

Dynamic Spectrum Alliance Global Summit 2017 Successfully Concludes Following Discussion on Investment in Broadband Infrastructure

Europe announced as the location for the sixth Annual Global Summit taking place in 2018

Cape Town, South Africa, 12 May 2017: Establishing regulatory frameworks for enabling investment in broadband infrastructure across Africa was the key discussion as the fifth annual Dynamic Spectrum Alliance (DSA) [Global Summit](#) 2017 concluded yesterday in Cape Town, South Africa.

The three-day event brought together representatives from five continents and 21 countries around the world, including policy makers, regulators, academia, and public and private sector representatives with first-hand experience developing and implementing a range of spectrum sharing regimes.

“Research from A4AI notes only half of the world (53%) will be connected by 2020, which leaves almost half of the world unconnected, and the United Nations Broadband Commission says being connected is now a basic human right,” commented Professor H Sama Nwana, Emeritus Executive Director, Dynamic Spectrum Alliance, who moderated the panel with senior experts from the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA), the National Communications Authority (NCA), Ghana and Ultimate Internetworking Solutions (UltiNetS).

Nwana continued: “Investment in infrastructure, unlicensed spectrum and dynamic access technologies remain a barrier to connectivity. It is a challenge of both affordability as well as accessibility, placing the problem squarely with communications policy makers and regulators worldwide. The Global Summit provided a great opportunity to bring together regional policy makers and regulators to share data from their area and explore dynamic spectrum access policies that are already in place and working.”

This year's Global Summit had high quality presentations resulting in deep discussions on all aspects of spectrum policy, including the challenges around spectrum for Wi-Fi, 5G, the Internet of Things (IoT), closing the digital divide, and satellites. In addition to this, nine regulators came together to share best case practices from around the world.

For the first time this year the DSA formally recognised and celebrated the achievements of its members through an awards ceremony. Dr David Crawford, Head of the Centre for White Space Communications at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, was the recipient of the *Award for a Student-Led Initiative or Research on New Opportunities for Dynamic Spectrum Access*.

Following the Summit, Crawford commented: “It is clear that the dynamic management of spectrum is increasingly being recognized as a key important factor for future wireless connectivity solutions, facilitating more efficient and effective use of spectrum. This will ultimately lead to better and more far-reaching connectivity for a range of applications, including affordable access to the Internet for people in hard-to-reach geographic locations, as well as new IoT and 5G applications and use cases.”

The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance also announced that for the first time it will host the 2018 Global Summit in Europe.

“The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance is focused on encouraging policy changes to enable dynamic spectrum access technologies to help make spectrum available in low-, mid-, and high-band spectrum to satisfy the requirements of densification and coverage, and do so in cost effective ways to enable successful and sustainable network deployments. During my first Global Summit as President of the DSA, I’m proud of what we have achieved and look forward to seeing the outcomes and progress in the year ahead until we come together again in Europe in 2018,” commented Kalpak Gude, President, Dynamic Spectrum Alliance.

For further information about the Dynamic Spectrum Alliance and the Global Summit 2017, please visit www.dynamicspectrumalliance.org/ or follow @dynamicspectrum and #DSA17GS on [Twitter](#). Alternatively join the Alliance on [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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About the Dynamic Spectrum Alliance

The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance is a global organization advocating for laws and regulations that will lead to more efficient and effective spectrum utilization. The DSA’s membership spans multinationals, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and academic, research, and other organizations from around the world, all working to create innovative solutions that will increase the amount of available spectrum to the benefit of consumers and businesses alike. Visit <http://www.dynamicspectrumalliance.org/>.

About the Dynamic Spectrum Alliance Global Summit

The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance returns to Africa for its Fifth Annual Global Summit. The Global Summit brings together policy makers, regulators, academia, and public and private sector representatives with first-hand experience developing and implementing a range of spectrum sharing regimes, from exclusive use licensing to unlicensed spectrum allocations to various kinds of spectrum sharing regimes across a variety of complementary spectrum bands, including those that will enable 5G to come to life. In a world with tens of billions of wirelessly connected devices, spectrum sharing is a must for any policy maker looking for innovative ways to close the digital divide and enable the Internet of Things.

The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance’s annual Summit is the premier event for policy makers and regulators to share best practices, learn about the latest spectrum sharing policies, and participate in discussions on how to maximize social and economic impact in urban cities and remote regions across the Globe.

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