

Cotonou, Benin, December 2 (Infosplusgabon) - Mrs Vera Songwé, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Tuesday invited Africa to seize opportunities presented by the global digital economy, an official source said here.

Mrs. Songwé made the call while launching the Network Report Index (NRI 2020) on the theme “Accelerating Digital Transformation in a Global post-COVID-19 Economy”.

“African governments must make more efforts to seize the opportunities of the global digital economy, which should rise from 11,500 billion dollars in 2016 to more than 23,000 billion dollars by the year 2025,” according to a statement issued by ECA at the end of the launching by videoconferencing.

“We want Africa to be part of the world in terms of today’s networking. Digital technologies will undoubtedly play key role in Africa’s quest to attain the Sustainable Development Goals and Africa’s 2063 Agenda, Africa we want and improve the way we do business,” she said.

Mrs. Songwé added that the quality, access and impact were essential to resolve the problems of connectivity on the continent and that the key political domains must be improved and developed so that Africa succeeds in this project.

“We must concentrate on the access, cost and rapidity. All this concerns the regulation and way which we can better shape public-private partnerships so that the continent exploits efficiently digitalization and innovation,” she said.

She indicated that “the Networking Report Index shows that Africa must double its speed to guarantee that it fills the deficit of access to ICTs and financial accessibility”.

The Networking Report Index (NRI 2020) was launched by ECA and the Portulans Institute, a research and education institute based in Washington D.C.

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