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COPENHAGEN – Africa Strategy Update
Monday, March 13, 2017 – 13:45 to 15:00 CET
ICANN58 | Copenhagen, Denmark

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Good afternoon. This is Africa Strategy Update.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Good afternoon, please. Can we sit down and we can start the session.

Good afternoon. Welcome again to the session. The session will be moderated by Mr. Jimson Olufuye. We have interpretation into other languages and then also we have SSCF presenting remotely from South Africa. We are already late and we give the floor to Jimson Olufuye who will present the speakers. Mr. Jimson.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much, Yaovi. It's a great pleasure to be here and to welcome everyone to this special session, Africa Strategy Update. We have a very concise agenda which is on the screen. I think we have four parts of the agenda, you'll see it up there. And for those that have it, maybe on the top table, I want to believe there's no objection because this came out of a

consultation. Seeing that there's no objection at the top table, we can proceed.

Well, my name is Jimson Olufuye. I run Contemporary Consulting, an IT firm based in Abuja, Nigeria. We're a member of the Africa ICT Alliance. I'm the Chair of the alliance that is composed of IT associations and companies from 27 African countries.

We're a member of the Business Constituency of ICANN and we're also very much actively involved in the Africa Strategy and we're proud that we have the Vice President for Africa ICANN that's been doing pretty well. He's been giving us a lot of support in the BC and maybe after a little while I will let you know some of the results we have achieved from our collaboration especially with regard to diversity in BC.

But before then, just to let you know that we'll do a quick introduction, maybe ten seconds, maybe name and affiliation, and then we'll dive into the welcome messages. Pierre will speak or Ram Mohan, Board member will speak. Khaled Koubaa, also a Board member will speak and our distinguished Sally Costerton always there with us also will speak.

And we have an intervention from South Africa remotely, as Yaovi mentioned, with regard to the Africa DNS Market Study. It

is a very important study which is where to really begin and we have started there.

We also have this feedback with respect to dotAfrica. We're all quite happy with where we are now and we have distinguished Lucky Masilela, the Chair of ZACR who will be giving us update on that. Then we'll take some questions and answers and what have you.

So my name is Jimson Olufuye. Can we just quickly introduce ourselves, those on the table?

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Yaovi Atohoun, ICANN staff, Africa.

AZIZ HILALI: Aziz Hilali, AFRALO Chair.

MARY UDUMA: Mary Uduma, Nigeria.

[N. SHEFORD]:   [N. Sheford], France.

ISAAC MAAPOSA: Isaac Maposa, Zimbabwe.

ALEX CORENTHIN: Alex Corenthin, Chair Excom, AfTLD.

SEUN OJEDEJI: Seun Ojedeji, Nigeria. ALAC member.

WAFA DAHMANI: Wafa Dahmani, ALAC member, AfTLD member from Tunisia, Africa, of course.

[INAUDIBLE]:   [inaudible] Madagascar.

[MLIZE ZITIMINA]:   [Mlize Zitimina], DRF Congo.

[LUKE MISIJIMBAZI]:   [Luke Msijimbazi], Congo, Brazzaville.

LAWRENCE OLALE ROBERTS:Lawrence Olale Roberts, a member of the Business Constituency from Nigeria.

AKINBO ADEBUNMI: Akinbo Adebunmi, member of the At-Large .ng, Nigeria.

SIKIRU SHEHU: Sikiri Shehu, member Board of Directors, NIRA, Nigeria.

[ADITELA AFLECTOR]:   [Aditela Aflector], Nigeria.

AMIN HUSSEIN: Amin Hussein, Sudan.

ABDALLA OMARI: Abdalla Omari, Kenya.

SARAH KIDEN: Sarah Kiden, Uganda. AFRALO Secretariat.

[VEYELA DUPONT]:   [Veyela Dupont], Nigeria.

SUNDAY FOLAYAN: Sunday Folayan, Chair of AfriNIC Board, President .NG Registry.

[VEHERAS MOTO]:   [Veheras Moto], ICANN staff, Middle East, Egypt.

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LUCKY MASILELA:	Lucky Masilela, ZA Central Registry, South Africa.
KHALED KOUBAA:	Khaled Koubaa from Tunisia. ICANN Board member.
SALLY COSTERTON:	Sally Costerton from the UK. Head of Stakeholder Engagement for ICANN.
PIERRE DANDJINOU:	Pierre Dandjinou, Stakeholder Engagement, Africa.
[LUKITA SHKINAR]:	I'm [Lukita Shkinar]. I'm Global Communications Coordinator at ICANN in the [inaudible] region.
[BONIFACE RITABA]:	[Boniface Ritaba], ICANN Fellow from Kenya.
RASHA ABDULLA:	Rasha Abdulla, ICANN Fellow from Sudan.
[RASHID RUGAHA]:	[Rashid Rugaha] from AfriNIC staff.

