

DATA PROTECTION NEWS

Data Protection meets innovation: let's talk about the new European Data Protection Seal



BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL CURRENCIES

Joining the Crypto Bandwagon: MasterCard creates program to partner with banks to offer Crypto trading



LAWYERS HUB
Tech for Justice

Newsletter

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PHRASE OF THE WEEK



API Gateway

API stands for Application Programming interface. It is a software bridge that enables two applications to communicate with each other. A close example is the connection between Google maps and transportation apps such as Uber that enables you to look up your destination before keying it in.

LAWYERS HUB EVENTS

THE AFRICA LEGAL INNOVATION WEEK 2022 IS HERE!

Date: 22nd -28th November 2022

Event type: In- person/virtual

Location: Nairobi, Kenya & Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

This year, The Lawyers Hub in partnership with the **Africa LawTech Association** and **17th Internet Governance Forum (IGF)** will bring together various actors in the fields of law, justice, and technology to discuss the theme: **Legal-Tech and AI Shaping the Future of Justice and the Legal Industry in Africa**. These reports will be launched during the Innovation Week: *Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Judicial Systems in Africa*, *The State of Legal Tech in Africa 2022*, and the *Africa Law Tech Report 2022*. The conference will also feature a **Coding Class for Lawyers**, the **Africa Legal-tech & Innovation Awards 2022**, legal tech exhibitions, and the **Africa Legal Practice and New Frontiers Session** at the 17th IGF Conference in Ethiopia, among others.

For more information, please visit our website: africalawtech.com.

AFRICA LEGAL INNOVATION WEEK 2022

LEGAL-TECH & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SHAPING THE FUTURE OF JUSTICE & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY

22ND - 28TH NOVEMBER 2022

LAWYERS HUB, NAIROBI - KENYA & ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA

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AFRICA LAW TECH **LAWYERS HUB**

STARTUP & COMMERCE NEWS

Need for Speed: Safaricom ushers in 5G services in Kenya

■ Not your typical adrenaline rush, however, you should get ready for a new internet surfing experience! Safaricom officially announced its 5G service launch. The service will be available to both individuals and organisations. For mobile subscribers, the service will at first only be available for Huawei, Nokia and Safaricom smartphones. Large organisations with a considerably large number of connected devices will experience a boost in efficiency with the improved internet speed. This is one advantage of the 5G service, it can support 100,000 connected devices. For the trial run, the quality will be at 700Mbps. The telecoms company plans for a future speed of 1000Mbps.

What is it about the Nigerian Startup Bill?

■ For starters, the [Nigerian Startup Bill](#) was officially signed into law by President Buhari on October 19th 2022. The inception of the Bill goes back to June 2021 when the creation of the first draft started. What stood out for us in the bill are the tax incentives for investors, employees, external service providers and the startup itself. There's also a section on startup labeling that arguably acts as an incentive to startups that might be discouraged by sometimes punitive notions and realities of compliance. Under the [bill](#), for a startup to enjoy the incentives and regulatory assistance detailed therein, one has to register as a labelled startup. One of the qualifications to be a labelled startup include being an LLC registered under the Company and Allied Matters Act 2020 that has been operating for not more than 10 years. Another outstanding quality is that the startup's objectives have to revolve around innovation or development of a digital product/process. We'll follow closely on what players in the Nigerian startup ecosystem think about the new law.

DATA PROTECTION NEWS



Image: ipopba/Adobe Stock

Data Protection meets innovation: let's talk about the new European Data Protection Seal

■ In a publication dated 17th October 2022, The [European Commission](#) launched 'Europrivacy' - a GDPR certification mechanism. Approved by the European Data Processing Board (encompasses EU's various national data protection authorities), the certification will act as a European Data Protection Seal. Europrivacy was developed by researchers under the Europe's Horizon 2020 research programme. A highlight of the certification mechanism is that it is sector cross-cutting and takes into account developing tech such as block chain, AI and connected tech. So who exactly can apply for the certification? Per the European Commission site, any data controller, processor or company intending to value mark their data handling related activities. The certification will enable players in the global economy to easily make references to assess adequacy requirements for cross-border data transfers, inform choice of data processes and assess compliance with data protection laws.

Buckle up, Data Protection is here to stay. UN Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy issues 11 guiding principles to balance competing data interests.



