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PIERRE DANDJINOU: Good afternoon to everyone. I'm Pierre Dandjinou, vice president on Global Stakeholder Engagement in charge of Africa. I welcome you all here in this session, which is the Africa strategy session which actually is the African Space of ICANN.

Again, to of course talk about the Africa strategy, about what would we be doing in Africa, but today's session is going to be a little bit special because it's going to be about providing some information on the ICANN corporate strategy process and the procedures, and at some point, I'll provide you with as much information as possible that you could really contribute to the process [because] it's going on within ICANN itself, while at the same time we also believe that that will give you an opportunity to really reflect and think about what the Africa strategy could be.

Quickly, of course, as you know now, we developed the first what you might call the original strategy, ICANN, as a way of actually telling people about what Africa needs in terms of participation but also in terms of capacity building when it comes to …

Now, the point is after six years now, we've been reviewing the strategy and it has always been with your support, actually. We did have a working group in place at the beginning and of course we review that I think two or three times. And now we are heading to a

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new kind of … We really want to align our strategy from Africa with ICANN's five-year strategy, and also we want to talk a little bit about operations and financial aspects of it.

So, all of this is to provide this information to you and of course you have time also to react and put questions. But, in fact, we also are going to hear from some of our colleagues, some of our executives who of course normally comes. Sally Costerton, that you all know about, she will be coming. She is in another session but she promised and I know she'll be coming to make her quick remarks.

We do have Nick Tomasso. You now know Nick Tomasso. He's heading in our email hub [as of Istanbul]. He will be addressing as well.

Then we'll be hearing from a few others, presenters. Nathalie and also Shani Quidwai will be providing us with more details.

Then we'll proceed with Yaovi, who will be trying to actually raise [a set of] discussions, community discussion, around the regional trends and focused area, [inaudible] to understand these trends and also the focused area.

So, with that initial [inaudible], I would like to hand over to Nick for his presentation. Welcome to Sally. Right on time.

NICK TOMASSO: Well, thank you, Pierre. And thank you, everyone. I'm very pleased to be here with you today as you launch the discussion on aligning the Africa strategy with the five-year strategic and financial plan from

ICANN corporate. It's obviously a very important piece of work to make sure that we have the resources we need to support the strategy in Africa.

I'd also like to let you know that I'm very pleased to tell you that we're actually increasing the number of resources that we're going to be able to deploy in Africa. We're hiring a technical engagement manager to support the Africa, Middle East, and Europe regions, and more specifically we're hiring a global stakeholder engagement analyst who will work specifically with Africa and the Middle East. So, I'm very pleased that we're adding the resources that you've been asking for in the region and look forward to working with you, with Pierre, and others to make sure that we put them to the best use and deploy them a you need them. So, thank you. Pierre?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much, Nick, for this report. In fact, when I discuss with Nick I always say just come with your [inaudible] and then we'll be happy with [inaudible]. That's exactly what he's saying. Thank you, Nick, for being here for us. Now I'd like to hand over to Sally who just joined us for her remarks. Please, Sally.

SALLY COSTERTON: Hello, everybody. For the record, I am Sally Costerton and I'm the head of Engagement for ICANN. I am really pleased to see so many participants from Africa here in Montreal. I think it is how we say here

in Canada, "Montreal," is that right? It's a completely different pronunciation. They keep training me here.

I am aware that we have had some visa issues, not just from the African community but some particularly from the African community for this meeting. We managed to resolve most of them, a combination of support from our colleagues in the Canadian government, our third-party consultants that many of you are familiar with who help us with visa applications and the work of our ICANN staff, but we were not successful in every case. And I'm raising this because I'm conscious that this may be a topic that you feel that you want to discuss, and I'm happy to take questions on that if anybody has any. But I wanted you to hear from me personally that we have strained every sinew to try to do everything we can to bring everybody that wants to come to the ICANN meeting to ICANN.

But sometimes, as you all are very aware, these issues are actually outside ICANN's remit. That will always be true whichever country we go to. I know that people know this, but I feel the need to remind people that ICANN does not have power to issue visas. It is a sovereign right of the countries we visit. So what we can do, and we do do, and we have done in this occasion, is liaise very closely far in advance with our host's government. And I think every time, Nick, that we've had a meeting in my time at ICANN, we've had wonderful partnership including here in Canada. I don't want to dwell on it now, but I did want to bring that up to start with.

I'm very happy to see the amount of involvement – and Nick has already referred to this – and today really, you're going to focus on the evolution of the strategic plan and the alignment of the regional engagement plan, which we've discussed many times in this group into the overall community five-year strategic plan which the community has approved. From my perspective, we've been doing a lot of work already inside the staff on thinking about how we do that, particularly how we prioritize resources.

So as you have this discussion, I would encourage you to think about when you look at that strategic plan, which is—you all have it, it's been approved by the community—think about the targeted outcomes because those are the destination that we have collectively agreed as a community that we wanted to head for. That is the outcome. This is what will have happened differently because of the decisions we have made collectively and the actions we've taken.

