



## **HALF A DAY EVENT – SIDE SESSION**

### **AT THE 8TH EDITION OF THE NETWORK OF AFRICAN DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITIES (NADPA – RAPDP) CONFERENCE AND AGM 2025**

### **HOLDING ON MAY 6-8, 2025) AT TRANSCORP HILTON HOTEL, ABUJA**

**Session Topic:** Identifying Private Surveillance Providers: Strengthening Regulatory Oversight in Nigeria

**Side Session Date:** 8 May 2025

**Venue:** Imo/Rivers Meeting Room at M2 Floor, Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja

**Session Time:** 9am-12noon

**Session Description:** As surveillance technologies become increasingly embedded in private security services, regulators face new challenges in identifying and overseeing providers operating at the intersection of private security and data processing. This session will explore practical strategies for identifying private surveillance providers and understanding the scope of regulatory mandates under Nigeria's evolving legal and institutional framework.

Drawing on insights from the recent publication *Understanding Private Surveillance Providers and Technologies* (DCAF, 2023), and ongoing collaboration with the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), this session will examine tools and channels available to regulators—including licensing, procurement reviews, partnerships with data protection and civil society actors, and sectoral mapping.

#### **Speakers:**

- Representative of NSCDC – Reflections on current oversight challenges and collaboration with DCAF
- Representative of Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC) – Insights on applying data protection rules in the field of private surveillance actors
- AFRILAW –Civil society perspective and insights from multistakeholder consultations
- the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA)
- DCAF (Moderator)

### **The Session Objectives :**

- Share a draft methodology under development with NSCDC to identify private surveillance providers
- Clarify institutional roles between NSCDC and the NDPC in relation to surveillance governance
- Discuss implications for data protection, licensing, and accountability
- Gather feedback from participants to refine the methodology

### **Guiding Questions:**

- What concrete indicators or signals can regulators use to identify actors providing surveillance services under private or hybrid arrangements in Nigeria?
- How can regulatory bodies like NSCDC and NDPC collaborate effectively to avoid oversight gaps or jurisdictional overlap when it comes to private surveillance?
- What are the risks to human rights, especially privacy and due process, if surveillance providers operate without clear oversight—and how can licensing and/or registration processes mitigate them?
- What kind of information-sharing mechanisms or stakeholder partnerships (e.g. with CSOs, industry, watchdogs) could improve the identification and regulation of surveillance actors?

### **Structure:**

- 1 hour - panel discussion
- 1 hour - facilitated plenary discussion
- 30 mins - conclusions and next steps
- Cocktails

### **Target Audience:**

- Regulatory authorities involved in licensing, oversight, and enforcement of private security or surveillance (e.g. NSCDC, NDPC, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice)
- Data protection and digital rights institutions, including national and regional actors
- Private security and surveillance technology providers, particularly active in Nigeria
- Civil society organisations
- Researchers and legal experts working on security sector governance and surveillance regulation



- Development partners and multilateral organisations supporting digital governance, rule of law, or security reform in West Africa