**CAPACITY BUILDING AND THE REGIONAL STRATEGIES**

- Africa, Latin America and the Middle East are in the process of implementing their individual Regional Strategies; the Asia-Pacific region has just finished their strategic planning; and Europe, North America and Oceania, are currently in consultations and discussions with regard to regional strategic planning.

- Within the current strategic plans capacity building is a key component.
  - **Africa**
    - The overall objective of the Africa strategy is capacity building at different levels, for example:
      - Promotion of the domain name industry;
      - Support to the user community
      - Promotion of informed participation of all stakeholders to ICANN.
    - As a result of this, capacity building takes place throughout different areas including but not limited to:
      - Security and stability of the DNS;
      - Business models for managing ccTLDs;
      - IANA Functions;
      - Rights Protections
  - **Latin America**
    - The Latin American Regional Strategy encompasses four key areas of interest that were identified by the working group:
      - Political Issues
      - Capacity Building and Outreach
      - Operational Issues
      - Economic Issues
- Capacity Building is highlighted throughout these strategies, and throughout ICANN as a very important component.
- There is a necessity for the various Stakeholders within the ICANN community to learn how, and in what ways, they can participate in

ICANN processes, and how they can make their voice heard in different stakeholder groups.

- Capacity building is necessary throughout the regions in order to learn about more of the substance of the issues that are being discussed. Capacity building efforts and programs should include, but not be limited to, introductory training on the basics of the Domain Name System (DNS) for newcomers.
- Given the diversity of stakeholders within the ICANN community there is a need to build on current, and upcoming, tools that can assist community members in facilitating their dialogues and meetings, as well as education relating to the various techniques used in order to aid them in reaching consensus.

- There are other "external" or "operational" needs related to Capacity Building. For example, in the regional strategies there are capacity building initiatives aimed at providing knowledge on operational subjects such as the Stability, Security and Resiliency of the DNS.

- One key factor of success for a good Capacity Building program within the Regional Strategies was the fact that the strategies were designed under a Multistakeholder and bottom-up approach. The community itself identified the Capacity Building needs for their regions which provided a clear guide on the real needs and challenges each region faces.

- As part of the discussion for the Singapore session we would encourage community members to discuss two main issues:
  - Evaluation and feedback of the current approach
  - How we can partner with them even further in new innovative ways.