

ICANN UPDATE

Volume 1, Issue 2, September 2004

UPCOMING EVENTS!

8 - 10 September 2004
ITU, Asia Telecom

6 - 17 September 2004
RANS, Russia Mtg.

16-18 September 2004
Highway Africa Mtg.
Grahamstown, So. Africa

20 - 22 September 2004
CTO Followup Mtg.
Sri Lanka

20 - 24 September 2004
Ripe 49 Meeting
Manchester, UK

21 - 22 September 2004
CENTR Meeting

20 - 22 October 2004
ARIN XIV
Reston, Virginia

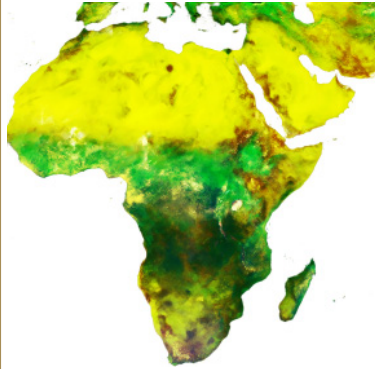


ICANN

*Helping to ensure a global,
interoperable Internet*

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The Highway Africa Conference: Africa meets the Future

An exciting gathering of Africa's top journalists, academics, non-government organisations and government officials will convene in Grahamstown, South Africa September 16th- 18th 2004

Special Report by Chris Kabwato, Director, Highway Africa

Some eight years ago members of staff of the

Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, started the New Media Lab (NML) – a centre that they envisioned as a marriage of “university-based journalism resources and digital media.” They saw the NML as empowering journalism students, the media industry and other professional communicators to optimise the use of the Internet and new communication technologies. The NML has continued to grow

and so has one of its key offshoots; a conference called Highway Africa.

The Highway Africa conference has grown to become the largest gathering of African journalists in the world. In 2003; over 330 delegates, comprising journalists, academics, key industry players, public officials and civil society actors, attended the conference in Grahamstown, South Africa. The mission for the conference is simple: to provide a platform for African journalists to learn about, use and report on Information Society issues and on information and communication technologies (ICTs). The vision is to create an Africa in which the media plays a critical role in deepening democracy and furthering development by doing what journalists do best: inform, interrogate and analyse. In this mission ICTs occupy a central importance because of the nature in which radio, television, telephones, mobile technology and the Internet are used across all sectors of the economy – education, health, agriculture etc.

"The mission for the conference is simple: to provide a platform for African journalists to learn about, use and report on Information Society issues and on information and communication technologies (ICTs)."

The 2004 Highway Africa Conference will take place in Grahamstown, South Africa from 16 to 18 September. The event will have a strong alignment to the unfolding processes of the World Summit on the Information Summit (WSIS) which has two significant phases – the Geneva Summit (December 2003) and the Tunis Summit (November 2005). Its shall seek to do a number of things:

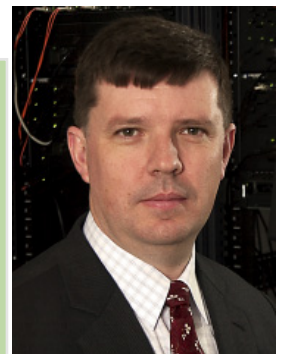
- reflect on Africa's place in the Global Information Society given the World Summit on the Information Society, NEPAD and other developments;
- enable the African media to re-strategize on its role in the information society;
- educate journalists about the unfolding processes and their implications for national policies;
- alert journalists to new ICTs and the issues entailed;
- provide a platform for all stakeholders (journalists, private sector, government and civil society) to exhibit, meet, debate and network.

Kieran Baker, ICANN's GM for Communications and Public Participation noted: "Highway Africa
(Highway Africa continues on Page 2)

CEO's CORNER

In this regular column, Dr. Paul Twomey, President and CEO of ICANN will offer his views on the latest issues impacting ICANN.

