotion of intelligence using hubs, formulation of business plans and ideas. The following innovators were hosted for the Presidential roundtable:

Mr. Japheth CK (Innovation Village) laid down the fact that an everyday user of technology often encounters problems that require solutions. It is from these solutions that applications can be created to handle such problems as they arise.

Mr. Christian Ogencu (Zimba Games), the proprietor of Zimba games stated that the cards played speak to legal issues affecting the everyday person in society. This in a way exposes them to various practical solutions of handling all legal issues as they arise.

Mr. Magezi Segasse (Justice Bot) represented Justice Bot at the symposium. This app helps in identifying people's legal problems and solutions to them and further procedures to them. It further connects lawyers to clients. Mr. Magezi emphasized use of artificial intelligence in handling people's legal problems.

Anatolia Kirigwajjo (Yunga). Yunga is an app that helps to ensure security and safety in a community. It is a local digital rescue system where people can best secure their environment using technology. He stated that according to the Police the ratio of Police to the population is 1:1000 so the app comes in to bridge the gap. It has so far been embraced in Nsambya Housing Estate. However, the plan is to roll out the app in other parts of country. Technology is intended to connect everyone in the neighborhood including the lay persons.

Gadiel Ishimwe and Deo Mugambo (Hackers Yatch). These two speakers talked about the concept of hacking.

Hacking is the process of cording in simple terms. The panelists laid down the following as the major obstacles to their work:

- 1. The whole process of copyright is expensive and tiresome.
- 2. The need to call upon more investors to invest in the sector.
- 3. Law firms should come in to support tech hubs for instance the issue of copyright especially software infringement.

1st Annual Symposium

REPORT



The second session was moderated by Ms. Marion Acio from the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions under the topic of Cyber Security and Fintech. It was hosted by Mr. Olukayode Osunsan from Logix Technical Solutions.

The Moderator discussed the famous Mobile money case of **Uganda V Guster Nsubuga and others [2012]** where the accused were charged and convicted of offences related to the Computer Misuse Act where they deprived of MTN Uganda a substantial loss of money. Ms. Mario Acio, from the office of the DPP was part of the team that Prosecuted the case and she emphasized the point that the office did not have the required expertise to fully investigate the offence. The biggest issue was the chain of evidence during the process of collection.

Mr. Olukayode defined cyber security as a state of protecting data against the criminals. He made a power point presentation detailing cyber security and Fintech which was shared and shown to the attendees of the symposium.

The panelists and what they discussed is highlighted below:

1. Neil Blazevic (Technology and Human Rights Defender Program)

He discussed the issue of the European Union data protection law and its major aim of protecting consumers of data. He further pointed out startups and innovations as avenues for use of technology.

2. Timothy Mugume (Jumia Food)

He highlighted the issue of online fraud that is common with online transactions. Customers should endeavor to read the terms and conditions before they commit to any online transactions.

3. Paula Namusitwa (ABN Advocates)

She pointed out the lack of cyber security laws in Uganda to fully address the issue of cyber security. This has greatly affected the cases being investigated by cyber security experts for instance the MTN fraud case.

4. Joseph Lutwama (Centenary Bank)

Companies should endeavor to build capacity and facilities for their employees. Cyber risk does not impeach the end user.

5. Abhijit Bhattachanya (Fenix International)

He pointed out the issue that companies and institutions must demonstrate to customers that their data is safe. That way more trust is created between the customers and the institutions.

6. Yoran (ISPAU)

He pointed out the most important issue of training more cyber security experts in Uganda. Those way cyber security crimes shall be investigated upon better with the necessary expertise.

7. Ntende Kenneth (DUSU Pay)

He emphasized the issue of the country adopting a more developed approach on the regulatory framework to co-exist with the current regulatory regime.

How intellectual property fuels the knowldege economy; An East African Perspective

The third session on How Intellectual Property fuels the Knowledge economy; an East African perspective was hosted by Ms. Mercy Kainobwisho from URSB. She made a power point presentation on the topic. Her discussion entailed the following:

The IP treaties in East Africa should be embraced and enforced. The East African partner states should create awareness on intellectual property rights in the region. This can be done through dissemination of IP knowledge, harmonization of state laws on IP, research on IP innovations. East African partner states should utilize and transfer technology amongst them. They should further empower and engage business owners to register and formalize their operations. The member states should encourage investment, trade and competitiveness amongst themselves and the entire region to improve the quality of products.