[TEPELOM SIKITI]:   [Tepelom Sikiti], South Africa.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Adiel Akplogan, Vice President Technical Engagement, ICANN staff.

SARMAD HUSSAIN: Sarmad Hussain, IDN program with ICANN.

DESSALEGN: Dessalegn from Academia, Ethiopia.

[ALIN BONO]:   [Alin Bono], Cameroon Registry of .CM.

DON HOLLANDER: My name is Don Hollander from New Zealand.

SAM [LAVODU]:   Sam [Lavodu] from the ZA Central Registry.

WAUDO SIGANGA: Hello, everybody. I'm Waudo Siganga, AFECTA, Kenya.

ROGER BARR:	Roger Barr, Internet Society, Ghana Chapter.

[RON BIAU]:	[Ron Biau] from [Benin] RSSAC Caucus member.

[LAI DISSISIA]:	[Lai Dissisia] from the Gambia.

MATOGORO JABHERA:	Matogoro Jabhera from the academia but also the member in Security, Stability and Resilience Team representing ALAC.

VICTOR [TIEZA]:	Victor [Tieza] from Burundi.

[THEO KROMMER]:	[Theo Krommer], South Africa.

[INAUDIBLE]:	[inaudible], Registry dotAfrica.

MIRJANA TASIĆ:	Actually I'm not from Africa. I'm chairing the Latin Generation Panel and I'm here to find someone to work with us.

ALAN BARRETT: I'm Alan Barrett, CEO of AfriNIC.

SUNDAY [OLITAYA]:   Sunday [Olitaya], Nigeria.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much. I think it's always good when we meet like this we should have opportunity to get to know ourselves. I believe as we move on, those that are yet to introduce themselves, if you want to speak, you can still introduce yourself. In the interest of time, if you permit me we'll just move forward.

Pierre will be speaking shortly. As I said, Pierre has collaborated with the Business Constituency seriously when it comes to boosting diversity. When we started this collaboration three years ago, the membership level from Africa in BC was about 2%. In fact it was even 0% actually. So it was when we started and we started collaborating and getting support. We can report now that membership of BC is composed of 10% from Africa so we're making progress and it also extended to Asia, another 8% in Asia with the Vice President there, so thank you, Pierre. Over to you.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you very much, Jimson, and thank you all for coming again to our update on the Africa Strategy. I'm not going to be long because of the interest of time. Of course we actually have continued with what I might call our Flagship Programs. Some of you know them now. We are still trying to secure the DNS for our DNSEC road show and we are actually supporting many, many initiatives now in Africa and participating in some of the meetings there.

The only one thing I would like to say here is that the Africa Strategy had two objectives. The first one was to promote participation of Africans to ICANN'S work but the second objective also was about creating conditions eventually or supporting the Africans so that well, Africa be part of the DNS industry as well.

I will say we've been talking about participation and we've seen good results so far. Today we want really to concentrate on the industry, business component of the whole thing so this session is going to really focus on the just released draft report on the study that we commissioned a few months ago, and the idea here was to know exactly what we're talking about in terms of DNS in Africa, what that is all about.

And there is also a project to help set up what we're calling an Observatory of the DNS in Africa. We'll be talking about this one.

We also have now this dotAfrica. It has been delegated. Many people wanted us to tell exactly what's going to happen but we thought that who best could do this than the others here. So Lucky is there for the last 15 minutes to talk about this and how we do engage further on.

This is all I have to say. I need to thank all of you for coming again and, yes, we are looking forward to good discussions that will help really us go into action actually. So, yes, that's basically what I'd like to share. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE :   Thank you very much for all your efforts. We'll just go ahead and listen to Ram. Is Ram here? Ram, thank you. Over to you.

RAM MOHAN: Thank you very much and my apologies for being a few minutes behind. I won't take a long amount of time. I know you have a packed schedule but I wanted to first of all share my tremendous enthusiasm for what you're doing here. There's an Africa Strategy and the fact about most strategies is that they're only worth what you do with the execution and it's really wonderful to see the execution of it happen.

I've had the real privilege and the opportunity to contribute in a very direct way, not in my ICANN Board role but in my role as the

Executive Vice President and CTO at Afilias, which is a domain name registry here at [Plia].

We have DNS. We're in the DNS industry and one of the things I remember—Pierre was it a year and a half ago? Maybe two years ago. Pierre and I sat down and Pierre said, "Wouldn't it be nice if there was an opportunity to create a mentoring, an exchange program that would work?" And I was very enthusiastic about that because in the industry we have many players but we have only a few players who have learned how to scale and how to be deep.

For those of you who have some history with Afilias, you may know that in 2001, we were a two-person company and I was one of the people there and I helped grow the company, build it up, etc. So I have a lot of passion for mentoring and for bringing people and sharing the knowledge of what it takes to actually build a good company, build good technology and grow that.

