



**World Telecommunication and Information Society Day  
17 May 2016**

**Keynote speakers and panellists**

**Candace Johnson,  
President, EBAN.**



*Candace Johnson is a co-founder of SES, the world's pre-eminent satellite group and the architect of SES Global. She is also founding President of Europe Online Investments S.A., the world's first internet-based online service and satellite broadband network, and founder of Loral Cyberstar-Teleport Europe, Europe's first independent private trans-border satellite communications network.*

*Ms Johnson is also a founding investor and Member of the Board of Kacific, the high-throughput Satellite Internet System for the Pacific. She is founding President of the VATM, the Association of Private Telecom Operators in Germany and founding President of the Global Telecom Women's Network (GTWN). Under her presidency of EBAN, she has co-founded MBAN, the Middle East Business Angel Network and ABAN, the African Business Angel Network. She is also a member of the Advisory Board of numerous European and US ventures as well as being a Member of the Board of Governors of EDHEC (France), the University of Haifa in Israel, Sabanci University in Istanbul Turkey, and a Senior Enterprise Fellow for the University of Essex and its OECD-Leeds Program.*

*Ms Johnson has been decorated by the Government of Luxembourg with the Commander of Merit and the Officer of the Oak Leaf Crown for her work in founding and building SES to become one of the world's largest satellite systems. She is also an Officer of the German Federal Order of Merit, bestowed on her for her work in privatizing telecommunications and media throughout Germany and Europe. Amongst many other honours, Ms Johnson has received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" together with Vinton Cerf and Tim Berners-Lee from the World Communications Awards for her work in providing universal access to telecommunications around the world.*

*She holds Masters Degrees with Honours from the Sorbonne and Stanford Universities, a Bachelor's Degree from Vassar College and her high-school degree from Punahou, Honolulu, Hawaii.*

**Katherine Milligan,  
Director, Schwab  
Foundation for Social  
Entrepreneurship.**



*Katherine Milligan is the Director and Head of the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. She received her B.A. from Dartmouth College and her Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government, where she was the recipient of the Pforzheimer Scholarship for Excellence in Non-profit Management. Katherine's previous work experience includes a Sheldon Knox Research Fellowship at Harvard University (2004-2005); a Global Leadership Fellow of the World Economic Forum (2005-2009). Before that she was a Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa and a strategy consultant for several non-profits. Her work has been published in the International Institute of Economics, Stanford Social Innovation Review, MIT journal Innovations, and the Harvard Business School.*

**Aicha Pouye**, Director,  
Division of Business and  
Institutional Support, ITC.



*Aicha Pouye is Director of the Division of Business and Institutional Support in August 2006. Before joining ITC, she was Minister of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Trade in the Government of Senegal, holding responsibility for trade negotiations, export promotion strategies and assistance strategies for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Ms Pouye also managed Senegal's Millennium Challenge Account with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, an initiative of the U.S. Government to increase economic growth and reduce poverty in Senegal.*

*The Canary Island Chambers of Commerce and the Conseil National du Patronat du Sénégal (CNP), the largest Senegalese private sector association, awarded her the distinction of Best African Policy Maker supporting private sector development.*

*Ms Pouye began her career in 1984 as a Junior Auditor with Ernst and Young International. She then joined Citibank Dakar, Senegal, as Manager, Chief Financial Controller in 1990. Her positions with the bank included those of Resident Vice President and Group Vice President, and in 1997, she became Director of Cash Management and International Trade Department. In June 2000, Ms Pouye was appointed General Administrator of the Economic Promotion Fund, an institution put in place by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the government of Senegal for funding commercial banks to finance Senegalese SMEs.*

**Alexandre Weber, co-  
Founder, Seedstars**



*Alexandre received a Bachelor's Degree from Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne in 2010. After a first entrepreneurial experience in China as the founder of [Driink.me](#), a cocktail subscription service and the co-founder of [LaToileRouge](#), a collaborative platform providing its readers information about the Chinese web, he came back to Switzerland to serve as the Chief Marketing Officer at [Wiine.me](#) and later joined the Seedstars team as Entrepreneur in Residence. Fast forwarding a few years, he is now Head of Marketing at Seedstars; the position focuses on creating ideas, programmes, platforms and products for all of Seedstars' start-ups and ventures, in order to support their growth.*

**Raphael Silva, iOS  
Developer and co-  
founder, Project Ludwig.**



*I'm fascinated by iOS Development, Software Engineering and Entrepreneurship - the main reason why I changed my professional career from Product Designer of component parts of internal combustion engines. I am always thinking of ways to change people's lives, pushing myself to overcome barriers and working to create meaningful projects through the use of technology. Ludwig is my current endeavour – aiming to introduce the hearing impaired to the world of music.*

*Raphael is a Brazilian national and member of the Red Bull Amaphiko network of social entrepreneurs.*

**Whurley, founder and CEO, Honest Dollar.**



*Whurley is the founder and CEO of Honest Dollar; a fintech startup bringing honesty, transparency, and simplicity to the financial services industry. Whurley's career has spanned over 20 years working for some of the most innovative technology companies including Apple Computer, and IBM. He has received numerous awards and recognitions including an Apple Design Award, being named an IBM Master Inventor, and being awarded the 2012 International Genius Grant from the City of Amsterdam. In 2013 he was one of 100 innovators on British Airways inaugural UnGrounded flight where he and his team founded the AdvisHer initiative to advise, advocate, and accelerate Women in STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Math); an effort that was recognized by the United Nations at the 39th G8 innovation summit. Whurley is a published author and frequent public speaker focusing his personal efforts on innovation and diversity.*

*Before co-founding Honest Dollar, Whurley founded Chaotic Moon Studios, later acquired by Accenture in 2014, and served as CTO for Symbiot, a network security company.*

**Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU.**



*Houlin Zhao was elected 19th Secretary-General of the ITU in October 2014. His four-year mandate started on 1 January 2015.*

*Born in 1950 in Jiangsu, China, Mr Zhao graduated from Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, and holds an MSc in Telematics from the University of Essex in the UK.*

*From 2007 to 2014, he served as ITU Deputy Secretary-General, supporting the work of the Secretary-General, principally in terms of day-to-day management, including human resources, financial administration, improving efficiency, and working to help broaden ITU's membership, particularly in terms of academic institutions.*

**Astrid Zweynert, Thomson Reuters Foundation. (moderator)**



*Astrid Zweynert is an award-winning journalist, editor and social media specialist with more than 20 years of experience. As head of digital news, Astrid leads global digital storytelling for the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the charitable arm of information company Thomson Reuters. She is the deputy leader of a team of 40 journalists and more than 100 freelancers, covering the world's under-reported stories at the heart of humanitarian crises, aid, development and human rights. Astrid has played a key role in developing online content strategies and new markets for the Foundation and in her previous role as editor of the award-winning reuters.co.uk website. Prior to joining Reuters Astrid worked for Bloomberg Business News, United Press International and German television. Astrid has managed global editorial teams for more than a decade and led journalism training courses in India, Bangladesh, Germany and Britain.*