The Arab ICT Organization «AICTO» is a specialized Arab governmental organization working under the aegis of the league of Arab States, located in Tunis, and has been operational since 1st January 2008.
Our Strategic goals

1. **AICTO-SG 1**: Ensuring the transition of Arab countries to the All-Digital and enabling Arab Citizens to benefit from innovative digital services

2. **AICTO-SG 2**: Achieving the Arab complementarity and bridging the digital gap within the Arab region

3. **AICTO-SG 3**: Unifying and coordinating Arab positions serving their own strategic interest within international organizations/at the international level

4. **AICTO-SG 4**: Boosting the Arab countries’ contribution to the implementation of sustainable development goals 2030 while enhancing their inclusion in the global digital economy
Towards a Unified Arab digital society based on the creativity and innovation, boosting the Arab-Interregional complementarity and contributing efficiently to the development of the global sustainable digital economy.
An Interregional Multistakeholder Network for e-trust in the Arab & African Regions having the specificity to be open internationally to all interested stakeholders.
Vision

Better interregional collaboration on e-Trust for better trustworthy digital economies based on Laws Harmonization & Digital Trust services Interoperability
OBJECTIVES

1. Common Interregional Multistakeholder Network
2. Laws convergence
3. Interoperability and Mutual Recognition
4. Interregional & International cooperation
### AAECANet OBJECTIVES

| Common Interregional Multistakeholder Network | Gathering the Arab and African PKI/e-certification authorities within a common network with all relevant parties (Public and Private sector, Academia,...) to exchange the related experiences and expertise. |
| Laws convergence | Unifying and Harmonizing the interregional laws related to e-transactions and e-trust services based on international experiences |
| Interoperability and Mutual Recognition | Working on the interoperability and the mutual recognition between the Arab and African e-certification authorities, as a first step, and between the countries of the two regions with the rest of the world in a further step |
| Interregional & International cooperation | Establishing Interregional (Multilateral) conventions ensuring the Interoperability & the mutual recognition of the e-trust services between the countries of the two regions and with other foreign countries. |
**MECHANISMS**

Create a solid interregional framework for "digital Trust" while encouraging digital services and cross-border e-transactions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MECHANISM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Provide an appropriate platform to discuss and resolve issues related to e-trust within the Arab and African regions.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Provide the necessary support for the implementation of National e-certification authorities in the Arab and African countries.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Coordinate efforts to develop common regulatory frameworks and policies in the field of electronic certification, e-signature and e-trust services.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Promote collaboration between the e-certification authorities of the two regions to ensure the interoperability and the mutual recognition.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Establish adequate cooperation with international organizations and consortia operating in the field of Public Key Infrastructure &quot;PKI&quot; and e-trust (Technical, legal and regulatory).</td>
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ACTIVITIES

• Awareness activities: Forum & Technical conferences
• Capacity Building: Practical workshops and training sessions
• International exhibitions
• Studies and reports
• Technical assistance
• International cooperation
1st edition
« Interregional PKI & e-Trust Forum »
“Towards Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) in the Hyper-connected world
Venue : Muscat – Sultanate of Oman – Date 11 & 12 Decemeber 2017
2nd edition
« Interregional PKI & e-Trust Forum »
“Boosting interregional collaboration for better trustworthy digital economies”
Venue: Republic of Tunisia – Date 04 & 05 April 2019
Membership

• **Principal members**
  Arab and African countries represented by their authorities for e-certification or other respective agencies

• **Private sector**
  Private sector working in the field of e-certification and e-trust services

• **International specialized entities/Bodies**
  International forums, alliances and consortia

• **Academia**
  Academics in the digital certification field
AAECANET Members

2017
5 Arab countries (Oman, Sudan, Iraq, Tunisia, Palestine)

2019
New countries have joined the network:
Djibouti, Niger, Mauritania

End 2019
15 Countries

End 2020
25 Countries
AAECA-Net WG1: Working methods
AAECA-Net WG2: E-trust-T
[Technical Aspects]
AAECA-Net WG3: E-trust-L
[Legal frameworks Harmonization]
AAECA-Net WG1: Working methods

• Membership charter (Member’s categories, Conditions, advantages, rights and obligations…).

Deliverable: Membership Charter & package

End 2019
AAECA-Net WG2: E-trust-T
[Technical Aspects]

• Study the economic benefits and impacts of introducing PKI and E-Trust services in the two regions

• Investigate the ecosystem in the two regions

• Perform a gap analysis between the existing services and what is required

• Undertake an assessment of the benefits and lessons learned of the implementations of existing PKI and trust services both on regional and international levels

• Lead Capacity building program development & Technical assistance
AAECA-Net WG2: E-trust-T

[Technical Aspects]

By the end of 2019

• Action plan for the next year

By the first quarter of 2020

• Region Reports (As IS) – first edition of the study of the State of Art and Prospects of e-trust services in the two regions
• White book: PKI implementation in the Arab and African regions
• PKI and E-trust New Trends and Best Practices (1st review to be published)
• Capacity building/training program: (At least 30 trained expert per year)
This group will deal with regulatory issues related to public keys and e-trust services management

- The Main objective of this group is to develop a regulatory framework of reference

- Assessment of the existing legal frameworks in both regions (weakness)

- Taking into account real needs and specific characteristics of both regions a first tentative of a harmonized legal framework should be developed by this working group. (General guidelines)
AAECA-Net BENEFITS

Three elements have to be connected to create a platform for synergy between all involved and interested stakeholders within the scope of the AAECA-Net:

**Sharing – Coordination – Convergence**

AICTO, as an ICT regional representative is willing to be an active and supportive member. By joining the AAECA-Net, members will be part of the goals achievement process.
**AAECA-Net BENEFITS**

**Sharing**

Sharing global experiences, activities, initiatives, best practices in matter of e-transactions and e-trust services both for technical and legal frameworks.

AICTO provides an open and flexible platform for an effective communication and fruitful cooperation between members.

**Coordination**

Coordinating efforts and actions between all AAECA-Net members to tackle cross-border online fraud and crimes, and to fill the technical and legal gaps.

This coordination will make actions against online threats easier and more effective.

**Convergence**

Building an upward convergence Framework to bring closer all stakeholders having the same vision and priorities towards tackling cyber threats within a common and holistic framework.
Join AAECA-Net

Alone, we go faster,
Together we go further

www.etrustnet.org
Nada LAABIDI
Program & Project Manager
ARAB ICT ORGANIZATION