So last year we had the absolute fun time with two interns who were selected from out of Africa. One of them had strong business interest in learning how the DNS market works and what to do with it, and another individual who had strong interest in understanding how to manage large-scale projects and to understand how you run a registry at scale. How do you run a 20 million name registry at scale.

We hosted them at our engineering facilities in Canada. They were there for a little bit more than a month with us and they were part of all our meetings. They were part of all of our strategy sessions. They watched when operation problems happened. They watched when systems went down and you brought them up automatically.

So it was brief, intense and, I hope, effective because when we left, we'd gone from them being folks who were trying to learn to really thinking of them as part of this ecosystem that we're trying to build and I think it's that kind of idea and execution of ideas like that are what we need because capacity building comes I think not from providing funds and resources like that. I think capacity building, a big part of it comes from sharing knowledge and helping understand how you build something from nothing. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Excellent. Thank you very much for those practical things that have been done. We look forward to seeing the result of that down the line since you mentioned that implementation of strategies is very key. And of course, as you see, Ram is an ICANN Board member, very, very active. Thank you.

Next will be our Board member from Africa, Khaled Koubaa. Thank you.

KHALED KOUBAA: Thank you. First of all, I would like to thank Pierre for the continuous work that he's doing for Africa and for the African Strategy under the ICANN Strategy for Africa. I'm happy to be with you here today to show that the ICANN Board is continuing his interest to support Africa in his global view.

I'm very happy to see the result of dotAfrica being delegated as African. I'm proud of this new gTLD that will serve our community. I'm happy as well to see the market study published recently which I guess a lot of you have been able to see it already. It's available on the website of ICANN.

I would like to thank the people who are working on that study because I think the study is very important for us to understand where we are exactly and what we should do on the next steps. This joins the way that Ram was presenting that every strategy needs to take into action later on. If not, there is no need for a strategy at all.

I will not go into deep analysis of this study because I'm sure Pierre and the team will be presenting it, but when I looked at it, I found that there is good numbers and good signs of African continent to shine and to grow up. Just look at the number of the offers that we have in terms of TLDs. We have more than 54 ccTLDs, 5 IDN TLDs, 3 [ccTLDs] and now we have the dotAfrica.

I think in terms of offer, the offer exists but unfortunately the demand is not following. Only 4.1 million domain names registered in Africa. This is, I think, a huge market for everyone in Africa to look at. There is a lot of opportunity for everyone in Africa to make business out of DNS market so I encourage everyone to look at this opportunity and I wish you a good discussion. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much, Khaled. We're in it together and I believe while on the Board this is paramount in your mind to ensure that the African DNS market matures. And once it matures, then we have more businesses. Next will be Sally Costerton.

SALLY COSTERTON: Thank you, Jimson, and hello, everyone, in the room and everyone online. It's nice to see such a big group dialing in remotely.

From a staff perspective it's very important to me and those that work with me that we ensure to the best of our abilities that we are using the resources available to us to help you to implement the Africa Strategy. That included helping you to create the Africa Strategy in the first place and its latest version which is now entering its second year.

What I mean by resources is not just travel dollars, although that matters, and the ability to make sure that we are providing access to people. It's great to see some fellows here today and to look at programs like that that allow us to bring new people from different parts of the world to come to help you and us do our work.

It's also time. We have a professional staff and they are there entirely to help you, to help all of us to implement and to deliver ICANN's mission.

Now recently in our work in the staff, we have started to look at how to ensure that the work we do in the engagement strategies around the world, of which there are several now, I'm happy to say, every region has one, they are working within scope and within mission.

We have new mission, we have new Bylaws and so we are making sure that we are keeping ourselves all prepared not just to make sure that we are not doing things that are out of scope but perhaps more importantly for this group, that we are living up to the mission, particularly the part that focuses on making sure to the best of our collective abilities that everyone around the world who is affected by what we do is able to participate if they want to, which is a big goal.

One of the ways we've been doing that is through our Engagement Center in Africa in Kenya in Nairobi. We have our partner here sitting around the table with us, Abdullah, and we work with Kenya and the Communication Authority of Kenya and all of you know that we've now had—I think we're coming up to our first anniversary for our Engagement Center.

It has been very busy. All of you would tell me that we needed to have it and you're absolutely right. It is hosting a lot of events particularly focused on capacity building, and most recently we've hosted a significant Capacity Building Workshop for African GAC members helping them to get much more into the detail of how things work at ICANN and to make sure that they feel that their skills are really up to date and fresh so that they can participate to the fullest. Because participation at ICANN is not just about showing up. It is about being able to engage meaningfully so that you have things accessible, easy to find in languages that people can relate to so that everybody can actually participate, not just watch.