The major challenges faced by these member states include the following:

- a) Inadequate use of IP
- b) Non ratification of regional treaties which tends to affect operation of these laws
- c) The large scale counterfeited products on the market
- d) Smuggling of products

In her conclusion, she encouraged improved and better research by the member states, proper utilization of resources; emphasize payment of the necessary stamp duty by companies in the region, dissemination of IP knowledge among others.



The session on the thin line between the law of contract and intellectual property was hosted by Dr. Kakooza Anthony as the main speaker.

He introduced his presentation with general knowledge about elements of a valid contract and what should be looked out for always i.e. offer and acceptance. He emphasized the need to always have written contracts to make enforceability easy.

He as the main Speaker for the session pointed out one of the most important clauses in any contract which is the Non-disclosure Clause. This in a way protects IP and innovations.

He laid down Ugandan cases that have endeavored to explain the principle on IP and protection of innovations like *Digital Solutions Ltd V MTN (U) Ltd (2004)* where the main issue was on who owns the concept of "Me2u" as a service offered by MTN to its customers.

He further emphasized that in some jurisdictions like Kenya; courts have come up to protect innovations for instance in the case of *Faulu Kenya Deposit Taking Microfinance Ltd Vs Safaricom Ltd (2005).* Court respected and ruled to protect an innovation created by the Plaintiff.i.e the *M-Shwari programme*.

He emphasized protection of ones innovations as a step towards respecting intellectual property rights in Uganda. He listed the following cases that have tried to protect innovations and copyright laws are:

Prof.George William Kakoma V AG (2008) Sylvia Nabiteeko Katende V Bank of Uganda (2010) Sikuku Agaitano V Uganda Baati (2012)

Dr. Kakooza further pointed out the issue of trade secrets as a way of protecting people's innovations. He gave an example of the ongoing case of **Uber Vs Google**, a case involving infringement of copyright and stealing of trade secrets.

Clients should always that they obtain value for effective utilization of a contractual relationship.

This session was moderated by Ivan Ojakol, an Associate at KTA Advocates. The panelists for this session and what was discussed include:

a) Esther Katende Magezi (EK Consulting Group)

She pointed out the East African Regional draft policy on intellectual property rights that seeks to harmonize the copyright laws.

b) Ms. Mercy Kainobwisho (URSB)

She discussed the ways of obtaining legal redress in cases involving infringement of copyright. Further that the first Trademark in Uganda was registered in 1939. Partner states should be bound by treaties and laws passed.

Member states should also ensure that industrial designs are fully protected and further enforcement should be strong.

She further discussed the principle of territoriality where she pointed out the case of Cafe Javas V Java House, a case in the Kenyan jurisdiction.

c) Raymond Asiimwe (Advocate)

He discussed the issue of companies working with contracts and ensuring compliance. He further elaborated on the topic of digital financing and banking where the country should embrace a paperless economy in all their transactions.

He stated that startups should ensure collaboration with Fintech to ensure stable growth.



The session on the digital branch: what next for traditional branches was moderated by Candy Wekesa Okoboi, Head of Legal at Stanbic Bank. She talked about the effect of technology on the traditional banks like introduction of services like Internet banking, mobile banking, and agency banking among others. Banks have been greatly transformed through the introduction of technology.

She stated that this has greatly improved the operations of these banks since customers can easily access the banking services from anywhere. This speeds up manual work for the bank. Introduction of technology requires constant trainings for the staff in the banks to be up to date with the current trends of technology so that they can be able to apply it in their daily operations.

The panelists discussed and include the following:

a) Veronica Ssentongo (Stanbic Bank)

She discussed the need for collaborations between banks and the Fintech to enable inter connections with merchants and enable mobile banking and online transactions.

b) Macgyver Mugamba (Opportunity Bank)

He discussed the aspect that with the introduction of technology, banks will be required to have more skilled personnel to handle such online transactions. This helps banks to be more cost effective with the introduction of technology.

c) Lloyd Busuulwa (DFCU Bank)

He emphasized the fact that with the introduction of technology, banks can broaden their market potential. Bank managers and officials should also be trained on the use of technology to widen their knowledge on the same. Regulators should come up with laws to govern Fintech operations.



