ONE KENYA, POTENTIAL AND POSSIBILITIES…

DR. BITANGE NDEMO'S MANIFESTO

The Ndemo Manifesto is a culmination of an online debate conducted by KICTANet from August 3 to 30, 2011. Dr. Ndemo was asked to articulate his vision in regard to his role under the new constitution, and his plans for Internet Governance and the ICT sector. The title of the debate was "**PS Ndemo, can we in this sector say "Bitange for President?" And can we be confident that you would drive the country into a knowledge economy?"** The debate was moderated by Grace Githaiga and Barrack Otieno.

Vision: Equitable distribution of resources for all and re-establishment of trust with all citizens!

Mission: Create knowledge for life, provision of infrastructure for development, ensure food security and creation of employment, build a sustained regional influence and develop the HUB concept in Kenya.

In order to realize the vision, the following will be undertaken:

1. **Open Government and Information**
   - Put in place the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) for end to end government where every Kenyan will have a smart ID which will be used in all transactions.
   - Actualize open government through which every Kenyan will feel included.
   - Ensure that all information can be accessed on the mobile platform.
   - Give incentives to lower prices of smart phones as well as cost of accessing the internet.
   - Encourage aggressive content development especially on e-learning, and creation of 'content on demand' e.g. on githeri recipes.
   - Provide legislators with research assistants and create a culture of providing facts.
   - Network availability through the Universal Service Fund.
   - Ensure an Integrated Financial Management system is in place and working. This will allow for shifting of unused resources to sectors where these resources are needed.
   - Performance of accounting officers will be based on delivery of service.

2. **Creation of the High Tech Sector in preparation for Malili**
   - Develop centers of excellence, standards and incubators of global standards.
   - Seek collaborations but safeguard Kenyan inventions.

3. **Use of ICTs for Elections and Peacebulding**
   - Utilization of E-voting strategy and biometrics.

4. **Using ICTs to tackle Corruption**
   - With the Public Key Infrastructure in place and integrated registration system i.e. from birth, smart ID, death permits to KRA, all data will be synthesized and harmonized. This will eliminate all those who vote when they are dead.

- Digitalization of all registries will create traceability at all levels. There will no longer be temporally registered companies with unknown directors as it happened with Anglo Leasing.
- Open data will allow for tracking of public expenditure to the last shilling.
- Release land registration records on to the open data platform. This will indeed help trace ill gotten property that in many ways compromise the ability of local people in affording such properties.
- Use e-procurement for better services and saving costs.
- Change the procurement law and incorporate a penalty for losers who bring frivolous appeals that delay implementation.

5. **Job Creation**
   - Create a 24 hour economy that will result in more employment opportunities.
   - Create a skills inventory in order to address the labour demand-supply mismatch that ails Kenya's economy.
   - Plan for future employment opportunities.
   - Mob up the youth and deploy them to the new mega projects of Lamu and the rail links to build infrastructure that will ensure sustained job security.
   - Remove information asymmetries that deny the poor employment opportunities.
   - Review labour regulation including that of trade unions.

6. **Housing**
   - Design Eco houses in the range of Ksh. 100,000 and start implementation from Northern Kenya. These homes will be in an urban set up where they will be supplied with all utilities.
   - Start an aggressive program of cottage industries with the aim of building a wage economy that will make it easier for mortgage banks to lend money for eco homes throughout country.
   - Amend the Cooperative Act to allow resources be used as collateral to build decent housing for Millions of Kenyans and more importantly those suffering under inhuman conditions yet they played a key role in creating wealth.
   - Deploy fiber and other utilities to every home.

7. **Media**
   - A media with greater freedom guided by an ethical code of conduct.
   - Informed by research and analysis.
   - Will be provided with space to grow in a responsible manner.
   - Implement broadcast regulations and the programme code.

8. **Agri-business and food security**
   - Develop a commodities exchange platform.
   - Support Zero grazing in North Eastern through provision of hay from south Rift.
   - Construct dams along the Ewaso Nyiro river. Use gravity to get River Omo water via the Chalbi desert into dams in parts of Marsabit and start irrigation projects. Utilize the Tana Delta to provide more food.

