



One World
One Internet

Cartagena Statement

African ICANN community

on support for African

participation in ICANN Policy

Development Processes





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Our Concern

The African community through AFRALO and AFRICANN is concerned about its lack of effective participation in the main activities of ICANN as internet users.



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in ICANN policy development processes**



**Requisite for
participation**

*The commitment and the
participation of the different
parts of the community require
knowledge of the issues*





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What needs to be done?

- *Awareness campaign at local and regional levels*
- *capacity building program*





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Participation can be done by many and different means.

- *email discussion lists,*
- *teleconferences,*
- *fora,*
- *videoconferences,*
- *electronic votes,*
- *wikis,*
- *blogs*
- *as well as face-to-face meetings in respective languages*

Participation Means





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Recommendations

- *We recommend to call for support from development agencies, and other potential actors to facilitate African participation*
- *a more proactive approach to capacity building needs to be adopted*
- *Policy advocates and students needs to be identified and recruited*
- *Advocates should be employed on a part-time basis in existing policy institutions or think tanks engaged in internet policy.*



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Recommendations

- *The advocates will be responsible for policy making locally, nationally and regionally and will engage internationally in policy making fora such as the IGF, ICANN, ISOC and other global policy arena.*
- *support from development agencies who are concerned about the dearth of African policy makers locally and in the international arena.*
- *Support for this sort of initiative must be protracted and sustained over a period of time*





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Recommendations

- *Policy advocates must act as bridges between their countries/regions and the international policy forum.*
- *Their host institutions must act as bridging institutions in the same capacity as the advocates.*

If this model gathers the support of ICANN, it can seek the partnership and support from other policy institutions such as APC, Kictanet, IISD or AfriNIC to host policy advocates for a period using an internship framework.

Policy advocates can also spend certain periods at places like ICANN or the IGF secretariat.