The last session of the day was under the topic Use of ICT in accessing Justice which was hosted by Hon. Justice Paul Mugamba, a justice of the Supreme Court of Uganda.

He discussed his experience as a judicial officer handling cases involving use of technology and ICT. He pointed out the issue of how most judicial officers are inexperienced while handling ICT related crimes.

He discussed the statues that have been enacted by the government in the ICT sector to include the following:

- a) Computer Misuse Act, 2011
- b) Electronic Transactions Act, 2011
- c) Electronic Signatures Act, 2011

He discussed the legal effects of these Acts on ICT cases. He listed ICT cases he has encountered as a judicial officer to include the following:

Uganda V Gustar Nsubuga and others (2012) Uganda V Sserunkuma and others (2015) Uganda V Ssentongo and others (2012)

He stated that courts should embrace technology as a way of improving means of dispensing justice to the people.

He emphasized the fact that innovation usually comes in handy during investigation of sexual offences, offences related to violence especially during the investigation process.

The session was moderated by Ms. Marion Acio from the office of the DPP and the panelists included the following people:

a) Ms. Esther Mary Nalumansi (Lawyers for Farmers) and Mr. Abila Gerald (Barefoot Law)

They noted that the high illiteracy levels in the country have greatly affected the proper dispensation of justice since access to justice becomes hard. With their organizations, they try so much to reach out to the poor and vulnerable in the rural community. They pointed out less funding as a major problem faced during their work.

Mr. Gerald Abila mentioned illiteracy (inability to read and write in English) as one of the biggest barriers facing legal innovation in Sub Saharan Africa. We ought to come up with solutions that expand access to justice for everyone, even the poor. The quagmire for us however, is that we might, as legal innovators, be constantly talking in an "echo chamber", and yet contributing to the exclusivity of justice through the use of tech, eventually creating an even bigger legal monster which leaves the most poor and vulnerable behind. In our move towards SDG16, no one should be left behind, not because of gender, or education level or ability to read and write in English, lest equal justice for all will remain a unicorn.

b) Ms. Marion Acio (Office of the DPP)

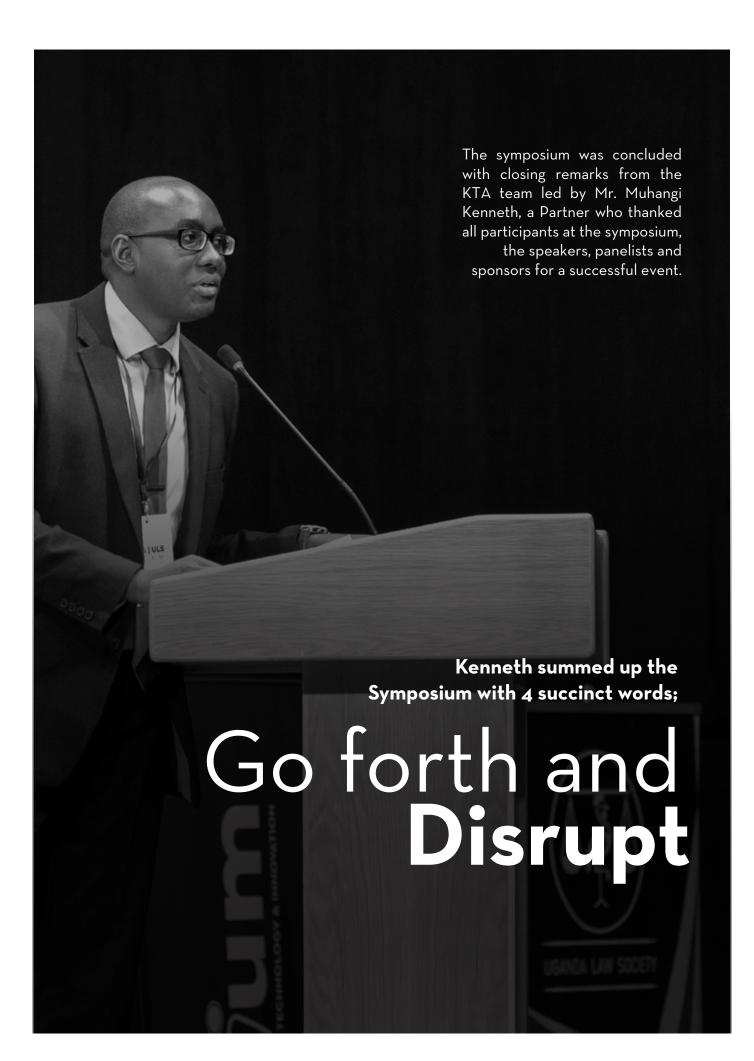
She noted that with the proper introduction of technology, cases can be investigated to their logical conclusion. That the government should invest in human capital as a way of equipping the investigating officers in the office of the DPP with the necessary ICT knowledge to successfully conclude the cases.

