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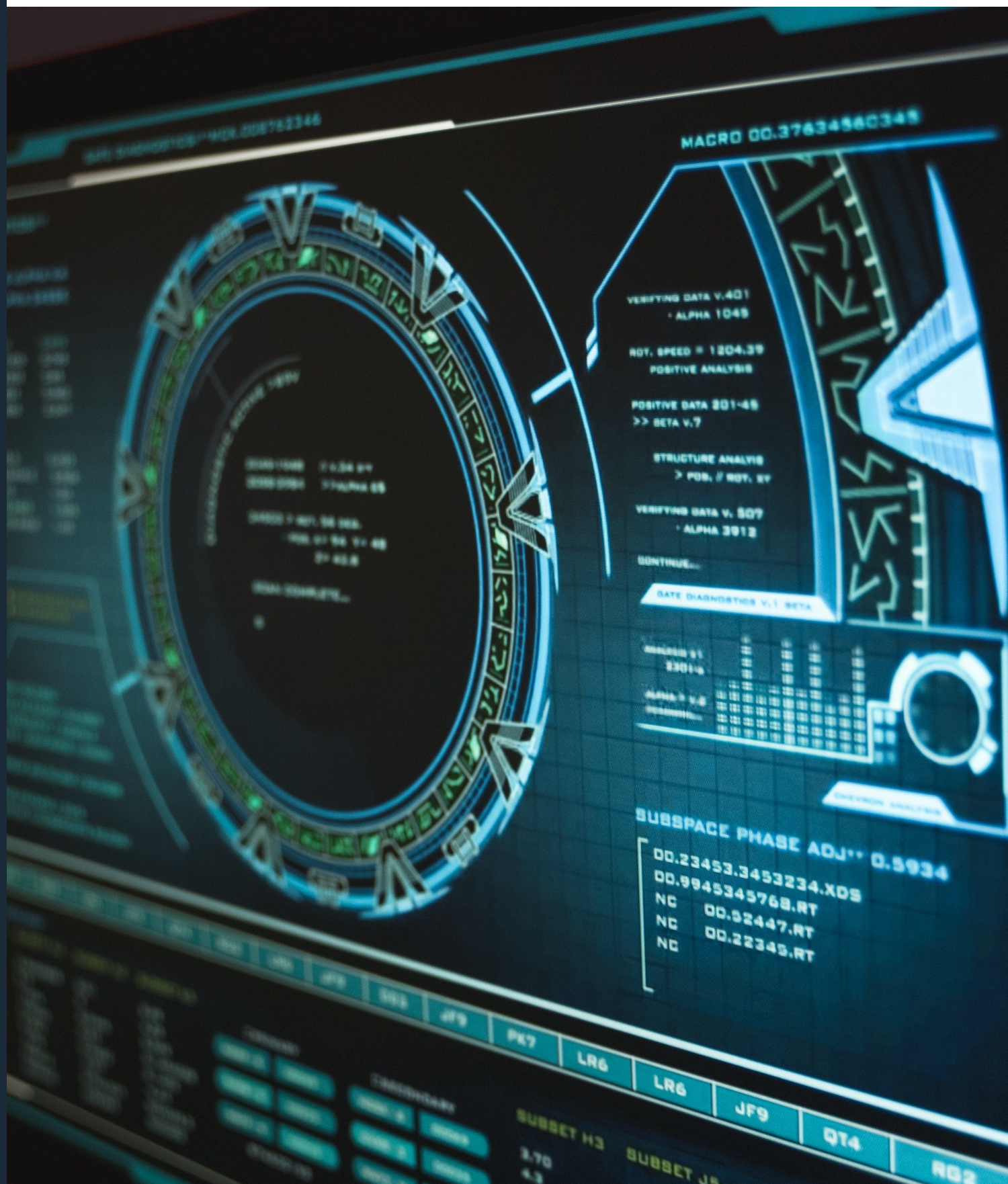
OFFICE OF THE
DATA PROTECTION
COMMISSIONER



ICRC

SYMPOSIUM ON CYBERSECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

TAMARIND TREE HOTEL - NAIROBI, KENYA | 27-28 NOV 2024





Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) is a national humanitarian, voluntary organization, established by an Act of Parliament (CAP 256 of the Laws of Kenya) in 1965. KRCS is auxiliary to both the National and County governments in the provision of humanitarian assistance. The auxiliary role legally mandates KRCS and public authorities to work together in the interests of vulnerable people in Kenya on humanitarian issues, while protecting the independence of KRCS as guided by the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. KRCS is member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies alongside 191 other National Societies, which together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) constitute the Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement. Our shared mission is “To alleviate human suffering, protect life and health and uphold human dignity, especially during armed conflicts and other emergencies”.

