Agenda

1 Background and Inception
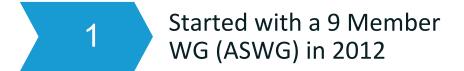
2 Preparing the Foundation: Projects launched to date

3 Looking head to the new Africa Strategy 2016 – 2020, Cementing the gains

From Prague to Dublin, We turn 3 in Africa

1 — Started with a 9 Member WG (ASWG) in 2012

2 — Later Conceived the Africa Strategy 2012 - 2015

3 — Today; after 3 Years & over 10 ICANN meetings, we reflect on our journey as we get ready for the 2nd phase 2016 – 2020. We are in Africa to stay

We salute the founding ASWG Members

1) Nii Quaynor (Chair)

2) Maimouna Diop Diagne

3) Michel Tchonang Linze

4) Alice Munyua

5) Barrack Otieno

6) Palesa Legoze

7) Tijani Benjemaa

8) Pierre Dandjinou

9) Mouhamet Diop

** Special thanks go to AFRINIC for the support in convening initial meetings and to key facilitators : Tarek Kamal; Ray Plazkr; George Sadowski and Mike Silber

Our Overarching Objective

In Summary, the Africa Strategy seeks to achieve 2 major objectives :

Transform the DNS & Internet Industry in Africa by Facilitating capacity development and Cultivate an environment for the emergence of an Africa grown domain name industry and

Promote Awareness and Meaningful Participation in ICANN and the wider IG Ecosystem by Africa in partnership with other I* and Af* Organizations.

Looking back over the last 3 years and as we begin a new season of the Africa Strategy, I am confident that we, working with our community, have laid a strong foundation for ICANN in Africa.

Africa has been a pioneer of ideas

1. The 1st Regional Strategic Plan in ICANN

2. Concept of the DNS forum (1st held in Durban, ICANN 47)

3. Launch of the Africa DNS Awards

4. We have held Premier Topical Workshops

5. Launch of the Africa ccTLD study

6. DNSSEC Roadshows

7. Special IANA Awareness Campaign in April – June 2015

8. Digital Entrepreneurship Programme

9. DNS Business Exchange Program (April 2015)

Our Gains So Far !

Implementation of Africa Strategy has raised the profile of ICANN in Africa. Looking back a few years, ICANN was largely un-known and quite distant in Africa, but that has quite improved since we started. Now you can have many people criticizing this or that, or supporting certain things about ICANN, it means they now know about ICANN.

Remember, one of the **key objectives was to deepen engagement with all stakeholders in Africa and create awareness.** We are not there yet, but the state of awareness about ICANN has clearly improved, especially from DNS industry players, Academia and governments in Africa.

We have **more interests in ICANN from diverse stakeholder groups** as evidenced by the number of fellowship applicants, not to forget the number of sponsorship requests coming our way, this means more people and organizations have heard about ICANN, including university students

More governments have joined GAC since we started. Mozambique, Namibia, The Gambia, Sierra Leone are a few recent examples.

Requests for MoUs from countries and universities in Africa are an indicator of the increasing understanding and acceptance of ICANN[1]s role.
Our **DNSSEC project has motivated a number of ccTLDs to implement DNSSEC**, we have .TZ, .KE and many more like .BW and ZM are soon joining.

We have also **identified gaps** that we have started fixing with the new FY16- F20 Strategy, like the need for business focused training for the Domain Names business players and to attract more businesses to the Domain Name business.

Our Expectations from the Dublin retreat

1. Report on our three year engagement with Africa (Our keywords : Enhanced engagement with Africa; Promoting the Africa DNS market);

2. Share our lessons learnt : (Africa, a set of diverse countries : Key issue is Internet affordability and accessibility; Makes it difficult for any sustainable and informed participation to policy development as requested by ICANN);

3. Discuss possible solutions to problems we faced : (Communication; financing..);

4. Seek a cross fertilization of different regional strategies (On overall engagement strategy of ICANN; any tips? Any innovative ideas?)