So I am excited at the next chapter of this which to me is this study. I've been waiting for this for quite a long time. I'm very keen to see how we debate the results and I'm sure that the conclusions are going to inform the work we do together to bring not just more registrations in Africa but new registrars, more businesses, bringing jobs and bringing opportunity. And I

want to give you my word that we will do everything we can on the staff side to support the work that comes out of this to continue our great partnerships, so thank you very much.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much, Sally. We appreciate staff responsiveness to our requests and we have no doubt that with this study we're going to look at now or we're going to listen to, that the outcome will be treated properly as necessary. Thank you very much.

I think we'll just move straight to item #2 in the agenda. I won't take any comments from distinguished participants on the top table. The Africa DNS Market Study 2016, are they ready?

Okay, Lawrence, are you ready? No, it's not this Lawrence. I see a Lawrence typing something there. Lorrain, are you there?

LAWRENCE OLALE ROBERTS: I guess I was the Lawrence typing something.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Please bear with us. We're sorting out a few technical glitches. Okay, we're looking at moving to the next agenda where we tidied this up but we have feedback that Lorrain is ready. Lorrain, if you're ready please go ahead. Thank you.

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All right, while we still tidy that up, it's my pleasure to move on to this very interesting part which all of us in Africa we've been looking forward to its resolution and we're happy that it's now in the business so please join me as I welcome Lucky Masilela the Chair of ZACR to give us one presentation on reeling out on dotAfrica. Thank you.

LUCKY MASILELA: Thank you, Chair, and the Board members and all colleagues from the continent and across the continent. I thought I would be hearing a lot of cheering and clapping of hands when they said the dotAfrica was delegated.

[Applause]

That's much better, you know. It's been an arduous, long, gruesome journey I must admit and it's only a pleasure for us to present to you this what we see as a challenge and a great opportunity that has been given to us by the people of the continent of Africa to administer this project on their behalf.

We are truly elated and we feel this responsibility that we are equal to the task and we'll make sure that the continent is proud and make sure that this project is not only used as a technology but it is going to be used for socioeconomic upliftment of the continent, for joining the continent together, for addressing

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other cultural issues that are very important for us as a continent.

And this does not necessarily leave out the rest of the world but we do have our own interesting challenges that we would like this domain name to address those challenges. If I may proceed then and talk through what has happened to date. Next slide please, ma'am.

Africa by Numbers. You probably would recall that we signed in 2014—okay, it's skipping something but it should be Africa by Number. There should be something there. But if you go back—in 2014 we signed an agreement with ICANN in Singapore and unfortunately in July, this pre-delegation testing was suspended. We had to hold back and the matter was in arbitration to the courts in the U.S.

But to focus on the good news, in December 22nd , the Judge Halm declined the motion for preliminary injunction by DCA and again there was another TLO by DCA early in January and in February 3rd, again that preliminary injunction was declined and this led to the date of 11th February, 2017.

Now this date 11th February 2017, if I may talk briefly to it, on the 11th of February 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from prison after spending 27 years in prison. And 27 years later on the 11th of February 2017, dotAfrica was created and on the 15th of

February we were delegated and the job now begins for us. We're quite excited about the job ahead for us.

Now that is it for numbers. Now we'll move on to what is more exciting: confirming those numbers to talk to the proposed Launch Plan. Now the Launch Plan that we have, unfortunately it's not showing on the slide here but what we have, we have submitted to ICANN a proposed Launch Plan which subject to approval we will be able to do the following. The sunrise is planned to take place from the 4th of April, 2017 and this period will run for 60 days. Sunrise obviously, as you know, is for trademarks and people with IP names so that is going to be reserved and running for 60 days.

This will be followed by Landrush which will be the premium name. This will run for 30 days and this is planned to commence from the 5th of June. And then on the 4th of July, we commence general availability. Now this is interesting. Remember this case was handled in the U.S. and Judge Halm in his closing written order on the dismissal, he said that any further delay in the delegation of the domain name dotAfrica is harm to the African people in utilizing their own unique domain name. Judge Helm said that.

So it appears we decided to dedicate this to the American people because 4th of July is supposed to be an American holiday.

So what we need to be aware of as we proceed is the following. We also need to ensure that the African governments have subscribed to the Reserved Names List or they have appointed their representatives who will be responsible for gathering all the Reserved Names List, and these are names that would be of a geographic nature specific to that country, be it Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, or Egypt, and names that are of religious, cultural or linguistic identity, names that have economic and public names, offensive names, and these names each country is allowed at least 100 names into that Reserved Names List.

It is important that we have these names concluded before the Sunrise, before the 4th of April so make sure that you do not lose that timeline.