c) Mr. Andrew Khauka (Technical Advisor-Judiciary of Uganda)

He noted that the Judiciary is embracing technology through the electronic judicial recording of statement system that is still on the trial phase. He further pointed out the Judicature Audio Visual Rules that are being formulated. That the Judiciary ICT strategy is a 5 year plan that is already being worked on.

d) Ms. Jaminah Apio (ABM Advocates)

She noted that with well-trained experts in the ICT sector, there will be easier investigation of access thereby making access to justice easier for the vulnerable communities.





CONCEPT NOTE FOR 2nd ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Theme: "Innovations & The internet of Things."

BACKGROUND

- 1.0 The theme for the 2019 conference is Innovation & The Internet of Things.
- 2.0 The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the use of Intelligently connected devices and systems to harness data gathered by embedded sensors and actuators in machines and other objects.
- 3.0 IoT describes a system where items in the physical world, and sensors within or attached to these items, are connected to the Internet via wireless and wired Internet connections. These sensors can use various types of local area connections such as RFID, NFC, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and Zigbee. Sensors can also have wide area connectivity such as GSM, GPRS, 3G, and LTE [3].
- 4.0 At the core of IoT is aggregated data that can be used to improve all facets of life.
- 5.0 The 2 day Symposium (24th-25th October) will look at the latest IP rights within the Internet of Things and covering the impact it has on Innovation and development. Discussants will cover areas in Pharmaceutical, Big Data, Telecoms, ISPs, Banking, Insurance, Government, Energy and Automotive.
- 6.0 The proliferation of the internet has ushered in an age where we are all dependent on technology to carry out even the minutest of tasks. Consequently, industrialization has grown at a tremendous rate and with it, concerns about climate change and depletion of resources that are used to make these products.
- 7.0 It is thus important to have discussions on how to use technology and innovation for good & in a sustainable manner. Confronting these challenges requires political will as well as a new approach to utilize innovative technology not only for economic development but for the good of the human race.



- 8.0 The Internet of Things (IoT) essentially brings together advanced software with sensors and other end-devices on a communications network and if used the right way, can lead to a better & transformed Uganda, Africa & the world.
- 9.0 In fact, along with advanced data analytics, IoT-enabled devices and sensors are being used to do things such as reduce air pollution in some of our world's biggest cities, create smarter agriculture and food supply systems, even improve detection and containment of deadly viruses.
- 10.0 For example, in Barcelona, a citywide WiFi and information network linked to sensors, software and a data analytics platform, enabled the city to provide smart water technology, automated street lighting, remote controlled water irrigation in green spaces and water fountains, "on-demand" waste pickups, digital bus routes, smart parking meters, and more.
- 11.0 Collectively, the result of these IoT-enabled urban services have dramatically reduced traffic congestion and associated pollution as well as water, light and energy usage.
- 12.0 Chicago, in the United States of America is testing a city-wide, edge computing initiative with a network of sensors called "Array of Things" nodes installed throughout city streets. The nodes serve as a sort of "fitness tracker" for the city, collecting data on air quality, climate, traffic and other metrics before sending the information to an open data portal where user groups can consume it for range of applications.
- 13.0 In South Korea, the emerging smart city of Songdo is being built around expansive IoT networks designed to ensure its buildings, transportation system and infrastructure are as efficient as possible, helping to optimize its resources.
- 14.0 The IoT can also help cities improve public health. A recent study found dirty air and water led to a staggering 9 million deaths in 2015 alone. For this reason, cities with chronically unhealthy air, such as Delhi and Beijing, are beginning to leverage sensor networks designed to alert residents when particulate levels are dangerously high.