So we have found it quite useful so far in the staff to, as engineers say, "Start at the end and work backwards." In other words, what I would not do is take the plan you have now and try and force it into the strategic plan but rather take this as an opportunity – and Nathalie will be able to guide you because we have pioneered or piloted this already once in the Middle East region to think, again, to take a breath and look at those targeted outcomes and think about, "What is most important for this community?" because it is a global plan and you will have very particular priorities in this part of ICANN's world that you want to focus on. And so you will have an opportunity to discuss that in a minute.

Alongside this is the important focus on Universal Acceptance. Now, I'm not going to spend much time on this now other than to say that we are very geared up inside the team here, the Org team, to work with you to identify partners, people who are the individuals or organizations that want to create community initiatives with the UASG to create a regional and local effort to think about how are we going to collectively engage those key stakeholders outside ICANN's normal remit that we are going to need to recruit and speak to, to explain to them how important their role is in helping us to really benefit from the IDNs that are such an important part of providing access to the Internet for so many Africans. So, please, when you're thinking about that, we want to work with you. We have resources dedicated to do that. And this may be something you want to prioritize inside the strategic planning discussion, for example, so they are not separate discussions.

Nathalie is going to take you through, I think, the key highlights, the key areas to focus so you will have some help because it's quite a big document to see where you might start thinking to dive into this discussion. I know that Pierre and Yaovi and Bob are ready to reinstate the working group, the Africa Strategy Working Group, to implement this alignment. Once the discussion has started, this will be a place to continue the discussion and to prioritize the implementation so that we can take those decisions into the operating plan, which is a one- to two-year focus. And the operating plan is really how are we going to take the actions that we need to take to deliver the outcomes that are listed in the strategic plan? Is that for Nathalie? Good. Just checking

in, because if we're giving them the wrong [inaudible], now is a really good time to mention it.

Overall, we say, "Well, okay, Sally, there's a lot here." There are six different areas that the plan focuses on, and they are quite different, in some cases, from each other. In this group, when we're talking about engagement particularly in this Africa space, keep focused on delivering what we call meaningful participation. So who are the people in the countries, in the regions, in the countries in Africa who are missing? Who do we need that is not here? Can we be specific about that? Can we be clear about how are we going to bring them in? What the many resources we have in our different SO/AC structures?

We can think very holistically about how do we improve that participation at ICANN because that is the secret to solving many of the issues that we face at ICANN, both representation in terms of the policy-making process, better diversity – not just of regions and nations but of gender, of professional background – so that we do a better job of delivering our mission of making sure that the world's Internet users know about what we do and why it affects them, and how they can join us to help to build the rules that manage those identifiers that are core part of our mission.

I think the theme of this discussion is the strategic plan. So I think this is the point to hand over to Nathalie here. Is that next up? Okay.

PIERRE DANDJINOU:	If we do have any quick questions for Sally because, unfortunately, she has to leave for other sessions. So we might just take one or two of them. Please, just state your name and the constituency you represent, and that will be fine. Thank you.
JIMSON OLUFUYE:	This is Jimson Olufuye, BC. I'd like to thank you for being here. If I go to the question to you, [inaudible]. We want to also appreciate the head of the Istanbul office for all that he has done, his responsiveness to our cry, which is very good, it's commendable.
	While I was at the fellowship session, I had a question about SDG, Sustainable Development Goal, and have not really had any official talk about it. What is your thinking in this line? Because whatever we do, I believe that we're also targeting the realization of Sustainable Development Goal. So, do you subscribe to the fact that our strategy should also take that into perspective? And [inaudible] wise with a good way to start will be we'll focus on capacity development more than the capacity building [inaudible] development with the Sustainable Development Goal. What is your thinking in that line?
SALLY COSTERTON:	Thank you, Jimson. Really good, interesting question. The short answer is, I think – and Nathalie is going to correct me if I'm wrong – no. I mean it is in ICANN's remit to deliver the UN's sustainable development goals. It's simple level. However, the process of assembling the strategic plan was driven by a very comprehensive

exercise and gathering trends. And many of you will have participated in these sessions with Theresa or Nathalie and the team, which is really using a kind of crowdsourcing model, if you will, to identify the threats and opportunities and the trends that we see outside ICANN that we think are going to affect us. Those have been used extensively to inform the process of identifying the priorities that ultimately ended up in the strategic plan.

Now, I can't tell you off the top of my head exactly how many people raised that question, but I would be very surprised if that did not come up in many of the focus groups that we did because it's such a major issue. So I think it makes sense, particularly if I was in your shoes and I'm going to think about, for my country or my constituency group, and I look at the overall plan, what do I want to prioritize? If you have UN stakeholders and UN programs, and UN issues that are focused on sustainable development goals and they coincide with our strategic plan, this is very creative. This could be a way that we gather, at a regional level, resources and co-create ideas in our regional multistakeholder groups or country-based multistakeholder groups to try to get more resources around the problem which ICANN wants to solve. But this is a how you do engagement on many issues, isn't it? So we get together collectively.

