DECLARATION OF THE
AFRICAN INFORMATION SECURITY EXPERTS AND
AFRICAN COMPUTER SECURITY INCIDENT RESPONSE
TEAMS REPRESENTATIVES

30TH ANNUAL FIRST CONFERENCE
June 26-29 2018

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

WE, African Information Security Experts and African Computer Security Incident response teams representatives met in Kuala Lumpur at the 30th Annual FIRST conference. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member states: Ghana, Egypt, Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and the Director Global coordination of AfricaCERT.

Recalling Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU), which promotes African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its people as well as sustainable development at all levels;

Further recalling the Declaration of the 14th Assembly of Heads of State and Government Summit on Information and Communication Technologies in Africa: "Challenges and Prospects for Development", number (Doc.Assembly/AU/11(XIV), made in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in February 2010;

Convinced that Information and Communication Technologies are key to Africa's development and economic competitiveness in the attainment of the African Union Vision, the objectives of the Tunis Agenda of The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ;

Recognizing the commitment of African Head of States and ICT Ministers to help build a safe, secure and stable digital economy as reflected in the African Union Convention on cybersecurity and data protection and the Internet Infrastructure Security Guidelines for Africa

Taking note of the African Union declaration on Internet Governance as published by the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Communication And Ict. ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 20-24 NOVEMBER 2017

Whereas the efforts of the African countries within FIRST (Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams) aim to combine their efforts to contribute to the development of a safe, stable and resilient African cyberspace.

Determined further to effectively and successfully address the challenges of implementation and follow-up of international and continental decisions in the field of cybersecurity;

Guided by the deliberations and outcome of this meeting held from 26-29 June 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;

WE HEREBY,

1. **Reaffirm** that multi-stakeholder engagement and effective cooperation is key to responding to existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security;

2. **Understand** that effective collaboration requires a trusted Forum at all levels e.g. global, continental and regional;

3. **Pledge** to work together in the fight against the inappropriate use of Information and Communication Technologies;

4. **Support** the AfricaCERT pivotal role to assist African countries in establishing and operating Computer Security and Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) by providing expertise and advice in formulating initiatives, programs and projects related to the launch of CSIRTs and to encourage and support cooperation among teams in the continent;

5. **Exhort** Member States of the African Union to support the establishment of an AfricaCERT;

6. **Encourage** the African Union Commission to finalize and facilitate the establishment of the AfricaCERT within the framework of the African Union;

7. **Invite** the African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to support and advocate efforts of the AfricaCERT;

8. **Encourage the establishment of** national and regional programmes to promote public awareness and understanding of cybersecurity of ICTs and their role in development;

9. **Promote development of relevant policies and allocate resources to foster the use of available AfricaCERT capabilities.**

Kuala Lumpur, June 29, 2018.