

**WAMECA 2019**  
**AGENDA**  
**17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**A) Conference**

<b>Thursday, October 17, 2019</b>	
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	
<b>TIME</b>	<b>ITEM</b>
8:30– 9:00	<b>Arrival and Registration of Participants</b>
9:00– 9:20	<b>Introductions</b>  <i>Sulemana Braimah, Executive Director, MFWA</i>
9:20– 9:35	<b>Welcome Statement</b>  <i>Edetaen Ojo, Board Chairman, MFWA</i>
9:35– 10:00	<b>Brief Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Roberto Quiroz, Public Affairs Officer, United States Embassy in Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>Edward Pitman, Open Society Foundation—Programme on Independent Journalism</i></li> <li>• <i>Selorm Adedevoh, CEO, MTN Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>Akua K. Gyekeye, Public Policy Manager, Africa and MENA Elections, Facebook</i></li> <li>• <i>Hawa Ba, Open Society Initiative for West Africa</i></li> </ul>
10:00 – 10:15	<b>A Message from Ghana’s Minister of Information</b> <i>Hon. Kojo Opong Nkrumah (MP)</i>
10:15 – 10:45	<b>Keynote Address: Social Media, Fake News &amp; Elections in Africa and Official Opening of Conference</b>  <i>Advocate Pansy Tlakula, Chairperson, Information Regulator of South Africa and immediate past Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights</i>
10:45 – 11:15	Group Photograph/Snack Break
11:15 – 12:30	<b>Presentation and Discussion: Protecting Election Integrity on Facebook</b>  <i>Akua K. Gyekeye, Public Policy Manager, Africa and MENA Elections, Facebook</i>  <i>Questions and Answers</i>
12:30 - 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>

13:30 –15:00	<p><b>Debate and Discussion: When It’s Fake, It Can’t be News; and When It’s News, It Can’t be Fake – Is Fake News real or a Misnomer?</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Rodney Sieb, Editor, Frontpage Africa, Liberia</i></li> <li>• <i>Ismail Akwei, Editor-In-Chief, GhanaWeb</i></li> <li>• <i>Shuaibu Usman Leman, Executive Secretary, Nigerian Union of Journalists, Nigeria</i></li> <li>• <i>Sandister Tei, Deputy Programmes Manager, Citi FM/TV, Ghana</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator: George Sarpong, Executive Secretary, NMC</i></p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Spotting and Stopping the Fake from going viral</b></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Samba Badji, Africa-Check, Senegal</i></li> <li>• <i>Dapo Olorunyomi, Publisher/CEO, Premium Times, Nigeria</i></li> <li>• <i>Kinna Likimani, Odekro, Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>Nesmon De Laure, Blogger, Cote d’Ivoire</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator: Sulemana Braimah, Executive Director, MFWA</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Wrapping up, Key Action Points/Takeaways</b>
16:30 – 17:00pm	<b>Closing/ Snacks/ End of Day One</b>

## DAY TWO

<b>Friday, October 18, 2019</b>	
<b>TIME</b>	<b>ITEM</b>
8:00 - 8:30	Arrival and Registration of Participants
8:30– 9:00	<b>Video – Fake News and Elections</b>
9:00– 10:45	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Managing Elections in Africa - How can Social Media Help or Hurt Elections Management</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Jean Mensa, Chairperson, Electoral Commission of Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>Abmed Newton Barry, Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of Burkina Faso</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Chair: Advocate Pansy Tlakula, Chairperson, Information Regulator of South Africa and immediate past Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights</i></p>
10:45 – 11:00	<b>Networking &amp; Wellness</b>

11:00– 12:00	<p><b>Fake News and Elections Security</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>ACP David Eklun, Director-General, Public Affairs Directorate, Ghana Police Service</i></li> <li>• <i>ACP Frank Mba, Force Public Relations Director, Nigeria Police Force</i></li> <li>• <i>Supt. Gassimou Soumah, Dep. PRO, Guinea National Police, Guinea</i></li> <li>• <i>Queeneth Tawo, Regional Coordinator, Women, Peace and Security, WANEPA</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Sophie Ly Sow, MFWA Board Member, Senegal</i></p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Presentation: Co-ordinated Media Response to Tackling Fake News during Elections - the Nigeria Example</b></p> <p><i>Dapo Olorunoyi, Publisher/CEO, Premium Times, Nigeria</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
14:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Keeping the Net On: Combating Network Shutdowns during Elections, the Experiences so far</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Emmanuel Vitus, Paradigm Initiative, Nigeria</i></li> <li>• <i>Salim Azim Assani, Co-founder &amp; Head of Communication WenakLabs, Chad</i></li> <li>• <i>Simone Tiofack Toussi, Researcher on Digital Rights, Cameroon</i></li> <li>• <i>Felicia Anthonio, Co-ordinator, Africa Freedom of Expression Exchange (AFEX)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator: Kenneth Ashigbey, CEO, Ghana Chamber of Telecommunications</i></p>
15:00-16:00	<p><b>Presentation and Discussion: Countering the Pushback on Digital Rights: Leveraging on the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms</b></p> <p><i>Edetaen Ojo, Executive Director, Media Rights Agenda</i></p> <p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p><b>The Takeaways</b></p>
16:30 – 17:00	<p><b>Closing/ Snack/ Departure</b></p>

## AWARDS CEREMONY

TIME	ITEM
6:30pm - 7:30pm	<p>Music &amp; Arrival of Guests</p> <p><i>The Sensational Wulomei Band</i></p>
7:30 – 7:40pm	<p>Welcome and Introduction of Dignitaries</p> <p><i>Sulemana Braimah, Executive Director, MFWA</i></p>
7:40 – 8:00pm	<p>Acknowledgements and Remarks by Event Supporters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Embassy of the United States, Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>MTN-Ghana</i></li> <li>• <i>Stanbic Bank Ghana</i></li> </ul>
8:00- 8:10pm	Musical Interlude
8:10 – 8:25pm	<p>Remarks by Guest of Honour</p> <p><i>Advocate Pansy Tlakula, Information Commissioner of South Africa and immediate past Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights</i></p>
8:25 – 8:40pm	Musical Interlude
8:40 – 8:55pm	<p>Remarks by WAMECA 2019 Judges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Nana Kwasi Gyan-Apenteng (Ghana)</i></li> </ul>
8:55 – 9:25pm	<p>Award Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Remarks by Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director, Political Affairs Department, AU Commission</i></li> <li>• <i>Presentation of AU Charter Awards</i></li> </ul>
9:25 – 9:35pm	Musical Interlude
9:35 – 10:30pm	<i>Presentation of West Africa Media Excellence Awards</i>

10:30 – 10:35pm	Vote of Thanks <b>MFWA</b>
10:35pm	Music/Closing/Departure