The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Cooperation and Foreign Trade (**Luxembourg Aid and Development**), is responsible for Luxembourg’s development cooperation and humanitarian action policy. Its mandate includes implementing Luxembourg’s general development cooperation strategy (The Road to 2030) and humanitarian action strategy, adopted in 2022, in close collaboration with public and private partners and national, international and multilateral organizations in line with the principle of “leaving no one behind”. Luxembourg further aims to enable principled, needs-based and sustainable humanitarian action, keeping people affected by crises at the heart of its physical or digital operations.



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) is a personal data regulatory office whose key mandate is to regulate the processing of personal data, protect the privacy of individuals and to provide data subjects with rights and remedies to protect their personal data.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a neutral and independent organization that provides humanitarian protection and assistance to people affected by armed conflict and other forms of violence. The ICRC also works to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Since its founding in 1863, the ICRC has been at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



ICRC

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AGENDA OF THE SYMPOSIUM

DAY 1—27 NOVEMBER 2024

08:00 — 08:45	<i>Arrival and Registration</i>	
08:45 — 09:00	Welcome and Introductions	
	Official Opening Ceremony National & EAC Anthem	
	Welcome Remarks	
	Marie Dubeau – ICRC Head of Regional Delegation in Nairobi Dr. Ahmed Idris – Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross Ms Immaculate Kassait, MBS – Data Commissioner, Office of the Data Protection Commissioner	
09:00 — 09:45	Opening Address by H.E Dr. Amani Abou-Zaid Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy African Union Commission Keynote Address by Eng. John Tanui MBS, Principal Secretary, Ministry of ICT & the Digital Economy	
09:45 — 10:00	Security and Health Briefing	
	High level Panel / Opening Plenary Session	
	Valerie Abrell Duong – ICRC Director of Support & Digital Transformation Safia Verjee – Executive Director, International Center for Humanitarian Affairs (ICHA) Ms Immaculate Kassait, MBS – Data Commissioner, Office of the Data Protection Commissioner Gilles Hoffman – MFA Luxembourg Emergency.lu Coordinator Moderated by Giovanni Trambaiolo – Head of Regional Affairs for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa, ICRC	
10:00 — 10:45		
10:45 — 11:15	<i>Break and move to working sessions</i>	
	Track 1: Data Protection in Humanitarian Action	Track 2: Emerging risks and new technologies in humanitarian action
	Working Group 1 Data Protection standards for humanitarian organizations and partners	Working Group 4 Safeguarding humanitarian organizations from digital threats
11:15 — 12:00	Panel Discussion	Panel Discussion
12:00 — 12:15	<i>Short break</i>	

AGENDA OF THE SYMPOSIUM

DAY 1—27 NOVEMBER 2024

	Track 1: Data Protection in Humanitarian Action	Track 2: Emerging risks and new technologies in humanitarian action
12:15 — 13:30	Working Group 1 Roundtable Discussion	Working Group 4 Roundtable Discussion
13:30 — 14:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 — 15:30	Working Group 2 Data protection by design and biometrics in humanitarian action Panel Discussion	Working Group 5 Addressing the impact of harmful information on civilians and humanitarians Panel Discussion
15:30 — 15:45	<i>Short break</i>	
15:45 — 16:45	Working Group 2 Roundtable Discussion	Working Group 5 Roundtable Discussion
17:00 onwards	<i>Aperitif and networking</i>	

