Outstanding Questions from Marrakech Public Forum 2016 (March 10) & Answers provided by ICANN

Afiz Hannour Yaya – N'Djamena, Chad
"How is the future project of ICANN in Central Africa for the long term?"

Currently, ICANN's engagement policy in Africa has two pronged approaches :

1   A series of engagement missions in different African countries and regions, which piggy back on ongoing ICT related events such as regional IGFs and national digital economy gatherings. Typically, ICANN is invited as one of the contributors or sponsors; One such a mission was held in 2013-2014 during the preparatory phase of the Chadian SITIC (Salon International du Tchad sur les Technologies de l'information et de la communication) ..where ICANN was part of a group of consultants and experts that helped develop an ICT policy and strategy for Chad .

2   The second approach has its origin in the Africa strategy which was designed in 2012 as a tool for engaging with Africa, building capacity in the domain name business and industry, and enhancing Africa's participation to ICANN.

3

As for our upcoming plans in Central Africa, we could cite the Gabonese SENIG (Salon de l'Economie Numerique international du Gabon) on 13-19 June 2016; The Cameroonian workshop on legal aspects of the digital economy (May 2016); the workshop on DNS business and entrepreneurship in Congo; YouthCom in Congo, ICANN's programme on localizing the NextGen programme.. ICANN will participate in the WEF in Rwanda (May 2016) and the Smart Africa Transform Africa meeting in Rwanda next October.

Of course, whenever possible ICANN's staff contributes on demand and/or facilitate participation of members of its ACs/SOs to national and regional workshops that seek to build capacity on Internet Governance and DNS industry issues.

Jean Guillon gTLD.club: **"Will ICANN invest money in promoting new gTLDs in 2016 and 2017?"**

ICANN is fully supportive of the new gTLDs introduced through the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program. They offer internet users a diversity of choice for domain registrations. However,
promoting or marketing new gTLDs is outside of our remit. That job is best left to the contracted parties and industry organizations.