

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
ABUJA (NIGERIA)

PRESS RELEASE

Fourth Edition of the Indo-Africa ICT Expo 2018
at EKO Hotels and Convention Centre, Lagos,
[22-23 May 2018]

1. Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) of India will be hosting the 4th Edition of Indo-Africa ICT Expo 2018 in conjunction with IT and Telecom Summit, on 22-23 May 2018 at the Eko Hotels and Convention Centre in Lagos, Nigeria. The third edition of the event took place in Lagos from September 6-7, 2017. The holding of 4th Edition of the Indo-Africa ICT Expo is reflective of commitment of India to engage with African countries to promote use of ICTs in national economic development. The choice of Lagos for this event for a second time is a recognition of the vast potential that exists in Nigeria, and also of its importance as a gateway to the West Africa and other parts of Africa.
2. Africa is among the fastest growing markets worldwide as evident from improving macro-economic indicators, conducive business environment, rising middle class and existence of demographic dividend with dynamic youth. This is further attested by demands from African countries for rapid transformation of their economies by enhancing job creation, skills development, technology transfer, infrastructure development, responsible governance and most of all – sustained growth.
3. India and Africa are set to forge closer cooperation in a determined effort to accelerate growth in **Information and Communications Technology (ICT)** with a view to boost economies through greater penetration and use of advanced technologies and services. The ICTs will offer huge business opportunities for local entrepreneurs and start-ups to pitch their solutions and products to over 50 Indian companies who are all expected to attend the Expo.

4. Information Technology (IT) and Telecom form the backbone for the growth of any country. Africa has been one of the fastest growing markets worldwide in ICT adoption and communication technology. Indo-Africa ICT Expo 2018 is a platform to build synergy among India & African Countries to showcase innovative & diversified Products & Services and to bring together thought leaders across the entire ICT value chain to discuss solutions to regulatory issues as well as business. As digitalization and mobility continue to transform business operations and everyday life, the Indo-Africa ICT Expo 2018 presents the latest technologies that help companies in Africa to evolve and maintain a competitive edge in the communications and digital world,

5. This is the pivotal focus of a two-day international conference and Expo, being organized by the Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC), an organization set up by the Government of India to promote and support export of telecom equipment and services. TEPC is working in conjunction with the National Association of Software and Service Companies, (NASSCOM), which is the premier trade body and the chamber of commerce of the IT-BPM industries in India. NASSCOM is a global trade body with more than 1800 members, which include both Indian and multinational companies that have a presence in India.

6. The organizers have also partnered with industry associations in Nigeria, including the Information Technology Association of Nigeria (ITAN), Association of Licensed Telecom Operators of Nigeria (ALTON), Association of Telecom Companies of Nigeria (ATCON), Institute of Software Practitioners of Nigeria (ISPON), Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) as well as the Computer and Allied Products Dealers Association of Nigeria (CAPDAN) to make the event a full industry-focused programme.

7. Hon'ble Minister of Communications, Government of India, H.E. Mr. Manoj Sinha will be leading the Indian delegation of the ICT industry. Hon'ble Minister of Communications of Nigeria, H.E. Barrister Abdur-Raheem Adebayo Shittu has kindly consented to attend with large presence of Nigerian ICT industry. Hon'ble Minister of Communications H.E. Mrs. Ursula Owusu-Ekuful and Deputy Minister of Communications H.E. Mr. Vincent Sowah Odotei from Ghana have also accepted the invitation to attend the event. In addition to industry interactions, these countries will have bilateral meetings with India for expanding cooperation

in ICT sector. Participation is also expected from H.E. Mr. C.R. Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

8. A key highlight of event will be an ICT Ministers' Roundtable Meeting scheduled for May 22, 2018, on the guiding theme 'Digital Vision of the Developing Nations" a platform for Ministers to present and share the ICT visions of their countries over the next five years, thereby showcasing partnership opportunities that such a vision would bring to the industry at large for the two regions.

9. ITAN President, Mr. Tayo Adeniyi, ALTON Chairman, Engr. Gbenga Adebayo, ATCON President, Engr. Olusola Teniola, among others, have been listed to speak at the event.

10. Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council, the event Organizer, plays a critical role in furtherance of Telecom export from India and assist Indian member companies in easy facilitation of their respective exports. The Council caters to the complete Telecom Ecosystem including complete range of Telecom Hardware Manufacturing/ Telecom Service Provision/ Telecom Software & Applications/ Telecom Training & Consultancy/ Telecom Infrastructure covering all type of Networks as could be applicable in any country. TEPC recognizes the strengths of building a design-led manufacturing ecosystem for telecom products and the Government of India is committed to further support the creation of domestic products and enable manufacturing with high domestic value-addition. India is poised for another digital revolution given the massive thrust on initiatives such as "Make in India" and "Digital India", which creates a large opportunity for ICT sector. The Expo will help sharing of advances made by India in this crucial sector with the African countries.

11. Indo – Africa ICT Expo 2018 will be a platform for convergence of technology and business exchange. The event should bring together over 300 companies/ delegates from India and Africa for the conference and attract over 3000 visitors for the exhibition. This mega event encapsulates strategies and learning that transcend the two most important present-day industries having potential of unlocking huge demand of ICT services across multiple domains. It is the place to network, meet and shape the future!
