## Africa Regional Forum on Governance Innovation: Collective Poetic Vision Statement

There's beauty and power when a vision awakens;

A new moment dawns; a new path is taken. For to envision the future, to design and aspire, Is to lay the foundation for greatness and watch it transpire. In a world that is burning, where situations are dire, People want government to lead them through this fire. This collection of leaders makes a promise to do just that; To stretch out its hand.

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Interlock fingers with its people and show them its plan.

A plan that promises responsibility, efficiency, and trust,

Where collective participation is key, digital literacy a must.

This plan is not arbitrary, does not blow like dust,

It mirrors the services it delivers—secure and robust.

In this vision, people and civil servants come together

Creating currents of change and electric possibilities;

The two are wired, tethered together, pulsing in rhythm like waves of new technology.

For in this rapidly changing world, a shifting matrix,

The two must hold onto each other: friends, not foes,

They must not let go of each other as the world shifts and shakes

As AI breaks what we know yet shows us a way

To live faster, smarter, stronger, with ease;

There's power in balance, harmony in honesty.

This vision enfolds people, includes them in decisions;

It surmounts race, religion, politics, which can cut like incisions. A vision of excellence, quality, parity, resilience, Where collaboration and equity radiate with confidence. Public services abound, they extend to all corners, Leaders are free from corruption, they are no longer mourners Of a system that is inefficient, inaccessible, unreliable, or slow, No, this is a system where innovations grow. Africa comprises leaders who are motivated and strong; They empower their people and show them they belong At the center of deciding their future, both individual and community. Change is here; change is now, and it's rooted in unity.