But I wouldn't want to imply that it's ICANN's responsibility to implement the SDG, and you're not saying that, but I think certainly, Jimson, it makes sense that there are going to be lots of other groups in different countries in Africa who are focused on this, and there may be areas where it makes sense to do engagement on communication

where we can gather more input and more energy from others. There was another question down here, I think.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Sorry. Can I just … a quick follow up? Just a reminder that ICANN was very crucial when it comes to the resolution on the IANA [inaudible] with respect to UN [inaudible] from the UN. So there is kind of interconnectivity. So, I get your last statement and we're holding on to it because there are a lot of goals that without even knowing, inadvertently, that strategic goals are meeting [SG] goals 17, 9, and so on and so forth. So it's good for us to reflect on that at the top level.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Thank you very much. My name is Abdulkarim. I'm from the At-Large. I, first of all, want to thank you for this wonderful strategic plan. I want to actually bring out two issues from the strategic plan.

The first one is Africa is the continent that has the second largest population in the world. Africa is the second largest continent in the world while ICANN has, I think, three staffs for Africa. ICANN has an office. We have ICANN office, ten people into it in Africa. And I didn't see anything in the strategic plan to say how you intend to improve on that, especially given that there are lots of potentials in Africa and there are lots of opportunities, and I believe ICANN is missing out in a lot of these.

I'll give an example which is number one. I have a PhD in telecommunication engineering. I never knew anything about ICANN

until I went to a meeting in Ghana sometime around 2017 where Yaovi came to give a presentation. That was the beginning of my ICANN journey. For me to have a PhD electronics telecommunication, not to have that knowledge, if my path has never crossed with Yaovi, I might have never up to now known about us have something to do with ICANN. That is number one.

Number two is the issue on this strategic plan. I like the fact that you have something on geopolitics, which is in the strategic plan. I think it is necessary and I want to commend for that. However, I think we need to move it one step forward. When I looked at it, there's only one additional statement that was talking about how you intend to achieve the geopolitics. I'll give you an example.

The issue is ICANN's relationship with ITU. We've all seen what GDPR has done to ICANN. A single resolution from the ITU would change the legitimacy of ICANN. We've all been seeing especially in times of the way some governments in Africa have been pushing that they want to have a kind of fragmented Internet. I do not see anything in the strategic plan that says how you intend to take the fact that … yes, I like the fact that ICANN is now talking about the ITU, but you need to take it to the next level, which is to engage with people, engage with government officials that actually are going to this ITU meeting, and that is one thing I want to see in your strategic plan. Thank you.

SALLY COSTERTON: If this is the quality of the discussion you're about to have, you're going to have a very good discussion. This is very good points, very

important points. To the last point – and Nathalie will take you through this in a minute – the detail of how we are going to do this is going to appear in the operating plan. So it's not missing, that's being worked on now. So this discussion is a very important part of shaping what goes into that plan. This timing of this question is absolutely excellent because that process is happening, the drafting of that is happening now.

Is Nathalie still here? I think the operating plan is still up for public comment in early December. Is that right? So, this is the perfect time to be saying, "This is what we want to see." It's exactly how ICANN, from the perspective of Africa. But this is a good point. For many [inaudible] parts of the world, if the outcome which is what's in the strategic plan is to reduce risk to ICANN by, say, becoming ITUD members, what's in the operating plan? How are we going to deliver that? That's exactly right. So there's a two parts of the same piece of communication. So thank you for flagging that.

The other point you made was about one decision from the ITU could change everything. You're so right. The program that we are undertaking, which you may be aware of or you may not be aware of so I will tell you, to try to mitigate against that risk, which is a big task, we have instigated a legislative tracking program which we are doing through the org but we are also in dialogue with the community, we are publishing updates regularly, and we, being in this case, ICANN's government engagement team, my colleagues in the government engagement team, but the org is coordinating to make sure to the best of our ability that we are hearing and documenting and sharing

as we find out about new proposed regulation and legislation everywhere in the world.

We then have an escalation process, if you like, because sometimes things are very early. So we have a gathering process and then an escalation process to say, "Okay, now we need to do something. This one is now urgent or is strategically important to ICANN." And what do we need to do with whom to react? Now, you're quite right. If we're looking at regulating legislative issues, we really need to talk directly to governments. And so we are integrating, we are streamlining whatever words you want to say, joining up the alerting process which is done by our teams on the ground and working with our stakeholders and community members and our technical engagement team. Because, typically, what we need to do is to go and visit a government where they are thinking about, let's say another piece of data privacy regulation just to use GDPR as you used that example. We need to go and educate them early about maybe some unintended consequences. They may not realize how the guys doing the data privacy regulation in government A may not actually understand how the Internet actually works from a technical standpoint. They may quite unintentionally make a regulation that causes a very difficult problem in the fluid management and working of the Internet. So we're taking that responsibility very seriously and this will be expressed in the combination of the operating plan and the strategic plan together.

So, excellent points and they're ones that we need to take into consideration as a group, not just the staff but the community as well.

This is how we use these plans. No, they don't just go in a drawer. They're mobile. They inform the decisions we make and the way we deploy resources and how we work together to make that happen.

To your first point about only getting engaged because you met Yaovi, this makes me sad. Although meeting Yaovi is not a sad experience to be flippant, but this is a scale problem. You're quite right. I mean, if we have 54 Yaovis in Africa, I would be a very happy person. Pierre may not be, he'd have a very big team to manage, but that's his problem. But seriously, this is a question of resource prioritization, which is also going to come up in the discussions around the operating plan because the whole community is going to have to make some choices about where resources are prioritized. Resources are really people and dollars, and that's it, isn't it? Time, people, and money.