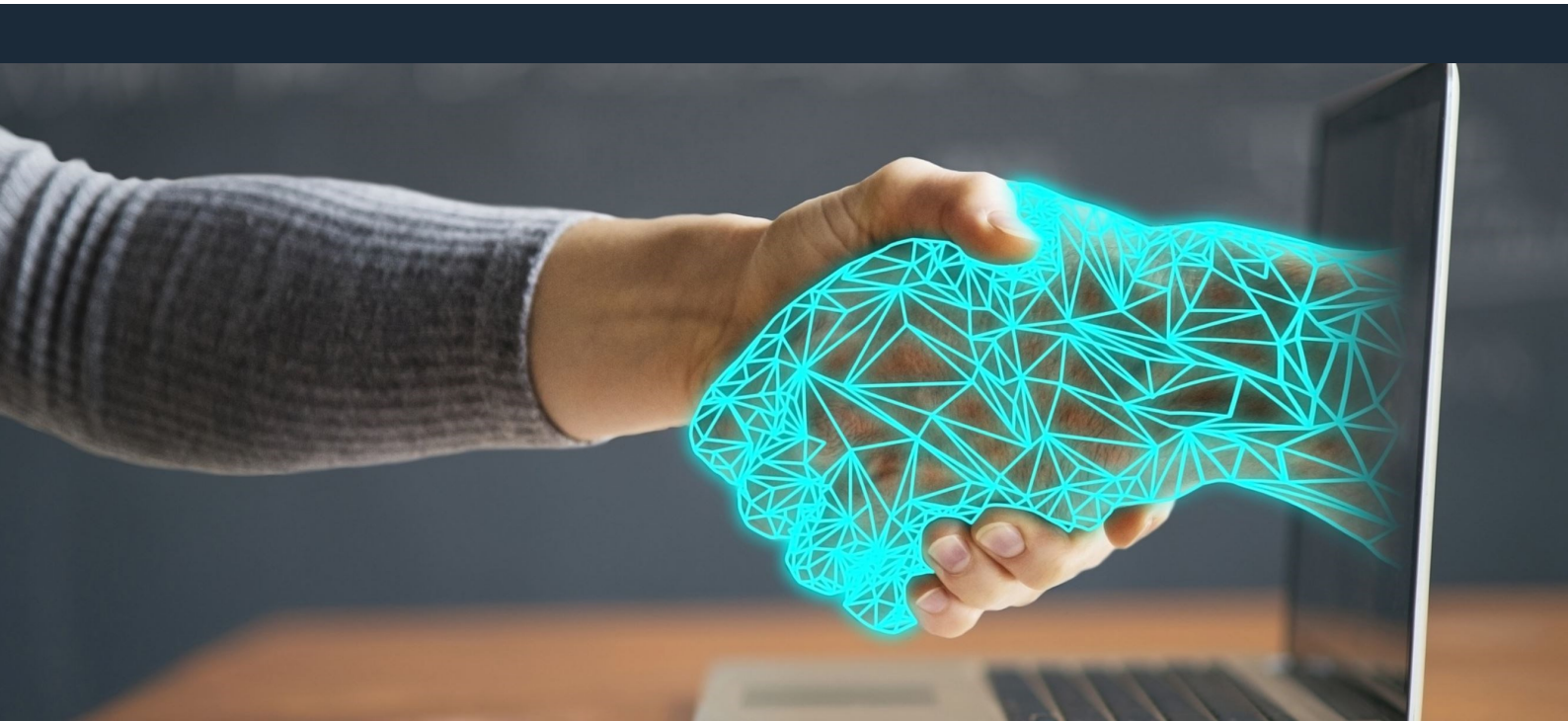
DAY 2—28 NOVEMBER 2024

08:30 – 09:00	<i>Arrival and Registration</i>	
	Track 1: Data Protection in Humanitarian Action	Track 2: Emerging risks and new technologies in humanitarian action
09:00 – 10:00	Working Group 3 Interoperability Panel Discussion	Working Group 6 Humanitarian principles and ethical considerations of the use of Artificial Intelligence in Humanitarian Action Panel Discussion
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Short Break</i>	
10:15 – 11:30	Working Group 3 Roundtable Discussion	Working Group 6 Roundtable Discussion

AGENDA OF THE SYMPOSIUM

DAY 2—28 NOVEMBER 2024

11:30 — 11:45	<i>Short Break</i>
	Closing session
11:45 — 13:00	Panel 1: Key insights and ways forward for Data Protection in Humanitarian Action
13:00 — 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 — 15:15	Panel 2: Key insights and way forward for Emerging risks and new technologies in humanitarian action
15:15 — 16:15	Data and Digital Transformation Strategy of the Kenyan Red Cross: Presentation
16:15 — 16:45	Concluding remarks
16:45 onwards	<i>Cocktail and networking</i>