Now as we proceed with the Reserved Names List, I'd like to give you an update of where we are with regards to this Reserved Names List. As of today we are 30 country representatives on the database so it means there is still 24 countries plus we are a 54 country continent, and there is 1,944 names that have been submitted thus far. And of those 1, 944 names that have been submitted, we have 1,487 names that have been moderated,

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and for more information, you can visit www.dotafrica.org and you will get more information on the Reserved Names List and the status thereof. But it is important that we get all participants throughout the continent.

What we also have put in place to ensure that we accommodate the African registrars, we have created a proxy registrar service and this is a service which will enable the registrars on the continent to gain access to the name dotAfrica.

You probably would be aware that it is not easy or it is not allowed when you're not ICANN accredited to get access to any of the gTLDS so we have created a mechanism to assist on the continent so that you can be able to acquire dotAfrica. So you can talk to us about the proxy registrar services that we have already put in place to ensure the uptake of dotAfrica.

Now as we continue—next slide, ma'am—in the application, we made a pledge to the continent. This is why for us we consider this project the Pan African project. It's like building bridges, it's like building dams. In making that commitment, these are some of the four commitments that we have made to the Africa Union Commission and that we are going to ensure that we establish dotAfrica Foundation and that dotAfrica Foundation will be run by people of the continent. They will organize themselves into a body which will be led by them and managed by people of the

continent with the duty of developing the African ccTLDs, with the other duty of ensuring that we develop our own content of the continent.

One of the biggest challenges is that we have a rich history, we have a rich culture which is yet to be told in our own language and that is one of the challenges that need to be addressed in developing our local content.

The issue of developing local registrars is essential and one of the activities that I mentioned earlier on where we are going to be creating this proxy registrar is intended to develop the African registrars. We also need to look beyond just ourselves and into partnering with other registry and registrar operators globally to strengthen ourselves, but we believe we do have that mandate and the capacity to develop ourself.

And of course there are ICT related projects that need to be addressed by the foundation and those will be identified by the working group within the foundation. The foundation, I believe, should be up and running by the end or the 1st of July. The end of June or the 1st of July the foundation is expected to be up and running. It is currently in the hands of Steercom and I believe it is Steercom that will be working towards the establishment of the foundation.

Now if we proceed, ma'am. I have one minute and that's an easy one minute. What we have done—when I'm done. I'm almost done. Question is a few days ago on Friday the 10th, we were in Addis Ababa with the outgoing Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the incoming and we celebrated the launch of dotAfrica.

As you can see the photos up there, it was a beautiful event and in front of the Africa Union, the dotAfrica flag was hoisted. Our Chairperson said… Yes, the flag was hoisted and the Chairperson in her closing remarks said, "Please celebrate dotAfrica all the time and each time you find a moment, celebrate and keep celebrating until you get everything correct." So celebrating we will do.

So we promised to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro with the flag and eventually hand it to the headquarters in Addis Ababa so we will welcome you when the journey begins of traveling up the mountain and crisscrossing the continent with the flag of dotAfrica. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Excellent. Thank you very much. Thank you very much. Another big round of applause for Lucky and for the celebrations. That's good. I can see that Lorrain is ready so that we can quickly take the DNS Market story. We have time challenge now. I recognize

the questions. Okay, can we take it all together since he's here. Lorain are you there? Lorain? Okay, let's have your questions.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Okay, thank you. [inaudible] speaking for the record. Congratulations again for all of us again for the delegation of dotAfrica. Masilela, I have a little question about the dotAfrica Foundation. Don't you think that there is a little overlap between what this Foundation will do and what AfTLD is doing?

LUCKY MASILELA: No, I don't think there's an overlap. I don't think the foundation will equally be competing with AfTLD. Instead it will be complementing what AfTLD will be doing. AfTLD is part of an agreement that has been signed whereby portion part of the funds in the distribution will be going to AfTLD's activities.

If you look at those activities, they are related too. Your ccTLD development is the function of AfTLD and those funds will be doing exactly that. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, thank you very much. The more the merrier, I said, and the more we're able to synergize using all resources available for

optimal output or outcome, the better for us. So thank you again, Lucky, for that response.

I'm going to turn this to Pierre since we're still having intervention challenge from S.A. so Pierre will you do justice to this?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: So seeing that Lorain is not—well, was around but no longer is here, what we can do is quickly run the few slides that she was supposed to comment. Knowing that this is just a draft report and as you certainly read on the announcement, we still have 40 days for comments so the deadline is going to be 5th of May so don't worry if you couldn't really contribute now. You still have 40 days to actually send your comments. So this is only a draft. A few slides were prepared and maybe I'm going to go through them quickly.

So they provided us a kind of background. Of course Africa is about 54 countries including [inaudible] Indian, Atlantic Ocean Islands. One of the objective of that study was to actually identify strengths and weaknesses in the industry and then develop recommendations on how to advance the industry and of course explore options for establishing a DNS Observatory.