Looking ahead, 2016 - 2020

We have Re-Evaluated our Strategic Plan

In line with the new ICANN 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan, The African Community Representatives from SO / AC leaders, AFTLD, AFRALO, AFICTA, AFRINIC, NEPAD, GAC, African Registrars Association, AU and others convened in Mauritius alongside the AFRINIC 21 meeting and came up with a reviewed and realigned document dabbed; *ICANN Africa Strategy Ver 2.0 2016 – 2020*. It aims to:

a)   Support stronger presence for ICANN in Africa

b)   Increase Africa's participation in ICANN

c)   Evolve ICANN's Engagement in Africa in line with changing needs of the community (This is a living document)

d)   Align with ICANN's New Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020

The Next 4 Yrs shall build on our flagship projects

Capacity Building

- DNS Business Exchange Programme

- DNS Entrepreneurship Centre set up in Cairo in partnership with Middle East team

- DNSSEC Roadshows

- Supporting the Africa DNS Forum in partnership with ISOC and AFTLD

- Topical Workshops on Domain Names market

Communication:

+ **New bi-lingual website : www.africanncommunity.org**

+ **African discussion lists for :**
    + **GAC**
    + **ccTLD Managers**
    + **SO/ AC Reps**
    + African registrars
+ **Regular EMEA Newsletters**

+ **Regular blogs on various topical issues**

Outreach Activities:

+ Continued country missions focused on ICT Ministers, Regulators, GAC Reps, AC/SO members, Civil Society and private sector

+ Engagement with Academia through public lectures and RENs

+ Continued participation and supporting of relevant regional and International events

+ Special engagement with African media

FY16 projects #1

DNSSEC ROADSHOW	DNSSEC roadshow : Workshops in african countries	July 2015 - June 2016
Outreach Program (Stakeholder Engagement)	Outreach Visits to African Countries	July 2015 - June 2016
	Outreach during International events(AFIGF, regional IGFs…)	
IDN Africa	Workshop on IDN and African languages	July 2015 - June 2016
DNS AWARD	Organize the award event during the ICANN 55 meeting in Marrakech	July 2015-March 2016
DNS incubation	Digital Entrepreneurship Program	July 2015 - June 2016

FY16 Projects #2

ICANN High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM), Marrakech 2016	Support the organization of the meeting Communicating with African Government Facilitate participation of African Governmental representatives	July 2015-March 2016
Africa Digital Economy day	Meeting with African Ministers & Private sectors during ICANN 55	March 2016
DNS Exchange program	Exchange program within African registires and also between african and leading registries in the world	July 2015 - June 2016
Special projects	Topical workshops	July 2015 - June 2016
	Development of Innovative funding document	
	Sponsoring (IGFs, DNSFORUM, other)	
	History of Internet in Africa	
	special engagement workshops	

The Road to Marrakesh, Key Projects

1 Active participation in African regional and continental ICT ministerial meetings

2 Organize ICANN High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM), During ICANN 55

3 4th Africa DNS Forum in Marrakesh NextGen Program during ICANN 55

Active participation in African regional and continental ICT ministerial meetings

The objectives of the project are to increase awareness among African stakeholders, especially high-level (Ministerial and heads of state) governmental decision-makers on:

- The bottom-up multi-stakeholder Internet Governance model of policy development,
- The role of ICANN in the IG eco-system,
- Key issues on the Internet economy like, IANA Stewardship transition and cyber security .

Implementation period: March 2015-Feburary 2016

ICANN High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM)

- To promote awareness of importance of multi-stakeholder Internet governance and governments' positive engagement in multi-stakeholder fora and entities such as ICANN;

- To support ICANN globalization and outreach to non-participating communities in developing countries and small island states; and to the approx. 50 governments that are not members of the GAC.

- To foster a greater level of meaningful engagement in ICANN issues by more GAC members – still too many are silent observers;

- To secure commitment by governments to support and contribute to ICANN process on IANA stewardship transition;

Implementation period: March 2016 (at ICANN 55 Marrakech)

Our Challenges / Opportunities

+ Limited financial resources to cover all projects outlined in the Africa Strategy

+ Low participation from the community to global discussions

+ Language barriers for some community members

+ Slow responses (from requesters) in communication with IANA for ccTLD re-delegation request from some countries

+ Lack of awareness in the local communities

+ Lack of broadband connectivity as well as high cost of connectivity to enable in increasing internet services especially domain names environment.

+ Low information sharing practices within the community

Please Engage with us

ICANN

Thank You and Questions

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