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subscription requests to:
newsletter@icann.org

ICANN News

US Federal District Court Dismisses VeriSign's Anti-Trust Claim against ICANN with Prejudice 26 August 2004

GNSO Finalized Criteria Recommendation for Designation of Subsequent .net Registry Operator 10 August 2004

Next-generation IPv6 Address Added to the Internet's Root DNS Zone 20 July 2004

Announcement of the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy The new transfer policy will provide for a smooth transition of a domain name from one registrar to another when such a change is requested by the domain name holder. The policy will be in effect by 12 November, 2004. 12 July 2004

(Highway Africa continued from Page 1)

will provide an opportunity to discuss challenges facing African journalists in the changing environment of the Internet's infrastructure. ICANN's global outreach efforts, which include a diverse and International Board & Staff, invite input and comments from a broad spectrum of stakeholders concerned with the issues involving next generation technology and Internet management functions. Those participating in Highway's Africa's workshops and seminars will include Mouhamet Diop, our ICANN Board Member from Senegal and ICANN's Brussels based Policy Analyst/Liaison Anne-Rachel Inne, who is a member/board member of several African and international organizations that work with/for the private sector with a focus on ICT's."

The standard Highway Africa programme is a mix of plenary and keynote presentations, panel discussions and hands-on workshops where delegates acquire practical skills and expertise. The event is simultaneously an arena for academic discussion and research, a venue for presenting media and government strategy, a forum for journalistic networking, and an occasion for professional skills transfer.

Key speakers at this year's event include Mr. Adama Samassekou, President of the WSIS Preparatory Committee Meeting, Dr. Paul Towney, President of ICANN, Professor Cees Hamelink, a leading academic on human rights and new media and a host of key business and civil society actors. Topics to be covered include a post-Geneva WSIS assessment, the role of the African media in a globalised world, the Internet and civil liberties, African development initiatives and ICTs and African national and regional ICT policies.

Exhibitions are a growing feature of the conference and this year exhibitors will include Africa's mobile technology giant, MTN as well as umbrella bodies for community radio in Africa, AMARC and NCRF. The exhibitions provide an opportunity for exposure of various services and products. The conference will also feature the Highway Africa Awards for Innovative Use of New Media in Africa. SABC Africa will televise the award ceremony live across the continent.

The conference is expected to produce a statement by the African journalists and media that will guide their participation in the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society. **For more information visit <http://www.highwayafrica.org.za>**

CEO's CORNER, *Dr. Paul Twomey*

ICANN recently concluded its meetings in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where several important steps were taken to continue supporting a global, interoperable Internet. We moved ahead on the implementation of next-generation IPv6 technology, enabling trillions more addresses to support the continuing growth of the Internet. We heard from Adiel Akplogan, concerning acknowledgement of AfriNIC, the emerging African regional Internet address registry, and its request for commencement of an ICANN recognition process, a historical event in local control of African Internet resources.

In addition we are creating an advisory group to engage the global Internet community in the use of Internationalised Domain Names (also referred to as "IDNs") within the domain name system to further Internet growth in new languages and regions of the world. In this we will partner with others who are

pursuing this important goal.

Additionally the Country Code Name Supporting Organisation initiated its Council (ccNSO). The ccNSO is ICANN's policy coordinating body for the world's country-code TLD's (top-level domain) communities; there is now a long sought-after supporting organisation to provide a voice for ccTLDs within the ICANN structure.

At KL I was able to report that we have made major progress towards completing the final step to becoming a fully stand-alone International Multistakeholder Organisation. ICANN and officials of the US Department of Commerce agreed that ICANN has completed many of its milestones under the final MOU with the DOC - and that the remainder are on, or ahead of, schedule.

As many of you well know, ICANN has been

(Continued on page 3)

The ICANN Nominating Committee is appreciative of the number of submissions received from the community in response to its Formal Call for Recommendations and Statements of Interest.

The Nominating Committee is charged with filling the following positions in 2004:

- 3 members of the Board of Directors
- 1 member of the Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)
- 2 members of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)
- 3 members of the Council of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

The Committee is now in the process of reviewing the submissions received, and expects to announce its selections in October. For more information, see the Nominating Committee's page at <http://www.icann.org/committees/nom-comm/>.



Jean-Jacques Damlamian

heavily involved in the recent debate surrounding WHOIS services - registrar and registry databases displaying the public contact details of every person of every gTLD domain registration. ICANN's Generic Names Supporting Organisation (GNSO) has formed three task force groups assigned to consider the three key issues surrounding this debate. Final reports have been submitted to the GNSO Council. The Council will present their conclusions to the board.

This new ICANN Update is an opportunity for members of the community to participate further in the ICANN process by sending in suggestions for future topics to be discussed and we will try to get appropriate answers and updates. Given that this is only our second effort at producing such a newsletter, we are keen to take suggestions and feedback. For those of you who are attending the Grahamstown Highway Africa conference I look forward to meeting you in person.