If you feel, as you go through this process, that you want to prioritize from an African perspective, more engagement – and by the way, the Middle East group prioritized that because I've just come from that meeting and funnily enough it came up – then we need to say so, and we need to be specific as possible about what we mean by that so that the org is hearing clearly from the community what needs to be done.

That was a rather long answer but I suspect it's a big issue which everybody wants to know about, so that's why I spent a bit more time on it.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much, Sally, and thanks for your questions. Actually, we're already preempting these. [Inaudible] session but we will manage. Thank you very much, Sally, for your time.

Now I would like to hand over to Nathalie and Shani. I don't know how you're going to manage it in order to stay in [inaudible] so that we do have more time for questions and responses. So, go ahead.

NATHALIE VERGNOLLE: My name is Nathalie Vergnolle. Thank you, Pierre. Let's see a show of hands. Who likes to get the presentation in French? Would that be popular if I do it in French? Yeah? Okay, I'm going to make my presentation in French because we are in Quebec and I am French, from France. Actually, I wanted to make it easy, but I'm wasting time. Thank you all. Thank you. Let's get started. I would like the next slide please.

In order to start, I wanted to talk to you about the Bylaws of ICANN which recommend that we elaborate different documents. The first one will be a strategic plan for five years. This is the objective of my presentation this evening. This five-year plan will be completed by another five-year plan for annual operating plan and we will talk about it a little bit later. We will tell you where we are at with this plan. This operating plan is a five-year plan that is completed by a yearly plan and a yearly budget. This is what the bylaws ask us to do. Maybe we can go to the next slide.

The strategic plan of ICANN. I know there are people that mentioned the plan from the board from Org, but his one is the ICANN plan, and I hope in that sense that everybody will understand. This is the ICANN plan. It is supposed to be that document that comes from all whole of ICANN, not just from some members of ICANN. This strategic plan is … this is the way that we're going to proceed within the five years. This operating plan will give us details on how we are going to do that.

We are gathered today in order to talk about the African plan. Each region on the basis of a general plan will consider its specific needs at a local level and ask itself what will be their strategy for five years within the global plan of ICANN and align it with the global plan of ICANN.

I had the pleasure to work with the board and the community and the whole organization in order to elaborate or develop a strategy plan. During the past 18 years, we had a four-pronged approach. The first phase was the identification of trends and strategies. Second phase was the priority and analysis. In assessment of all the impact of all the trends on ICANN, what are the opportunities, what are the challenges that are presented by those trends for ICANN. On this basis, we developed a strategy plan which was presented during a public comment period which was adopted in June in Marrakech. This particular plan will take effect on July 1st next year.

Quickly, since we have already talked about it earlier, the process for identifying the trends was such we had sessions, we had different members of the community who participated, the board participated,

the different departments of the org participated. We gathered about 1000 data input and all these elements were collected, and they allowed us to identify five important topics, topics that were common in each of these discussions and they appear to be the key subject on which we had to focus. Those five subjects will articulate the strategy plan. These subjects are security, ICANN governance and unique identifier systems, the geopolitical approach, and the financial plan.

The strategy plan is made of three major parts. There is a presentation of the vision of ICANN. This vision is different from ICANN five years ago. ICANN evolved and it was important to evolve the vision at the same time in order to align ourselves with what we want ICANN to become in five years although the mission is in the Bylaws and this mission has not changed. The third part of the strategy plan relates to different strategy goals on which we'll come back to later. Next slide please.

What is the vision of ICANN? I have to read it in English because I don't know it in French. I think that the translation is not very good. The vision of ICANN is to be a champion of the Internet, an Internet that will be single, open, and globally interoperable. The translation on my document says the defender. We had discussion on that subject. We are not the only one who are defending the Internet, who are advocates of the Internet. We are one of the stakeholders who can have an impact on the Internet.

It is quite a long vision, I am not going to read it all, but some of the elements that are important in there is, for example, the

multistakeholder steward to be independent, to be trusted. These elements are very important. This is quite a long vision but it is a complete summary of the plan in general. I'll invite you to read the rest of the vision. It is a two-page document so we will go straight to the mission now.

The mission of ICANN, I think everyone knows it. This mission was realized through the work of the transition of the IANA. That mission stays unchanged since then and it is now in the new Bylaws of 2016.

We're going to go and talk about the goals, five goals important for the strategy. As I indicated earlier, there is a strategy goal that relates to security. This is put together in order to reinforce the security for the DNS system and the root system.

There is also a second objective when it comes to the governance of ICANN; it is to reinforce the efficiency of our model. It doesn't mean that we'll modify the model. We all know and we all agree that our model actually works; we just want to enhance its efficiency.

Third objective, when it comes to the unique identifiers is to talk about the evolution of the system in order to respond to the needs of the users. Because we have more and more users in the world, we have also a geopolitical objective. We need to face the problems, the questions. Who have an impact on the ICANN mission? We need to guarantee a unique Internet and then we have to of course deal with the fragmentation elements, which we talked earlier.

There is also a last objective, that's financial objective. We have to make sure that we ensure the future of ICANN. We'll go to the next slide.