The whole study has a story actually. We were supposed to actually conduct this with AfTLD which is the African Association of TLDs and also ISOC chapters and that was two years ago we tried this thing.

A key objective of course here was to establish a DNS Observatory whereby data will be available for whoever wanted to enter into that business. Next slide please.

Then of course this is the team. We selected a team after, of course, due processes and it was the South African Communication Forum that was selected to actually do the study. Can we move on, please?

Okay, they are introducing the methodology. They did online survey in four languages. Certainly a few of you have been approached. They had to administer different questionnaires to of course different categories of people – registrar, registries and resellers, regulators and ISP managers. Next please?

They also have to analyze the zone file, ccTLD and gTLD zone files for instance. They have no lookup of the WHOIS. They will tell us why and then they went through a few interviews as well. Also they did some desktop research. Next please?

And then they proceed to kind of quantitative analysis or recording metrics for each ccTLDs and GTLDs, Web location

language, IPVCs and DNSEC compliance, and then they created a few subsets website hosted in countries in Africa and outside and also they could provide some analysis region per region and then per languages. Next please?

So what are the findings? This is the most important part of it. Like we said, the idea was to understand the African Internet ecosystem. Of course it's a very diverse region. As they said there's no one Africa. There are 54 of them actually. In terms of income, literacy, language, culture development stage, infrastructure development as well, many variations actually. Also it's a region that is actually lagging in terms of Internet access. Average, I'll say 28.9 while the rest of the world the average is 54%. We also experience high cost of Internet access and few local hosting facilities. So the result is a low demand for domain names so far. Next please?

But yet they say Africa is rising because there is a good increase as per the last five years from this 11 to 29%. Smartphones also doubled in Africa today making the continent second to Asia in terms of what you might call the usage of this mobile dissemination of it. Two thirds of African countries had ten or more years of uninterrupted growth recently, which is economic growth actually. So it's a region which is among the fastest growing economies.

The continent can boost 300+ innovation hubs located in 42 African countries and 80 terabytes per second of International Submarine Capacity. It's there and it's operational. So in terms of infrastructure, many things have been done to have backbone fibre networks being laid down, local assets being facilitated, ISPs in data centers now are there, and in terms of IP resources, we still have more to do in terms of going to the IPVCs version. Okay, next one.

In terms of policy regulation and governance, we are now seeing some separation between policy makers or regulators and also registries as well. Now that's what I could read. I can't get it from here.

So quickly in terms of content, 75% of 400 million of index pages are in 7 African countries. Ecommerce and [inaudible] they're all growing. Of course key drivers is Internet and then its adoption.

Key success factors: of course they need infrastructure to facilitate affordable access to the Internet. Digital awareness with sufficient literacy, conducive policy, regulatory and governance framework are needed. Payment gateways to ensure easy payment of fees. Working on the pricing, ease of regulation, confidence and then have a critical mass.

So they made some recommendations. As we said, it's a highly diverse region of course with much poverty and instability. DNS

market is very small, actually 4.5 domain per 1,000 people compared to over 100 elsewhere but market is growing fast.

They say some countries have got it right. They didn't say which ones but you have time to put the question to them. They're recommending of course that more work be done on Internet access issues especially availability and performances and policies of investment to support ecommerce, and many countries that are lagging in terms of having local hosting, to work on those.

The government to offer a range of services online. Ensuring freedom of expression online as it encourages content creation and acts as an industry driver. We're almost there.

Of course in terms of registering a domain, work on low but not zero fees. A rule which does not require domain registrants to have a legal presence in the country.

Rules which do not require domain names to match the business or personal name. Functioning and easy to use registry landing pages, and of course automatic procedures for registration in terms of payment, for instance. And then using EPP and an online payment gateway.

Have an effective business model marketing a consumer awareness strategy. Use the three other models – registry,

registrar and registrant. Well, competition into play and they're also recommending that a simple, quick and cheap dispute resolution system be adopted.

And finally they're suggesting to—the report recommends that a DNS Observatory be established to track changes in the use of domain name system in Africa and the approach they indicate is about augmenting the online questionnaire tool. The [tacolation] that will require very little maintenance and also offering any secondary to participating ccTLDs.

Of course they do have recommendation on the Observatory but I'd like to stop here and so this is basically what they have been suggesting knowing that the report itself has been posted. It's online and you can access and what we would like to have, of course, is your contribution to this and it can be a written contribution so that after 40 days we are able to have quite a document that satisfies most of us and that can now really be disseminated. So that's briefly what I have to say in terms of presenting the study. Sorry again for all the technical glitches but, well, it happens. Thanks.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much, Pierre, for the quick turnaround to take it over. We appreciate the brief. Is this presentation on the website as well apart from the text?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: No, but we can always put it on the website if you want.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Yeah, that would be quite useful. Can I take queues. I have two people on queue: [inaudible] and we have Aziz Hilali and [Denalez], [Rose] and Wafa and lady at the back. Two gentlemen and one lady at the back. I think with this we should be able to fill in the time we have. One minute if possible, Mr. [inaudible].