- 15.0 In London, a city where up to 9,000 deaths per year are attributed to air pollution. London-based Drayson Technologies has been testing the use of networked air quality sensors that are distributed to bicycle couriers and to a fleet of fuel-cell cars. The sensors, which transmit data to smartphones via Bluetooth, allow Drayson to create real-time maps showing air pollution levels around the city.
- In Oakland, California, an environmental sensing startup called Aclima, partnered with Google, EDF and researchers from UT Austin to create a highly detailed block-by-block map of air pollution, using a fleet of Google Street View vehicles carrying specialized sensors. By expanding this model across cities, mobile technology using networks of sensors could help policy makers identify pockets of dangerous air quality in order to better regulate or eliminate the sources of that pollution.
- 17.0 In Agriculture which is the backbone of Uganda's technology, IoT can be harnessed to develop smarter ways to increase crop yield and develop more drought resistant crops. In Israel for example, IoT has combined advanced cameras, sensors, weather stations and artificial intelligence, to help farmers respond quickly to signs of trouble such as crop disease, while also boosting productivity by as much as a third.
- 18.0 A professor at the University of California, Davis, Shrini Upadhyaya, devised a wireless sensor system to continuously monitor leaf health, which helps farmers know exactly where and how much they need to irrigate. And throughout rural Africa, startups such as Farmerlineand ArgoCenta are using mobile technology and Big Data platforms to empower smallholder farmers who need access to market data quickly in order to cut waste, improve operations and digitize their supply chains.
- 19.0 In the medical sector, IoT has been used to help doctors gain faster access to health-related data from patients, collected through continuous monitoring and measurement. Wearable, internet-connected sensor devices that track heart rate, pulse, or even blood pressure are increasingly affordable, compact and accurate.
- 20.0 While there are serious concerns about how to best safeguard the collection and transmission of this data between patients and their doctors, and how doctors could best leverage it for insights into patients' health trends over time and between checkups, wearables are one of the most promising IoT applications in healthcare.



- 21.0 Increasingly, technology is also helping doctors and other healthcare workers monitor the day-to-day wellbeing of patients who live independently. Sensors mounted throughout the home, or even in-home robotic assistants, can alert caretakers via text if, say, an elderly patient under their care has not taken his medicine on a given day, or left his bedroom by a set time.
- 22.0 In 2015, during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, Scripps Translational Science Institute eased Ebola detection by using integrated sensors to track heart rate, blood oxygen saturation, respiration rate and temperature.
- 23.0 In cancer treatment, those that detect lumps at the earliest stand a better chance of suppressing the cancer. IoT has been used to track changes in temperature in breast tissue over time through non-intrusive sensors implanted in the breast.
- 24.0 The data is transmitted wirelessly to the user's mobile phone and shared securely with a patient's healthcare provider. By applying machine learning and predictive analytics to this data, doctors could identify and classify abnormal patterns indicative of early stage breast cancer.
- 25.0 In Uganda, Malaria is combated with the m-Health application to quickly and cheaply diagnose Malaria using mobile phones.
- 26.0 The possibilities for utilizing IoT are limitless. But, with internet penetration at 41% in Uganda, there is still a lot to be done to facilitate innovation. The Government has made taken commendable steps to improve penetration and spur innovation through projects like the NIISP National ICT Initiatives Support Programme (NIISP) to facilitate the creation of an ICT Innovation ecosystem and marketplace for Ugandan innovative digital products.
- 27.0 NIISP primarily aims at facilitating growth and development of the software applications and innovations industry.



FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

- The conference will take place at Kampala Serena Hotel on 23rd & 24th October. The Conference will provide a unique opportunity for researchers, policymakers and development practitioners from Uganda and elsewhere, to explore Uganda's existing knowledge generation approaches and frameworks, the efficacy of its knowledge and innovation institutions in developing needed skills, technology and innovation capacities. It will look at the policies required in the areas of knowledge generation and innovation to achieve Uganda's transformation agenda.
- 27.2 The Conference will comprise a number of plenary sessions as well as break-out sessions that will feature presentations and discussions by prominent industry leaders, academics, regulators & policy makers, business actors (including emerging technological/digital entrepreneurs and the youth) and opinion leaders, as well as representatives from development partner organizations.
- 27.3 The break-out sessions will allow for more in-depth and technical analyses of salient issues arising from the thematic focus of the conference. The sub-themes suggested below will enable a broad range of discussions on the current state of Uganda's transformation capacity and generate valuable insights for improved policy making.

The conference will have rapporteurs and the presentations will be reduced into a publication.

Tickets will be available online.



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