The plan will start on July 1st, 2020. It will be the beginning of the path. Starting that day, we will have to measure progress. And measure this progress is not just checkbox when you do one thing or the other. It's also that we have to make sure that the project we just finished, that project itself will take us to the objective that we had in mind. So we have to make sure that we are close to those objectives that we want to implement.

We have to be aware that things will evolve. So this strategy might have to evolve a little bit at a time. If the trends change, and that we realize then that some things have to change, when it comes to that strategy, we will be able to change that strategy plan during the next five years. I think that's it.

I am here on my last slide. The objective of the discussion tonight is the different opportunities for the African region when it comes to that new strategy plan. This is, of course, why we're here to talk tonight. We have to check what are the global trends and how they have an impact on your region, what are the specific elements that impact your region, and what are the opportunities and the risk that impact in your region so we can be aligned to that global strategy plan. I think this will end my presentation.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Now we're going to proceed with maybe some information on the ops and financial side of the strategic plan. As we also said from the beginning, this is only the starting point of the process. What we are doing today is provide as much information to you. We are not really going to get involved in deep reflections and solution for the region at this point. We just need to understand the process and what are the stakes. I would like to quickly hand over to Shani to take us through a few details about the ops and financial aspect of the strategy, please.

SHANI QUIDWAI: Thank you, Pierre and Tim, for having me. My name is Shani Quidwai from the ICANN Finance team. I apologize I don't have any slides, but I just wanted to make a few brief points. We've been talking a lot today about the five-year operating plan and the financials. The Finance and Planning team held a session earlier today describing the timeline and some of the assumptions and objectives of those documents. The recording and the materials are online on the meeting site, so I encourage you all to take a look at those. We are planning to post those plans in mid-December. This was just an introduction so that people were aware of what to expect when the plans are posted for public comment. That public comment will run through middle of December and through February.

Then the other thing I'd like to just mention – and I'll share this with Pierre so he can get the dates to the rest of the team – but in early January, we're planning to host two webinars to go through the materials once they've posted just to clarify any questions and make

sure that people understand all of the information in there. We really look forward to getting your feedback. This is really an important mechanism for you to express your opinions and let the organization know how our goals and objectives align with what you have.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: That was quick. Thank you so much. I thought you were going to lay down a few figures, but it's fine, about financials. Thank you very much for this. Now we do have a challenge here. We only have maybe 15 to 20 minutes left. Of course, it's going to be for your feedback. I believe there will be having some information to you. I know that the incoming board member from Africa should be around. I don't know whether [inaudible]'s around. I also know that most of our SO/ACs at least, the leaders in the room, I would like to salute them, [inaudible] and the rest. You have time to make your remarks of the strategy.

I'd like to hand over to Yaovi who is supposed to take us through a few questions hopefully in the next 15 minutes. Yaovi, please.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you, Pierre. From what we have this afternoon, it is the beginning, as Pierre mentioned. We have five focus areas. What we are going to do is to get input from you, considering we are not going to do it one by one because of the time, but I'll take the opportunity to maybe use this slide to tell you what we are expecting from you today and then in the future through the process that Pierre is going to talk

more about in the next steps. Like if you consider the focus area that is the security.

When this old document was being developed, we have input from the community. But what we need now, today, for most is to see for the Africa region. What is mentioned is that we have increasing cybersecurity risks today, massive DDoS attack, IoT vulnerability, DNS security, increasing threat to root server system and challenges to root security, service reliability, resiliency and interoperability, and then continues concern about DNS abuse.

If you [tell them] this focus area about security, so these are some points, we need to say that this is okay, that is the same thing for Africa or that is doesn't concern Africa. If we take also the regional trends, what are some regional perspectives for Africa? For example, what are the regional perspectives on these trends? What are also things to take into consideration?

Because of time, what I'm suggesting is that I'll bring back the slide where we have the five focus area on the strategic plan. Then when we want to make the input, we can make our input taking in consideration any of these focus areas. Instead of going one slide by slide, what I suggest is that to help us have the five areas in mind, I'll bring back the slide on the focus area, then we will bring up input, what we can consider or we should consider in drafting the strategic plan for our region.

This is a suggestion, I don't know if this can work so that we'll take like 15 minutes to get global input for today. And we'll hear about the next

step how we can continue this, Pierre will talk about this. Feel free to raise your hand. We have many areas. As mentioned before, we have security, we have governance, we have unique identifier system, geopolitics, and financial. What we want to hear from you about security, for example, do we keep the same trend or do you agree with the same trend? Do the trends concern the continent? I think the mic is open. We have one hand there. Please go ahead.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much, Yaovi. This is Jimson, BC. Yaovi, thank you for all you do in Africa. We appreciate it and, Pierre, we're in Ghana less than two weeks ago and I see you guys work very hard.

Well, I think a good place to start when you work with strategy to see how have you fared over time, based on the statistics or the parameters we work with in the last five years. It's good to see, "Okay, wow, we performed." That will help a lot. But specifically on this factor, security is important. I suppose the [line up], we all reviewed it in the community, it's good. It also applied to [us] because those that are operating servers, they know that security is a major issue too, really, especially when we're talking about digital economy across Africa. So, security is very important.