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you very much. Actually it was after the dotAfrica meeting presentation. It talked about Reserved Names List. I think that we need to formally request for names from the ccTLDs in the continent. Yes, we mentioned it here but not everybody is here but I think you should let all the ccTLDs know this so that you don't miss out anybody. Thank you.

LUCKY MASILELA: Thank you. A quick comment to that. The Names List letter originates from the Africa Union Commission. We're going to ask equally that Africa Union releases a letter to the relevant governments that have yet to supply those names of the representatives. Thank you but that will be done.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much. Aziz?

AZIZ HILALI: Thank you, Jimson. I'm going to speak in French. I have a question and two comments. My question is about the ccTLDs of the different African countries. I'd like to have some statistics about that so that we can have an idea about ccTLDs so if you have some numbers, Pierre, we would like to see them.

Second comment. About the rate of IPv4, the version 4 of IP address. My comment, Pierre, as a citizen of a country named Morocco, there is always a mistake on the map of Africa and I would like this mistake to be corrected. And there are some ccTLDs that are wrong and that have been changed since so it's a very old map if you could correct it. Thank you.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you. Thank you for the mapping issue and sorry for that but okay, we'll make sure that we use the map that is—how should I say—but I think we need to talk actually on this. Thanks.

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JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, you also said something about statistics and ccTLDs in some countries so maybe you also take note of that and update the presentation of—

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Yes, actually the consultants stood ready to respond but unfortunately we can't hear them but they're actually taking notes of the questions.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, so they can update the presentation down the line.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Yes.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, thank you. Thank you for that. Next is Alex.

ALEX: Yes, another question about IPv4.

AZIZ HILALI: I also had a question about IPv4 I asked.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Did you get that?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Is it the question IPv4?

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Yes, will you respond to that later as well?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Well, my job is just to send the questions to the consultants so this is already done. I also doubt about it but unless Alan Barrett from AfriNIC wants to chip in here, but I don't want to just put a figure that you will not question.

AZIZ HILALI: I think the consultant didn't make very well it's work. There were wrong numbers about ccTLDs about several things, several mistakes on the map.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: When he's here, he will let you know exactly the figures. The question was—

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Sorry, please. Pierre, in the interest of time can we tidy up that statistics and then embed it into the presentation. We just have five minutes and I have some people that need to intervene.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Yes, definitely, definitely.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Yes, Alex can you?

ALEX: Thank you. Thanks for this opportunity and I'm talking on behalf of AfTLD but first I want to congratulate ZACR for that African launching. It's I think something that we're very important for our continent and dotAfrica is not ownership of one person or one company, it's ownership of Africa. So I think that and I will confirm that we have an MoU between ZACR and AfTLD and we are very happy to begin to start to work on the issues that you are highlighting in your proposal of recommendation so we can work together on this site. It's very important.

We had in the second presentation dealing with study. I think that some findings needed to be refined because when I'm looking for this and I have a lot of—because one of the slides say that the big problem is the pricing of the domain names and

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after that wonderful recommendation is to give freely the domain name for the people.

I don't understand. There's not a business. I think there is some conclusion needed to be refined. I don't know exactly how the consultants have made this kind of things. What I just can say is AfTLD can take into account the full report. I want to be able to share this report with its numbers and quickly send some—what do you say—react on this report as quickly as possible. If we can have also dedicated data for each ccTLD so that I can approve the data from the constituents, it can be very important also.

So just to say that AfTLD is open. It's ready to work on this issue with ICANN and the consultants to have really a good report in the frameworks in the delay that you have had before. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, thank you. Yaovi, you wanted to say something.

YAOVI ATOHOUN: Sorry for the technical issue but it is good that we're raising all this because the objective of this session, you'll see the format is different from the previous Africa Strategy Session. We wanted to spend more on this study so it's good and if you see on the ICANN website, Pierre will mention maybe more on that, we

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have the public comment period open so we are expecting more feedback from the community. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, thank you very much. [inaudible]?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thank you. Thank you, Pierre, for the presentation. I think the outputs of the strategies are acceptable. We now these are our problems and ccTLDs in the region. It would have been interesting if we know or if we knew how the ccTLDs are managed in the region.

We know that many of ccTLDs are outsourced and are not well managed and that this input would be very interesting for the study. My concern with the study—this is my second month—is that this studies, what we have been doing gives us much input. What will we do with these inputs. I hope we'll have an action plan after these studies and this output and as Alex said, there are many who we can partner with them to implement an action plan. We need really action plans after these studies. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Yes, excellent. Thank you very much. Two people at the back, gentlemen, maybe we'll take a lady first. Can you go to the mic,

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please. Just right there. I think there's a mic. State your name and affiliation.