Global Partnerships

FOCUS IN THE REGIONS

ICANN's mission and mandate is global, which means it must be able to respond to individuals, organizations, and governments from ICANN's 5 regions, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Africa and North America, and create an ability for all to participate. In fact, all those participating through ICANN's three Supporting Organizations, five Advisory Committees, and ICANN's Board must be geographically diverse, such is the unique nature of the ICANN Process.

Consequently, with a wide diversity of participation, and a wide diversity of needs the organization has to be able to respond to all within its area of responsibility. So it will come as no surprise that ICANN as a global organization must be globally present – that means, accessible and available within a time frame and language area reasonable to the respective regions.

As the organization matures, and works towards completing its Memorandum of Understanding with the US Department of Commerce, it is responding to community interest to establish minimal, but effective and efficient presence in the regions. The first of these initiatives is with the opening of the office in Brussels. A small office in size and staff, it's in the time zone reasonable to many. Examples of what the Brussels office sees on a daily basis include not only its support work for ICANN's Supporting Organizations (with the Vice-President for being present there), but also ccTLDs on delegation and redelegation issues, inquiries from registrars, ISPs, private sector organisations, governments, and civil society, on particular needs as well as general ICANN information. This is certainly welcomed by those eager to avoid the 4 am call to make an inquiry about a matter ably handled at a time zone convenient to them.

Given its location, the Brussels office is able to see and discuss Internet and ICANN related issues practically on a daily basis as Brussels is the buzzing capital of the European Union where almost all countries of the world have Embassies or Delegations and where many private sector players have representatives.

ICANN BOARD MEMBER: Mouhamet Diop

Mouhamet Diop is the President of the Senegalese IT Association (SITSA), member of the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), a global Alliance (<http://www.witsa.org>).

Mouhamet Diop is the CEO of NEXT SA, an innovative consulting company in Senegal (West Africa).

Prior to joining NEXT SA, he worked for SONATEL (the Senegalese National Telecom Company) from 1993 to 2001. He served as the Data Network Manager and built the biggest IP-Based network in West Africa.

Mouhamet Diop holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Chemistry from University Cheikh Anta Diop, and a Ph. D. Certificate in Computer Science "Parallelism and distributed Systems" from University of Rennes (IFSIC).

He also holds an MBA in Finance from ESSEC (Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales) at Cergy in France in 1993.

He graduated from ENST de Bretagne in Telecommunications.

Engineering: "Computer Science and Networking" France, and holds a telecom engineering degree from ESMT Dakar obtained with highest honours in 1990.

Mouhamet Diop is the Permanent Secretary of ISOC Senegal Chapter

He is also an ITU, UNIDO expert for the development of Telecommunications and ICTs in developing countries.

He is involved in the Afrinic process to set up a new emerging RIR and in the IDN committee.

ICANN BOARD MEMBER: Njeri Rionge

Highlights of Achievements:

- Instrumental in taking Internet concepts to wide range of corporate and individual user in my seven (7) year in industry and created a niche market for my previous employers.
- Achieved for Inter-Connect Ltd, growth sales in 2 years of 500% per annum or 23 times nearly 5 times the corporate target and the company's previous sales before leaving and establishing Wananchi Online Ltd, as co-founder.
- Instrumental in Broadening the Internet Market for affordable Internet Services to the Mwanachi by the reduction of prices from Kshs.72, 000 to Kshs.12, 000
- Spearheading an Internet educational series on KTN Television in line with our vision to see Internet services available to Kenyans with the fruition of e-commerce in the near future.
- My experience has both a local and international perspective having worked for International companies in US, North America and Europe.
- Promoted African Arts to the American Market in eleven states thru the Black Expo Conference.

I have been involved in presentations and participated in Conferences / Workshops for Venture Capital in Africa, ACT 2000 ICT in Emerging Markets, All African Business Women E-Commerce in Kenya, African Business Forum Service Industry in Africa An Internet Industry Perspective, Kenya Internet Society Digital Divide Africa, World Summit Digital Africa Focus on emerging markets a telecommunication perspective and entrepreneurship scheduled for early next year.

Countries of Work Experience: Kenya, Italy, Spain, Canada, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

Areas of passion, interest and training: Predictive Index (PI), a tool/method for Job Mapping Profiling with Competence simply put identifying the right job for the right profile/individual, Lead Auditor (ISO 9001:2000) business systems audits and Corporate Governance, these are the most effective and enabling management tools that any executive management individual can benefit.