One thing I noticed that we should be thinking of, how can we get more uptick of DNSSEC? Because right now, the uptick is very poor, 13%, less than 15% of the TLDs are on DNSSEC. How do we expect the big banks to migrate to African base domains when a lot of the TLDs

are not signed? Not that they don't have the capability but what are the issues? So we need to look at that.

Then on the geopolitics, let me use the opportunity to say again that, really, the risk is there with ITU interference, whatever, but it's very minimal. Very, very minimal because we have a lot of support now, a lot of supporters for ICANN in the ITU server. ITU is there and that is very good. But we must not leave that, the geopolitics. So I'm happy it's there. Because right now we have the General Data Protection Regulation – I don't know if many of you are aware – which is piggybacking on the GDPR for data protection. So that could be a goal when it comes to uptick across Africa in line with [inaudible] African that is EU Data Protection Regulation as well.

Then on ICANN governance as well, we need to bring it down, do more outreaches. Like Abdulkarim said, outreach is so important. We have to put more resources into it. I've said it before that if there had not been outreach to businesses in Africa, I won't be sitting on this table. So a number of businesspeople that are in Business Constituency, they won't be there. So we need to do more outreaches. We need to put good budget. They are trying. Pierre, you are doing a great job. Pierre and Yaovi, you're doing a great job, but I don't know how you can multiply yourself. Part of the strategy is how can you multiply yourself, since we don't have enough funding to go around? So, how? That is something we need to be looking at.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you, Jimson. For the sake of time, please, I would like you guys to be to the point and you don't need to cross all the five sectors right now, maybe something that you believe that you could quickly share, please. And as we said, this is only the beginning, actually, of the conversation. So, please, I'll be giving maybe a maximum of one minute per person so that we cover a good ground. Thank you.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you. We have [Vika] who raised the hand. And then maybe, as Pierre mentioned, we can just speak the one key focus area and talk about that so that we save time. Thank you. [Vika].

[VIKA MPISANE]:   Thank you, Yaovi. I think one on security I'm noticing from strategy focus areas or the questions that are being asked, it probably should … I would hope that the document itself, because this is a presentation, that the document itself probably defines what the threats are of all these items listed as examples there. For example, Internet of Things, so that we better understand before we can give feedback. Of course, one knows that there are still questions about the Internet-ness, if I may put it that way, of the Internet of Things, the interoperability of the Internet of Things, because those identities were largely through IP addresses as stored at a company level or service provider level. How much do they serve the interoperable Internet, is one question. But I think better definition of what the risks are [inaudible], and I think also it's important that in so doing, if we want any regional perspective, it will help to work with the

infrastructure providers at the regional level and the country level. They are domain name registries, for example. From a domain name registry point of view, do they foresee the risks? What are those risks? I think at that level, maybe ICANN could get more feedback. Thank you.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you, [Vika]. As Pierre mentioned, it's just the start. The next step will give us more information and answer your question. Probably this will help. Yes, next speaker.

[MARCIA]:   I'm going to speak in French.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Please mention your name for the record.

[MARCIA]:   Okay. Thank you for organizing this meeting. I'm not going to talk about all five areas but … Oh, [Marcia McKea] is my name. I'm from [Gaban] and I am a member of the GAC. I work for the agency responsible for telecommunications and informatics at the level of the state, and we are also in charge of frequencies.

I would like to talk about security. I would like to mention that in terms of technical security issues, all of the issues that we are faced with in our countries are those related to the legal framework of security. What I mean by that is that today there's a problem in terms

of regulation and laws in terms of cybersecurity and cybercrime. There are many occurrences of that in our countries. We try to set up a convention, the Malabo Convention, which today has only been adopted by four countries and it's not enough. Very few countries are setting up mechanisms to ensure security of the DNS. IPv6 security – it's the protocol that needs security but it's not deployed enough. That's another problem. So it's this legal framework that I think we need to work on.

In terms of governance, I think that Mr. [inaudible] talks about that quite a bit in Africa Internet issues are not very well understood from an economic standpoint. So perhaps we need to understand that better, understand that it can create employment, wealth. We need to look at the Internet through that lens. I think that's where we can make progress.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: We are recording all your inputs. Thank you so much. The next, please.

LIZ OREMBO: Thank you so much, Yaovi. My name is Liz Orembo from Kenya ICT Action Network but speaking on my own behalf. First thing that I'd like to ask about the strategy is I'm seeing it as a skeleton where we are supposed to provide the flesh to it, right? Okay, let me provide some first pieces of meat.

On Internet access, we are only going to talk about identifiers in Africa, the DNS industry when we have access to most population of the

Internet in Africa. Businesses are there, people are there, but there's no Internet. I think it's time for ICANN also to consider to invest strategically in Internet access in Africa, be the exchange points, the backbone for African countries. Big organizations like World Bank have done that yet that has not been their first mandate. So I'm requesting that ICANN also take that as one of their initiatives to support Internet in Africa.

Number two, we've been involved with some research with UNESCO, some to deal with domain name and content. For policy-making purposes, we've not been able to find exact numbers that are segregated from domain names that global TLDs own with respect to Africa. That said is that you cannot tell how many of our people have gone to .coms and so on, and how we can reach those populations or even come up with business models that can be more effective to the continent.

