Dear Mr. Mandla Mchunu,

Please, find my comments as:

South Africa National Artificial Intelligence Policy Framework

1. How do we handle a lull on AI i.e., AI winter - Measures to be taken if AI does not meet expectations.
   This should be defined in the policy.
2. Annexure should be added - To direct youths to centers with resources that can operationalize the AI vision.

Licensing for Satellite Services

1. Specification of unlicensed bands within the traditionally carved-out bands for access by start-ups.
   This may be considered.
2. Question 3: Having a license for each segment of the space value chain is excellent. In addition,
   how the interfaces between these segments should be inferred as supporting proprietary standards
   without compromising on wholesome engineering.
3. Question 4: The PECN license duration may be linked to the initial lifetime of the registered space segment.
   This enhances the ease of mission and communication network planning. In case of a new population in the
   space segment, extension (cost non-prohibitive) to the PECN licenses can be sought and granted.
4. Question 5: The use of lower cost factor may be considered in determining the spectrum license costs for a
   cluster of earth stations to attract more earth stations in South Africa where applicable.

From: NEOSS <neoss@csir.co.za>

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 1:53 PM

To: NEOSS <info@neoss.co.za>

Subject: Call for Review and Input on SA National AI Policy Framework and New Licensing Framework for Satellite Services

Dear Space Community

Please find attached the invitations to participate in the ongoing consultations for the **South African National AI Policy Framework (DCDT)** and the **new Licensing Framework for Satellite Services (ICASA)**. These frameworks will impact South Africa's space and Earth observation (EO) activities.

We encourage you to review these documents thoroughly and provide your feedback. The links for submission are provided below, and the documents are also attached for your convenience.

Please submit your input to ensure that our community's insights are reflected in these key policy developments. The details for submission for the AI policy framework can be accessed at https://www.dcdt.gov.za/sa-national-ai-policy-framework/file/338-sa-national-ai-policy-framework.html and for the licensing framework to Mr. Mandla Mchunu satlicensing@icasa.org.za.

Regards

National Earth Observations and Space Secretariat (NEOSS)
*(An initiative of the **DSI** that is managed and hosted by the **CSIR**)*
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