THE SYMPOSIUM

The rise of digital technologies has transformed humanitarian action. New technologies have facilitated several aspects of humanitarian work by bringing increased efficiency and reduced costs such as facilitating faster economic assistance through digital cash transfers. However, these digital tools also generate novel risks affecting both people living through crises and the organizations that aim to support them. These risks can arise through the increase in surveillance that technology often engenders, the pervasiveness of misinformation, disinformation and hate speech with potentially lethal real-life consequences, and the possibility of exclusion due to digital divides. In other words, they can erode the dignity, integrity, and security of the affected populations. In parallel to this digital transformation of humanitarian dynamics, the tech industry is increasingly present in humanitarian contexts as service providers for both affected populations and humanitarian organizations. In this fast-evolving space, new technology areas and technological actors continue to emerge and manifest their relevance for humanitarian action, and the implications of deploying them are often difficult to understand, let alone anticipate.

Tackling these challenges is essential in order to ensure that humanitarian action can be responsive and relevant and maximise impact for communities affected by humanitarian emergencies. It is also necessary to enable humanitarian actors to leverage technologies responsibly while upholding the principle of “do no harm”, keeping affected people at the centre, upholding their dignity when processing their data, and remaining accountable to them for their use. Participants from each field – humanitarian organizations, data protection authorities, civil society, academia, or private companies – all have a unique perspective on the issues. For instance, humanitarian organizations must consider the realities of the field alongside budgetary constraints and their responsibility to donors. Likewise, policymakers, civil society, and academics each have their own experiences, research and challenges. Indeed, actors in the private sector have also grappled with these issues, as made evident by numerous public-private technology-centric partnerships that have emerged over recent years.

Africa has emerged as the fastest-growing digital environment characterized by a rapid proliferation of digital technological innovations, mobile phone adoption, and e-commerce platforms. As digitalization becomes part of our daily lives, the continent continues to be affected by challenges of data protection, cybercrimes/security, harmful information, and the use of digital space for incitement to violence. The continent also grapples with many crises as a result of armed conflict and other situations of violence, natural disasters inter alia, where many humanitarian actors operate. In this context, the need to enhance effectiveness around humanitarian action demands innovation, technologies, and digitalization. However, cyber threats targeted at humanitarian actors, and their impacts on the affected populations as well as humanitarian actors, including dialogue around preventive and remedial actions in Africa have not been sufficiently explored.

On the regulatory front, in 2014, the African Union (AU) adopted the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection (the Malabo Convention). This convention came into force in June 2023 after having been ratified by 15 countries. In 2024, the African Union Peace and Security Council issued the Common African Position on the Application of International Law to the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in the Cyberspace, an instrument that was negotiated and



adopted by 55 AU member states. The developments demonstrated Africa's interest and determination in ensuring cyber security, adequate protection of personal data, and the creation of a safe cyberspace.

OBJECTIVES

The humanitarian sector needs to be able to leverage new technologies while upholding the rights and dignity of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, being accountable to them in their use of technology, anticipating key questions and topics of concern emerging from the use of digital technologies in humanitarian settings and mapping areas of action to make it possible for humanitarian action to unfold efficiently and effectively, while keeping affected communities at the centre.

Building on the discussions of the two previous editions held in Luxembourg, this edition of the Symposium on Cybersecurity and Data Protection in Humanitarian Action that will be held for the first time in Nairobi, aims at **bringing together and leveraging the experience, expertise, and ideas of key stakeholders from the public, private and humanitarian sector, as well as civil society and academia in region**, to identify – and, if possible, anticipate – challenges and areas of concern in the use of technology in humanitarian operations in the region, and to find, together, possible ways of navigating them.

PARTNERS

The **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**, the **Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCs)** and the **Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC)**, with the support of the **Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of Luxembourg**, are joining forces to convene representatives from these key stakeholder groups around the table and to foster meaningful conversations on cybersecurity and data protection in humanitarian action.

CHATHAM HOUSE RULE

WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE POSTED

The working sessions of the Symposium are held under Chatham House Rule. The Chatham House Rule reads as follows:

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

In implementing this rule to all working sessions held within the Symposium, the organizers aim at encouraging openness and free discussion, and at allowing participants to speak as individuals and to express views that may not be those of their organizations.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE COVERAGE OF THIS EVENT?