I know this can be something that would be needed even for other regions, not for Africa. So as a solution, I would like to request that ICANN also provide some incentives through which these TLD registries give back this exact data so that we are able to make policy decisions out of them.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you. What the community is going to do, all the input, we'll try to see where each input will go under each focus area but this is [inaudible] to get the maximum of input. Thank you so much. Do we

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have more? How many people we have? Five minutes. So, maximum of one minute for each. We'll start by the back here. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good evening, everyone. That's part of diversity, isn't it? The diversity of Africa. Additionally, [inaudible] was just talking with him. And I am a member of the African community. I would like to thank the staff for this strategy, this five-year strategy, and also for the African strategy.

I have a few ideas. I think that we mentioned that in the beginning we need to focus on local content. Content is global but people always say ICANN is domain names. This is our mandate. It's true. And as the speaker said about the presentation, what is the identity of Africa? What do we want? So we could create a foundation that we had certain prerogatives to support Internet access, as Liz from Kenya said. A foundation that is devoted to the African strategy, a foundation that would support the development of Internet connectivity. Those types of initiatives.

We would also like to have increased presence of ICANN in certain events—main events—in countries. Very often, what happens is that sub-regional initiatives are supported but there's also the country IGFs and I think it would be better to have better support for those events.

In terms of the African Union in 2013, they had voted a continental agenda, the 63 agenda. And I think that we could work on that. How can the African strategy go in that direction? So, go a little bit bigger in terms of industry?

The DNS really is a business, so how can you bring more Africans into that market, into that business? What we noticed is that, in the beginning, we were pretty much absent. There were no Africans. So, I think we need more Africans involved in that business in order to support the growth in Africa. I will stop here.

We only have a couple of minutes left. Thank you very much. So, we will start with the colleague in the back and then we'll go to you. Thank you very much. I think, regarding to the Africa strategy, I will be very happy to see that universal acceptance is prioritized, DNSSEC is prioritized, and also if possible it would be good to see how, in the Africa strategy roadmap of implementation regarding to the adoption of policies and participation in the various policy development process within the ICANN community because participation is still low. Thank you.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you so much. One and the last comment from [inaudible]. Please. Make it very brief.

ABDULKARIM OLOYEDE: Sorry, I'll be very fast. I want to also [inaudible] that one thing ICANN is doing very well is the strategy of recruiting. There are two great people in this room that I know are doing fantastic work, Mandala and Natalia. I wonder how ICANN could [inaudible] these people. Those strategies, please continue with that kind of strategy, I'm bringing [inaudible] people like this on board. Thank you.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you. Lucky, please, to the last input before Pierre takes us to the next step. Lucky, thank you.

LUCKY MASILELA: Thanks, Yaovi. Just to respond to some of the colleagues that have spoken about support from ICANN and the need for the foundation and the need to go our own domain name system. I think we need to be aware of one thing. We do have what we call the DotAfrica Foundation and its primary focus is [inaudible] issues of content which has been raised this afternoon. It is also to address issues of registrar development and ccTLD development across the continent.

So, all we need to do is subscribe to the domain name DotAfrica. I quickly glance at the registration list and none of us in this room—none of us in this room—are using the domain name DotAfrica, save for me. Oh, I didn't see it. You have three. But in the registration list, you had a DotCom there.

So, I'm saying the revenue flow contributes to exactly what we need to be doing. This is where we need to be starting. Thanks, Yaovi.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you very much. I think you were trying to be on time and that is very good. So, we are moving to the next step because Pierre mentioned the starting. I think we started well, so please, I'll give it to Pierre for the next step. Thank you.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you, Yaovi. Quickly, I'm going to go through the next steps and then make room for some information that you may have to share across the board.

I think what we are trying to achieve here, of course, is to pass information to you but we would like to set up, of course, a group of volunteers to draft as we do, to draft this new Africa strategy, certainly by end of January.

We also would like for us, the African participant, to contribute to ICANN, as you heard, the strategy is going to be posted for comments and it would be great that you are able also to input on that ICANN comment.

We also of course, whatever strategy we develop, whatever draft we develop, will be posted online for your public comment so you also have time to contribute.

Well, we are aiming to have something by ICANN 67. We'll see. And eventually develop being on operation plan for FY 20 and 21 during April to June 2019.

This is what we are suggesting as the way forward. These are the steps for you to pay attention. We are also going to organize this webinar in December to actually reflect also on this strategic document.

With that, I would like to take the rest of our time to give the opportunity to have information from our SO/AC leaders who are here

if they just want to pass any information to us. We have good news also in terms of technical engagement. We have Adiel here. I would like to give him even one minute to maybe tell us a little bit more about this because we really want to put heavy emphasis on technical engagement and especially capacity building in Africa. Also, we do have our incoming board member in this room. If she has any, a few, words to share, that would be great. So, thank you for that. Adiel, do you just want to take a few minutes to—

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Yeah. Thank you very much, Pierre. From the technical engagement perspective, in fact if you look at—

PIERRE DANDJINOU: I know you, but you have to introduce yourself.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Sorry. Adiel Akplogan from ICANN. I'm the Head of Technical Engagement working within the CTO office.

So, I was saying that if you look closely at the new strategic document there is a kind of [inaudible] emphasis on ICANN technical mission and many of the objectives there has a link to not only technical engagement but has capacity building built into it.