Image: Google

■ With the digital era incentivising more players in economic and political spheres to embrace internationalism, efforts to harmonize laws continue. From a futurist lens, interoperability will be inevitable to coordinate activities on a global level. The right to data protection is a prime issue in all digital spaces as it encircles other human rights such as human dignity, security and freedom. It is also finely inseparable from privacy issues. Taking the before mentioned into account, the [report](#) issued by the UN special rapporteur on right to privacy, Anna Brian Nougères, is a jewel. The report considers 7 key International documents on the right to data protection and privacy, including the GDPR, highlighting fundamental provisions that cut across them all. The report directs that data protection provisions be issued as critical issues requiring structural changes and, if not - resolvable through legal recourse, rather than being lightly considered recommendations.

Top of the list of the 11 guiding principles for data controllers and processors to ensure the right to privacy is protected while balancing obtaining value from data is legality. The document emphasizes the need for national laws to be specific as opposed to giving general definitions of what satisfies legality. In the same issue about specificity, the document calls for governments to detail what categorically falls under sensitive personal data. This is crucial indeed as sensitive personal data encloses our very personal lives and holds the potential of triggering discrimination. Under the guiding principles, as is a wide recommendation in data protection regimes, sensitive personal data should only be collected when protection is guaranteed by law. Bearing the future in mind, we all have a responsibility of keeping data protection conversations alive, before they are translated into norms then action.

DIGITAL ID NEWS



Image: Google

Singapore's Digital id project might just be the one!

■ In its official case study launch, Singapore's digital Id project- Singpass, which is now fully taking form, was endorsed by [World Bank's ID4D \(Identity for development\) division](#). Singapore's government is equally proud of the project considering the successfully built in security features, among other impressive gains detailed in the following sentences.

Impressively so, Singpass- the product, which includes an API gateway (defined at the top 'phrase of the week' newsletter segment), facial recognition validation and a 'one time' data collection portal, managed to attract a huge number of private sector interest. According to [Singapore's official government portal](#) "As of February 2022, over 700 organisations offering more than 2,000 services have adopted Singpass." Public remarks made by Cheow Hoe Chan, Singapore's Government Chief Digital Technology Officer, express related sentiments "If the government can share data in a very progressive way, that should apply to the economy."

This far, Singapore's creation makes a worthy benchmark for other digital id systems. So what really makes Singpass outstanding? . For starters, the project took an evolutionary approach, gradually progressing by addressing immediate problems, thus ensuring a sustainable and robust system. To solve for the problem of data inaccuracy and inconsistencies across databases, the contractors assessed then adopted only authoritative government sources. This is further complemented by the products 'My Info' service, that allows 'pre-filling of forms' with the reliable data collected, which eases organisations KYC processes. As individuals, organisations and nations envision secure, trustworthy and standardized digital identity systems, Singapore acts as a beacon of light towards the right direction.

700

APPROXIMATE
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AI NEWS

The 'unrestrained' AI force: Comments on upcoming EU AI Law



Image: Google

■ With the Czech president (EU Council chair) circulating the latest [compromise document](#) on the EU AI act, and the projected conclusion of the discussions set to November, countries all over the world were given reasonable time to make comments. A [document](#) obtained by [EURACTIV](#) expresses US unofficial comments on the recent policy progress. Huge Issues of contention that remain include that the definition of AI is too broad, and there have been suggestions to exempt or create a separate framework for general purpose AI. General Purpose AI includes smart connected devices and music making algorithms. Such software and hardware are AI systems that are able to perform generally useful functions. They also incorporate human intervention. It is very commendable to witness all the stages in the policy making of the AI act. Witnessing all stages of the AI act's policy development has been laudable. Regardless of a country's policy priorities, all roads seem to lead to strategic compromises that strive to balance all voices. From the start, regulating AI has proven to be a massive force that requires careful consideration in order to be well managed. The risk-based approach used in the framework's development is in order. Beyond the enforcement of AI regulations, the release of the final document will undoubtedly be laudable.

BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL CURRENCIES NEWS

Joining the Crypto Bandwagon: MasterCard creates program to partner with banks to offer Crypto trading

■ The payment company plans to launch the program in 2023. In partnership with Proxy, a bridging platform. [Mastercard](#) intends to lure in banks to offer crypto services. The idea is that Mastercard will handle the compliance side characterised by the often inconsistent and unpredictable crypto regulatory sphere. Mastercard will also handle fraud and other security concerns that throw off banks from fully launching crypto trading services, even after carrying out numerous crypto related research. Despite the recent crypto crash, crypto adoption is projected to go mainstream in years to come. The team at Mastercard believes such advancements will not be possible without crypto embracing and evolving with the financial industry.



Image: Shutterstock

End of Cybersecurity Awareness Month basics

■ Cyber threats continue to be sophisticated with the everyday progression of technology. This mandates that every organization and individual do their due diligence to understand and incorporate into their systems latest cybersecurity updates. October was the **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**. This year's campaign theme was "**See Yourself in Cyber**." It lays emphasis on the '**people**' element of cybersecurity.