Basically, it means that no comment or remark made during the working sessions should be publicly linked back to the person who initially made it, nor to the organization/party/nationality/religion etc. to which he or she is affiliated.

The Rule is mostly concerned about the dissemination of the information after (or during) the event – nothing should be done to identify, either explicitly or implicitly, who said what.

However, the opening plenary session on the first day of the Symposium (November 27) as well as the closing plenary session on the last day (November 28) are meant to be public. As such, any comment made by the speakers during the plenary sessions can be attributed.

HOW ABOUT THE SPOKESPEOPLE WHOSE NAME APPEAR ON THE EVENT PAGE?

The spokespeople are publicly known and the simple fact of their participation is a matter of public record, as are their remarks during the plenary sessions. However, any remark, discussion point or observation made during the working session of the Symposium falls under the Rule unless otherwise specified.

SO WHAT CAN ACTUALLY BE POSTED?

Everything related to the plenary sessions can be posted.

The content of the working sessions and the observations of the participants can be published and commented as long as they do not identify, either explicitly or implicitly, who said what.

HOW ABOUT POSTING ONLINE ABOUT THE EVENT?

Posting online about the plenary sessions is allowed and encouraged. Posting online about the working sessions is allowed as long as the person posting reports only what was said during the session and does not identify – directly or indirectly – the speaker or another participant.

This consideration applies to all social media and other manners of distributing information online.

HOW ABOUT PHOTOS OR VIDEOS?

The spirit of the Rule applies to photos and videos as well: the plenary sessions can be photographed and/or recorded, and the pictures and recording of these sessions can be made public. Similarly, the content and subject of the working sessions (video or otherwise), as well as any promotional material, venue etc. can be portrayed in photos or videos. However, unless the participant gives explicit and unequivocal consent, they should not appear in the pictures or videos taken during working sessions at the Symposium.

CAN A LIST OF ATTENDEES AT THE MEETING BE PUBLISHED?

No – the list of attendees will not be circulated beyond those participating in the specific sessions. For journalists, media personnel and note-takers participating to the various sessions, the same rule applies: participants and their affiliations shall not be identified – directly or indirectly – in public fora such as social media or newspapers.

HOW ABOUT QUOTES FROM THE PARTICIPANTS?

Unless the participant gives explicit and unequivocal consent to be identified, quotes from the Symposium's working sessions should not be attributed. Quotes from the plenary sessions' speakers however can be attributed freely.

SPEAKER BIOS

PLENARY SESSIONS

All speakers listed in alphabetical order by family name



H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid (Video message)

Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy African Union Commission

H.E. Dr Amani Abou-Zeid is an Egyptian International Development expert; Twice-elected African Union Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalisation. Formerly served in leadership positions in multilateral institutions; sitting on multiple global commissions for energy, digitalisation and sustainable development; Commissioner Abou-Zeid launched Africa's AI Strategy, African Single Electricity Market, the Single African Air Transport Market which now includes 38 African countries, Africa's Digital Transformation Strategy, and developed the Africa's Regional and Transcontinental projects (70 regional and transcontinental projects)— among other continental initiatives.

She is giving a strong pulse to African Union and to the G20 focusing on galvanising Africa's positions in international fora especially on issues of universal access to energy and just transition, on accelerating regional infrastructure through a fair access to finance and on embracing top technologies for local solutions.

An Egyptian national, Dr Abou-Zeid has a multi-disciplinary academic training: B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from Cairo University; MBA in project management for African Development from the French University for African Development (Université Senghor); Masters of Public Administration (MPA) from Harvard School of Government; and Ph.D. in Social and Economic Development from The University of Manchester, UK. She also has a degree DES in Arts from Université Sorbonne-Paris IV.

Dr About-Zeid is Recognised and honoured as Global Development Leader; Named one of Africa's most Influential Women; recipient of honorary doctorate and decorations.



Valerie Abrell Duong

ICRC Director of Support & Digital Transformation

Valérie Abrell Duong is a game-changing and visionary Leader with extensive international experience in Health Care, Retail, Consumer Package Goods and Humanitarian.

In 2022, she joined the International Committee of the Red Cross. As one of the 7 members of the Directorate, she is responsible for Support and Digital Transformation leading Logistics, IT, Shared Services and the digital transformation of the ICRC to maximise its humanitarian impact around the world.