So, something that we are doing within the CTO office and technical engagement group is actually to look into that strategy and derive from it a global strategy on how we approach capacity building.

For instance, we have been investing a lot in DNSSEC training. That is a very technical training. But we realized that it's not just talking to the technical people that will help DNSSEC to be developed, for instance. We want to have a more holistic approach to DNSSEC ecosystem security but also have, build a matrix of how we address different kind of stakeholders when it comes to DNSSEC ecosystem security. For instance, helping people to talk about security to policy makers, why those policy makers have to support DNSSEC deployment for operators in the region. So, have to tailor the message towards different stakeholders.

So, that's the work that is on the way, and what we intend to do of course is to work with the regional vice president and the regional team to align the global strategy with the regional one to make sure that we address the needs down there.

In addition to that, you may know as well that the technical engagement function is going regional as well and we are actually hiring in all the [four region] staff to support the GE team on technical engagement specifically. So, we are hiring in Africa region technical engagement specialists. One in Latin America and one in Europe, as well.

So, all this is to be able to further support ICANN positioning on technical issue but also be able to align what we are doing with the regional strategy and Africa will be definitely one of it. Thanks.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Thank you, Adiel. There is no question for this time but you can bombard him later on if you want. With that, I would like to apologize to the interpreters who are still going to go on for maybe one or maximum two minutes. Any SO/AC leaders here want to share any information that is quick that they believe that the community should know about? Feel free to come forward.

We, of course, heard from Lucky Masilela. We [inaudible] for this publicity. He spoke about DotAfirca. [inaudible] and certainly his right. Who else has anything to share before we move forward, quickly?

LUCKY MASILELA: I thought Barrack would say something on the foundation. Barrack? Repeat it, quickly.

BARRACK OTIENO: Thank you very much, Lucky. Nothing much really to add, other than the fact that the foundation is almost ready. I think the community tasked a few individuals, give them the mandate to make sure that it is registered, it's up and running and it will be launched at the next Africa Internet Summit.

As Lucky has said, I think it's now upon the African Internet community to see how we support the foundation, so that [inaudible] can support ccTLD development, content development, and other activities that we want to see on the continent.

But I think keep looking at Africa in one space, DotOrg, for more details on how the foundation will be coming up.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you. So, the foundation is not DotAfrica, right? Thank you for that. And when is the Africa Summit coming [inaudible]? Do we have the dates, please?

BARRACK OTIENO: Thank you, again, Pierre. Allow me to respond. The dates for the Africa Internet Summit have actually been announced and it is happening in Congo, DRC—not the other Congo. Let me just confirm the dates for you. Okay, so it will be from 31st May to 12th of June 2020 in Kinshasa, DRC. In due course, the Africa Internet Summit website will be updated in due course but you can also check the AFNOG website and any of the [inaudible] websites which are being updated. So, for those that are new, basically if you allow me two minutes, it's our—

PIERRE DANDJINOU: No, no, you have no two minutes here. It's fine because we have to free the interpreters.

BARRACK OTIENO: Okay. Just check InternetSummitAfrica.org. Thank you.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much, Barrack. One last word and we do have at least a few words from her. Thank you.

DANIEL NANGHAKA: Thank you very much. I would like to share about a new initiative that kick-started after the Africa Internet Summit in Kampala. That is the [Internet DotAfrica]. We came to realize that very many domain and stakeholders are not aware of what call the modern Internet standards. And in reference to this community, two of the key main Internet standards that I demanded of ICANN, that is DNSSEC and universal acceptance, out of all these objectives, the [Internet DotAfrica] is a platform whereby the community members can be able to check whether their Internet or their emails or their connections conform to this model, Internet standards, which include IPv6, universal acceptance, email that is EAI, if they conform to DNSSEC [inaudible].

Also, since the platform is still going on, key milestone that have been achieved include the formation of the Africa Modern Internet Standards Task Force. That is [inaudible] task force. And also a team of technical volunteers. That is a technical team who will be leading the technical deployments assisting different partners [inaudible]. Thank you.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much for this. I would like to know how many of this are on this African list? We do have a discussion list on African matters

in Africa. How many of you? I think we should make sure that everyone is on that list, and Yaovi, we pass over the references so that this sort of information you can just [inaudible].

And last but not least, if you want to take a few seconds to just introduce yourself and say, I will not say what have you come here to achieve but it's up to you.

MANDLA MSIMANG: Just two seconds because I know we're out of time. My name is Mandla Msimang and I'm an incoming board member looking forward to working with everyone. I think the timing is good with the strategy being developed right now. So, I'm looking forward to it.

My colleague, Ihab, is from Sudan. He is also joining. So, there will be two board members from the region. He's not around. He had to leave suddenly. But we are really looking forward to engaging, getting to know everybody and making sure that our agenda is clear and put forward strongly at the Board level. Thanks.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much. I also know that there an AfriNIC meeting coming up sometime, AfriNIC 31 in early December. Great. With that, I would like to [inaudible] no one has any [inaudible] question. I would like to really thank you for this accommodation that we started and that will be continued later on through our webinars and your contribution to the strategic document. Thank you very much for that and have a nice stay and enjoy your ICANN meetings. Thanks.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]