Image: Oleksii - Adobe Stock

The goal is capacity building, focusing on how people can make smart decisions in their organizations, workplaces or homes to be on the safe side of cyber. At Lawyers Hub we have engaged in similar efforts with our **Data Protection Training** that was conducted in early October and the recently concluded Webinar on '**Making Cybersecurity and Data Protection work for women in Africa**'. In this section, we unpack some fundamental aspects of cybersecurity, keeping in mind this year's theme;

1. Cyberattack

A cyberattack is any kind of malicious activity that attempts to manipulate and destroy information system resources or the information itself. Cyberattacks can take so many forms, including;

- **Malware** - short for "malicious software." A malware is designed to interfere with the normal functioning of a computer either to access confidential data or to disrupt the system. An example of malware is a computer virus.
- **Ransomware** - This is a malicious software that infects an organization's systems and restricts access to encrypted data or systems until a ransom is paid to the perpetrator. Most times paying the ransom is ill- advised as the damage might still ensue. Setting up better cybersecurity checks to insure future activities is better suited.

- **Phishing** - Here, attackers trick legitimate users into handing over their personal information such as passwords and bank details by posing as a reputable company. Attackers may trick victims into taking part in a security check or an account reactivation process, threatening that their accounts will be closed if they do not take immediate action. The already intimidated victims may be redirected into a website that is a replica of the official reputable site where they are instructed by a prompt to enter their personal information such as login credentials, which can be accessed at the backend for use by these criminals. In other instances, the fake website can install malware that can access the victims personal data.
- **Password-related account compromises**- Which involves attackers deploying software or other hacking techniques to identify common and reused passwords they can exploit to gain access to confidential systems, data or assets. Using passwords with 8- 10 figures is currently what is supported by most systems. As a minimum, that is also easily memorable. However, that figure might change with more sophisticated tech and skilled cyber attacks. Some cybersecurity experts advise for 14 figure passwords, though not yet widely supported.

2. VPN Service

VPN stands for 'Virtual private Network.' The VPN encrypts or hides your internet traffic as well as your online identity making it considerably difficult for third parties to track your online activity or access your online data.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- I. Think Before You Click any link online, especially one from your email.
- II. Update Your Software. You can allow automatic updates on your devices to ensure that you are protected from new threats.
- III. Use Strong Passwords that are long, unique, and randomly generated and download and use Password Managers to generate, remember and encrypt different, complex passwords for each of your accounts.
- IV. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) which provides two or more verification factors to gain access to your accounts. An example is when you have to use fingerprint verification, a one-time generated pin (OTP), and or a code generated from an authenticator app on top of your password.
- V. Install and use a reputable VPN service to protect your online identity and data. More so when you are using public or shared Wi-Fi. Some reputable VPN service providers include Nord VPN, Express VPN, Proton VPN, and Kaspersky VPN Secure Connection.

EVENTS

[East Africa Law Society Conference 2022, Nov 23rd - 26th Zanzibar](#)

[Kenya Innovation Week 2022, 6th - 8th Dec Nairobi](#)

[Global Blockchain Congress Nov 23rd & 24th, Dubai](#)

[International Summit on AI Feb 2023, Netherlands](#)

[AFRICA LEGAL INNOVATION WEEK 2022, NAIORBI & ADDIS ABABA](#)

The Africa Legal Innovation Week 2022 presents

The Africa Legal Tech & Innovation Awards 2022
 Call for Nominations:
 Nomination Deadline: 14th, November, 2022.
 Nominate here: <http://www.rebrand.ly/ALIAwards>



CATEGORIES

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| ● Academic Legal Tech Institution of The Year 2022 | ● Content Creator of the Year |
| ● Law Firm of the Year | ● Entrepreneur of the year |
| ● Public Sector Innovator of the Year | ● Judge of the year (Jurist)* |
| ● Company/ Enterprise of the Year on Legal Tech Research, AI & Innovation | ● In-house Lawyer of the year |
| ● Bar association of the year | ● Legal Designer of the Year |
| ● Tech Lawyer of the Year | ● Digital Policy innovation Award |
| ● IP Lawyer of the Year | ● Most Innovative Solution for the Justice Sector |
| ● Researcher of the year | ● Student Legal Tech Person of the year |
| ● Legal Innovator of the Year Award | ● Court of the year |
| ● Ecosystem Builder Award | ● Civil Society Award |
| ● Young Legal Innovator of the Year | ● Alternative Legal Service Provider |



To Nominate, Visit:
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 Nomination Ends
14th November, 2022