Valérie has an M.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from CentraleSupélec. She strives to create a collaborative and stimulating environment in which people are free to express their creativity, be bold and have an impact.



Marie Dubeau

ICRC Head of Regional Delegation in Nairobi

Ms. Marie Dubeau is the Head of the ICRC Regional Delegation covering Kenya, Tanzania, and Djibouti, leading the organization's humanitarian efforts. Previously, she was Head of Delegation in Athens, Greece, managing operations during a migration crisis and protecting vulnerable groups.

Marie's ICRC career began in 2008, encompassing roles in Israel, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Philippines, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Sudan, and Russia. From 2020 to 2023, she was Operations Coordinator for Europe and Central Asia, overseeing responses in Ukraine and Russia from Geneva.

She holds a Master's in human rights from Université de Caen – Normandie and a degree in international public law from Université de Rennes 1. Earlier, she held roles with Médecins Sans Frontières in Chad, the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan.

Fluent in French and English, Marie Dubeau is known for strategic vision, diplomatic skill, and dedication to humanitarian principles.



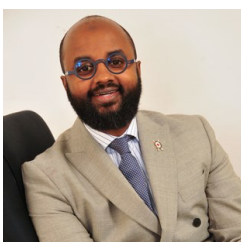
Gilles Hoffmann

Coordinator, emergency.lu – Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of Luxembourg

Gilles Hoffmann is the emergency.lu coordinator at the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. After having worked for several years as a telecom engineer for a Luxembourg based operator, Gilles joined the Ministry in 2013 as technical advisor for emergency.lu, taking on the coordinator function in 2015.

Over the years, Gilles has been deployed to several emergency response operations, among others, the typhoon Haiyan operations 2013 in the Philippines, the Ebola response in west africa, the Nepal earthquake 2015 and more recently, the Beirut port explosion as well as the evacuation operation in Kabul in 2021. Gilles was also responding to many humanitarian crises, for example in South Sudan, Nigeria, Chad and Niger.

Gilles is a member of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team (UNDAC) and an expert to the European Civil Protection Mechanism. He represents Luxembourg in the global emergency telecommunications cluster (ETC), the ETC strategic advisory group as well as in different other multinational working groups. He is co-chairing the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP).



Dr. Ahmed Idris

Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross

Dr. Idris holds an impressive array of academic qualifications: a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, a Bachelor of Laws, and a Master of Laws in International Law from the University of Nairobi. He also earned a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, a Master in Public Administration from Harvard

University's Kennedy School of Government, and a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford. Additionally, he completed a PhD in International Law at Oxford. His academic distinctions include being a Fulbright Scholar, a Commonwealth Scholar, and a Mason Fellow.

With over 16 years of experience in law and policy, Dr. Idris has worked extensively with public governments, communities, and National Societies within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. He has played a critical role in strengthening governance, policy frameworks, and disaster risk management laws across Kenya and the region. His contributions span numerous national and regional committees, focusing on humanitarian law, disaster response, refugee and migration issues, and disaster risk reduction.



Immaculate Kassait, MBS

Data Commissioner, Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, Kenya

Immaculate Kassait is the Data Commissioner at the Office of The Data Protection Commissioner in Kenya. With over 12 years' experience in the public sector, managing complex projects in governance, training, compliance, and strategy. She is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya of 14 years standing. She is a Building Resource in Democracy Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) facilitator.

In November 2020, Immaculate was appointed as the first Data Commissioner in the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) and has been instrumental in setting up institutional structures and the legal framework for the Institution. She was the Chair of the taskforce that developed the three sets of regulations that led to the operationalization of the Data Protection Act Kenya 2019. Under her leadership, ODPC developed its inaugural strategic plan 2022-2025. She has further been instrumental in positioning Kenya in the Data Protection Map through membership to various international organization on data protection.

Immaculate, holds a Masters in Business Administration from USIU Africa, a post Graduate Diploma in Law from Kenya School of Law, and an Undergraduate Degree in Law from Makerere University.



Eng. John Tanui MBS

Principal Secretary, Ministry of ICT & the Digital Economy

Eng. John Tanui, MBS is the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy in charge of the State Department for ICT and the Digital Economy. Prior to joining the Ministry, Eng. Tanui was the Chief Executive Officer of the Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) for over 7 years, Deputy Country CEO and Vice President of Huawei Technologies responsible for Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia and Djibouti and the Director of Technical Service Department in the same organization that he served for over of 15 years.