MIRJANA TASIĆ: My name is Mirjana Tasić. I'm chairing Latin Generation Panel and I'm here with a mission to ask people from Africa to join our panel because we don't have participants from Africa. This Latin generation panel is very important for everybody WHOIS using Latin script in writing languages because this panel should make rules how top-level domains with IDN, how IDN TLDs will be made.

So please we have tomorrow at 1:45 a meeting upstairs. I think the room is MR2. We need really very many people from Africa to join us because there is no one from Africa up to now in our panel. Please consider this and come tomorrow to see what we are doing because we are just at the beginning. We made formally a proposal for the panel. The proposal is not accepted yet but we hope we shall do it in the next few months, and the people from Africa are most welcomed and most wanted, let's say, because there is no other way I can find anyone from Africa. I live somewhere in the middle of Europe and I don't travel very often. Please come tomorrow to Latin GP meeting to see what we are doing and maybe you will be interested to join us. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much. Pierre, you want to say something?

PIERRE DANDJINOU: I just wanted to thank you very much for coming. I invited her actually to be able to talk about the IDN. We also have our friend from Ethiopia who is around. Ethiopia is the only one country actually that's now working on its own script thing and they would like to have more Africans on this thing so she just has a call. Please attend and eventually be part of the working group.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, very good. I think we're right on top of the hour. We should be around—the two gentlemen I promised you so can you do it in ten seconds? Quick question, comment? Thank you.

MATOGORO JABHERA: Thank you. My name Matogoro Jabhera. is I'd like to ask the dotAfrica because you have said the dotAfrica will be run by the multistakeholder model but if you visit the website on the stakeholders, you have the African government, you have the African Union, and Zaccra. So I'd like to know if you have the multistakeholder model in place to engage all the end-users because I'm also coming from the academia and I would like to

know the role of academia especially in taking forward the dotAfrica for the African people. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much. Good question. Maybe before his answer, can we take the second one so that if it's for him he can just wrap it up. Thank you.

[ALA GISISE]:   Okay, good afternoon. My name is [Ala Gisise] from the Gambia. I would like to congratulate all of us for the dotAfrica. My question is with regard to ccTLDs, we're one of those countries that still have their ccTLDs delegated outside our country so we've been trying to work out means to get it re-delegated in our country because I believe we have the infrastructure and we have the capacity to maintain it. So my question is, is there anything the African Community can do as part of the Africa Strategy to set up a taskforce or committee that would assist such countries like my country who still have issues with this regard? Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, thank you very much. One second.

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PIERRE DANJINOU: On the report, there was particular slide that mentioned that some countries are getting it right. These countries we want to know those that are getting it right and what did they do right.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you very much. The spirit of transparency, right? Okay, I think Lucky will respond and then we'll wrap up. Thank you.

LUCKY MASILELA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for the question. What we when the application was put together, it was agreed that we need to set up two engines that will ensure the success of dotAfrica. The first engine which would be responsible for the operation of dotAfrica and that would be registered outside South Africa in Mauritius and that is Registry Africa. Its core function is a registry operator function services.

Then the next body would be the dotAfrica Foundation. That entity would then comprise of the multistakeholder structure. It has a constitution in place. It has been look into place by this steer comm. If you look into the site of africainoespace.org, you will see that there has been a steer comm. that has been working very hard in ensuring that the application is achieved and that very steer comm. is going to now occupy the dotAfrica Foundation based on a multistakeholder model comprising of

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people from around the continent who are participating in the Internet space. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Okay, and thank you very much. I want to appreciate [inaudible] Board members are here and everyone that intervened with very valid and substantive contribution. We appreciate everyone. I will now turn it back to our Vice President of Stakeholders, Vice President ICANN for Africa. Pierre.

PIERRE DANDJINOU: Thank you, Jimson, and again thank you all and apologies for all the technical problem we faced but definitely as far as the study is concerned, as we said, you actually have 40 days to send your comments on it and it's already online. What we did here of course is some of your questions we took note of them and then we'll send them to the consultant so definitely nothing is lost here and you'll still be heard.

A specific question from Gambia, I think one of the good result of our Capacity Building Workshop in Nairobi for the GAC was to actually establish that working group or taskforce that you are calling for. I know there is—and my colleagues from fTLDs are around. They can tell you—there's a small group now that is actually working to assist those countries who may be going

through such issues as the delegation and all. So what we'll do is have you consider Gambia and let them know exactly where you are in terms of launching that group.

Well, that's all and again thanks to all and then, as they say, let's move to action now. Thank you.

JIMSON OLUFUYE: Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]