ICANN Board Member, **Mouhamet Diop**

Mouhamet Diop is the Representative of the African Private Sector in the Bamako Bureau for the preparation of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS).

He is also the Private Sector Representative in the Senegalese "Task Force" for the WSIS.



ICANN Board Member, **Njeri Rionge**

Njeri Rionge is Co-Founder, Chief Executive Officer of Wananchi Online Limited (www.wananchi.com) a leading IP Communications Solutions Provider.

Memberships: Organisation of Women in International Trade (OWIT), All African Business Women (AABA), Kenya Woman Finance Trust (KWFT), Urukundo Investments co founder and ex-chairperson. Njeri is also a member of American Business Association (ABA).

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS!

7 - 12 November 2004
IETF 61
Washington DC, USA

18 - 19 November 2004
CENTR Meeting
Zurich, Switzerland

22 - 24 November 2004
WSIS Meeting
Marrakech, Morocco

25 - 27 November 2004
Francophone Ministerial Meeting

1 - 5 December 2004
ICANN's 5th Annual Meeting
Cape Town, So. Africa

LOOKING AHEAD at Future ICANN Newsletter Topics:

Registrar Round-up

Budget Update

Spotlight on Latin America

Preview of ICANN's December Meetings in Cape Town

Volume 1, Issue 2

ICANN AT-LARGE

BY DENISE MICHEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To give the world's Internet users a stronger voice in how the Internet develops, a new mechanism was created last year for individual Internet users' participation in ICANN called "ICANN At-Large." Any group (either existing organisations or newly formed for this purpose) that enables informed participation by individual Internet users in issues addressed by ICANN can apply for "At-Large Structure" certification. Interested groups complete and submit to ICANN's At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) a short application form, and groups that meet the minimum requirements are certified.

User groups in Africa are encouraged to get certified, and Africa's At-Large participation is growing. A variety of organisations throughout the world have expressed interest in participating in ICANN as At-Large Structures, including community networking groups, professional societies, consumer advocacy groups, and academic organisations. Certification is free, easy, and done via email. For more information and an ALS application form see <http://www.alac.icann.org/applications/>.

ICANN At-Large is a valuable and unique voice in the global Internet arena, and the participation of additional organisations, particularly in Africa, are profoundly important. The growing involvement in ICANN of geographically and professionally diverse user groups will help ensure that ICANN's consensus-

development efforts best reflect the interests of the global Internet community. At-Large provides crucial contributions to ICANN's work on such matters as guidance on how internationalised domain names (use of non-ASCII characters to enable "local language" domain names) are implemented, and how additional new top-level domains (i.e. .info, .name, .museum, etc.) are introduced -- to name a few issues of importance to end-users.

Certified groups are wholly independent from ICANN. "At-Large Structure" certification simply recognises that the groups meet ICANN's criteria for involving individual Internet users in ICANN activities and for promoting individuals' understanding of, and participation in, ICANN. Being certified as an "At-Large Structure" provides groups with:

- A recognised role in Internet policy making on issues that affect Internet end-users;
- Quick and easy access to first-hand information on ICANN events and debates;
- Opportunities to provide their members with ICANN's educational resources and developments;
- Interaction with other groups in the same region and/or with common interests;
- Representation within ICANN at the regional and international level;
- Opportunities for group

members to serve on ICANN's regional and international decision-making bodies;

- A free web page and other Internet-based mechanisms to support their work; and
- Opportunities to receive grant funding to support selected group activities.

ICANN At-Large used grant funding to bring leaders of Africa's individual Internet user communities to the ICANN conference in Carthage in 2003. They attended workshops on the design, operation, coordination, and governance of the Internet, and met with technical, commercial, civil society, and governmental leaders and Internet experts, as well as other African Internet community leaders. Similar events are being planned for ICANN's meeting in Capetown in December 2004.

To help with At-Large organising, and to work with At-Large Structures in advising ICANN on pending issues of interest to end-users, ICANN created the 15-member At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) last year. Current ALAC members from Africa are Pierre Dandjinou (based in Benin), Clement Dzidonu (based in Ghana), and Sunday Folayan (based in Nigeria). They can be reached by sending email to committee@alac.icann.org.

For more information on At-Large, visit the ICANN At-Large website at www.alac.icann.org. Questions or comments on At-Large should be emailed to committee@alac.icann.org.