- Spend on diversifying Kenyans eating habits to remove unnecessary demand for maize.
- Start cottage industries to deal with post production where Kenya loses 30% of food and for example have maize and beans canned as githeri to avoid wastage and create jobs.
- Those without food will be provided in voucher form through the smart ID. They will then redeem their points at the retail stores (Uchumi possibly) and purchase the food of their choice.
- Kenyan soils will be mapped on open data, to allow for information on kind of food crops grown in certain locality, how much is needed to produce in order to break even, what are productivity levels (provide predictability for expectations) etc.
- Craft strategies of delaying consumption through value addition and better storage capacities.
- Establish functional supply chains to create uniformity and avoid wastage of harvest(s).
- Through incentives, encourage other investments such as solar energy, retail stores, dried beef industry, packaged camel and cow milk etc.

9. Affordable health Care for All
- This will be an outcome of dealing with other related variables (see sections on housing and food security). Since people will have better housing with utilities and food of their choice, health problems will be minimized. As such funds will be relocated from curative to preventive health care.
- Due to the wide spread wages and economies of scale, it will be possible to provide cheap health insurance that will ensure affordable healthcare.

10. Energy
- Within 100 days embark on a PPP to develop a 5,000 MW energy plant in order to break away from minimalist investment in the sector.
- Give incentives to build solar panels for use in remote parts especially in schools that will all be hooked to DTH TV for learning.
- Utilise available technology and have clean coal at a minimum produce 5,000 MW from this source.
- Step up geothermal to fully exploit the green energy available.
- Use wind energy in Northern Kenya.

11. ICT and Education
- Make ICT education in schools and in work place compulsory.
- Create places similar to the i-hub, for discussion/debates of fresh ideas on education for schools.
- Suspend all business education programs in Universities and introduce gemology, engineering and creative arts. The creative art's role will be to produce regional content especially on learning material and use it for exerting

regional influence. The regional content is to create local understanding and forge regional unity that is key to socio economic stability.
- This outside-in strategy will help close the silos that hinder MOIC's impact on MOE ICT activities.
- Waive fees for any student enrolled in science and creative degree programs.

12. ICTs to streamline the transport sector

- Application of ICT in the Transport sector will eliminate lots of corruption and give power to mwananchi since via text messages, it will be possible to check if a Matatu has insurance, Road license , traffic offences committed, etc.
- Ensure goods destined for Uganda, Rwanda, DRC and Burundi get to the borders in a day.

13. Minerals

- Begin an aggressive program to help DRC especially with adding value to their minerals.
- Market Kisumu as diamond valley where affordable diamonds will be found.
- Create a steel processing industry in Homa Bay.

14. Foreign Policy

- Focus on Africa to create greater opportunities for utilizing only resource - human capital in creating a level playing field. This is because 5% increase in intro Africa trade will translate to some $100 billion almost three times as much as what Kenya begs in form of aid.
- Solidify diplomatic relations with all Kenya's neighbors.
- Provide regional broadband network and regional support in ICT, and create an ICT regional Peace Corps to work in all countries.
- The broadband networks will create greater intra Africa Trade relations that are lacking. (**should these two points be here?**)

15. Business process outsourcing

- Outsource much of public sector services to improve on efficiency and governance e.g. judicial services such as transcriptions to reduce backlog and improve not only governance but create real justice.
- On the International, there will be provision of cheap office space in Konza within three years to allow Kenya to effectively compete.

16. Donor Funding

- Suspend donor funding that Kenya has not solicited for.
- Accept funding that only meets identified priorities, and which is manageable within available capacities.
- Reduce the procurement tender process of donor projects from six months.

17. Monitoring of Foreigner

- There will be close monitoring of those entering Kenyan even when there is no threat to state security through recording of electronic finger prints of every person getting into the country.
- Have tamper prove IDs.

18. Advisors to help shape Policy

- Will seek those who have demonstrated ability to serve their country with dedication.
- Subject chapter six of the constitution on leadership and integrity to those seeking public offices and law makers.
- There will be a policy guideline on all organizations registered under Societies Act. Filing of annual tax returns to the registrar will be a requirement for all organizations. (**should this be here?**)

Unanswered

How does the government alleviate the fear of making the wrong decision(s) and are there any measures in place for success and tolerance for failure within government?

How would you ensure public officers are provided with freedom to make choices, to make mistakes, know the options for redress, and put an exit strategy in place should things go wrong?

What are the possibilities of having NDEMO at the end of the online interviews – go on live stream video with summary of issues and especially on way forward?

Can we have the regulator come on the list, too, soon?