With over 17 years in the ICT industry and international business management, Eng. Tanui has worked in several countries in Africa and

also in China acquiring knowledge and experience in Business and project management, he has keen interest and expertise in Engineering Turnkey Projects, Innovations, setup and management of industry collaborations and partnerships. He is passionate about how technology can be utilized to solve challenges facing economies.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree of Technology in Electrical and Communication Engineering from Moi University and MBA in International Business from the University of Nairobi where he is currently pursuing PhD in global business management. He is a member of the Institution of Engineers of Kenya (MIEK), a registered engineer and a member of the Academy of International Business. Eng. Tanui is an active ICT professional who was profiled as tenth in the 2012 Top 40 under 40 by the Business Daily (Nation Media Group). He is a Council Member of Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology, a council member of IEK (Institution of Engineers of Kenya) where he chairs industrialization, Environment and quality assurance committee and also serves as committee member for Advocacy, Journal and Publicity. Previously, he served as the University Council Vice Chairman at Technical University of Kenya and also as an Advisory Council Member of the Presidential Digital Talent Program.



Giovanni Trambaiolo

Head of Regional Affairs for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa

Giovanni Trambaiolo's current role is Head of Regional Affairs for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa at International Committee of the Red Cross - ICRC. He's managing the ICRC team of Nairobi-based experts supporting ICRC's work in Africa.

Giovanni previously worked as Head of ICRC's Health Care in Danger Project, leading ICRC's efforts at global, regional and national levels to address the problems of violence against health care, including on matters related to dialogue and training with weapons bearers, strengthening the protection of local and national health care systems, and strengthening the laws protecting health care.

He has worked for the ICRC since 2009 in various roles in Geneva, Sudan, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Colombia, Pakistan and Kenya. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Sydney and professional experience in Physiotherapy, as well as a Master's degree in International Law from Aix-Marseille University.



Safia Verjee

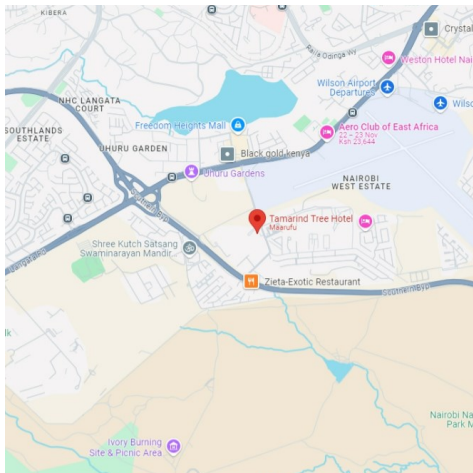
Executive Director, International Center for Humanitarian Affairs (ICHA), Kenya Red Cross Society

Safia Verjee is the Executive Director for the International Centre of Humanitarian Affairs based at the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS). She is a seasoned humanitarian professional with over 15 years of experience dedicated to working closely with communities and like-minded partners to strengthen resilience through programming and innovation. As the Executive Director of the International Center of Humanitarian Affairs (ICHA) - the think tank of KRCS - Safia plays a

pivotal role in shaping the organization's strategic direction, spearheading transformative initiatives, and advocating for impactful change in humanitarian interventions. Safia holds a master's degree in public health from Cardiff University, Wales and a certificate in Leadership from Lancaster University.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

WHERE IS THE VENUE?



Tamarind Tree Hotel is located in Langata Link Rd, Nairobi. You can scan the QR code above to find it in your Maps application.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

ICRC Security Hotline: +254 722 201 113

ICRC Radio Room: +254 722 512 725 / +254 110 938 074

Medical

ICRC Staff Health: +254 741 506 569

E-plus Ambulance: +254700395395 / +254738395395

For hotel and travel concerns, contact ICRC Welcome Staff who are stationed at the hotel:

Esther Dorine Odhiambo: +254 722 310 667

New technologies have transformed humanitarian action and can facilitate humanitarian work. But the digital transformation also generates novel risks – risks that need to be addressed in collaboration with new partners.

The Symposium brings together experts from the public, private and humanitarian sector, as well as academia and civil society, to reflect and offer solutions on key legal, strategic and operational issues humanitarian organization face as a consequence of the digital transformation.



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