AFRICA REGIONAL REPORT

1 JULY 2019 - 30 JUNE 2020

ICANN

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Year at a Glance — Timeline

2019

22-24 July

The **7th Africa Domain Name System Forum**, hosted by the Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority (BOCRA), was held in Gaborone, Botswana.

4-9 September

ICANN org participated in both the annual **Africa School on Internet Governance** (AFRISIG2019) as well as the **Africa IGF 2019** edition in N'Djamena, Chad.

27 September

ICANN org's Adiel Akplogan, recognized as an Internet pioneer in Africa, was **inducted** into the 2019 Internet Hall of Fame.

2-6 December

ICANN org participated in the AFRINIC31 Meeting in Luanda, Angola.

2020

20 January

The Africa Strategy Working Group (ASWG2020) began work to develop the FY21–25 Africa Regional Plan.

12-14 February

ICANN org teams led an academic outreach mission and delivered a public lecture series at universities in Kenya and Cape Verde.

25 February

ICANN org led a DNS Abuse and Mitigation Workshop with Law Enforcement Agencies in Bujumbura, Burundi.

15 April

The FY21–25 ICANN Africa Regional Plan was **published** for Public Comment.

30 April

The ICANN org team in Africa conducted a **webinar** on "Universal Acceptance and Local Initiatives in Africa" for the regional community.

14 May

A regional webinar for the Middle East and Africa was held on ICANN's Open Data Program featuring presentations by ICANN org members.

Regional Highlights

A CLOSER FOCUS ON YOUTH AND ACADEMIA ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA

According to the African Union, 65% of the population in Africa is below age 35. This makes it more important than ever to involve the younger generation of Africans in the ICANN community. Working together with universities, the regional team deployed more resources and efforts in outreach targeting youth engagement with the ICANN community this year. Key highlights included:

- A public lecture at the Strathmore University in Nairobi, Kenya, on 18 September 2019 where students were introduced to the ICANN ecosystem and the multistakeholder model.

- A presentation on ICANN and DNS during the Woman DNS Academy event in Cotonou, Benin, on 17 September 2019.

- A YouthCom workshop on 10 October 2019 at Bugema University in Uganda where students were introduced to the DNS and ICANN.

- A public lecture at the University of Nairobi School of Law was held on 24 October 2019, where students were introduced to the ICANN ecosystem and the multistakeholder model.

- An outreach activity was conducted at the University of Ghana in collaboration with the Internet Society of Ghana on 25 October 2019. More than 50 students were introduced to the Internet ecosystem and ICANN.

- A remote presentation on Universal Acceptance was delivered at the UbuntuNet 2019 conference on 1 November 2019.

- A YouthCom workshop on 14 November 2019 at Technical University of Kenya in Nairobi.

- A public lecture series was conducted from 12–14 February 2020 in Maseno, Nairobi, Multimedia and Masinde Muliro Universities in Kenya, as well as Cabo Verde and Jean-Piaget University in Cape Verde.

A NEW ICANN AFRICA REGIONAL PLAN FOR FY21-25

Development of ICANN's FY21–25 Strategic Plan created a need to review and realign ICANN org's engagement plan for Africa. The new plan emphasizes capacity development to empower African governments and Internet stakeholders — especially the business sector — to address these challenges by leveraging ICANN's technical expertise and resources, with the African community's support.

The African community began reworking the ICANN Africa Regional Implementation Plan during FY20, with facilitation from the ICANN org regional team. An Africa Strategy Working Group (ASWG2020), made up of 25 diverse representatives selected through a public call, was formed in January to develop this plan.

The ASWG2020 worked diligently within very tight timelines and produced the first draft of the new plan. This was presented to the community during the Africa Strategy session at ICANN67 for further input and comments. The preliminary comments were incorporated into a final draft published for Public Comment. Additional community input from that Public Comment period has also been incorporated into the final plan, published in July 2020. The team expresses its sincere gratitude to the ASWG2020 and the ICANN community for all their efforts in making this process a success despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic.

Capacity-Development Activities in Africa

Note: The FY20 training calendar was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

TRAINING FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNITY

ICANN org held technical workshops and webinars on DNS Network Security, DNSSEC, and Universal Acceptance across the region.

Total number of workshops in FY20:

1

Total number of workshops in FY19:

4

TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

ICANN org provides training for law enforcement agencies so that they can better handle abuse and misuse related to Internet identifiers.

Total number of workshops in FY20:

1

Total number of workshops in FY19:

4

TRAINING FOR NONTECHNICAL COMMUNITY

The org also regularly helps to build capacity for the community such as accredited registrars and registry operators. In addition, ICANN org engaged with government and civil society for training that is relevant to these sectors.

Total number of workshops in FY20:

0

Total number of workshops in FY19:

6

Africa Community Leaders

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dr. Eberhard W Lisse — ccNSO PDP Retirement Working Group, Vice Chair

UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE AMBASSADORS

Abdalmonem Galila — Egypt

You can find the complete list of community leaders from all regions **here**.

ICANN Locations

Headquarters

12025 Waterfront Drive
Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
USA
Phone: +1 310 301 5800
Fax: +1 310 823 8649

Regional Offices

Brussels, Belgium

6 Rond-Point Schuman
B-1040 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 894 7414

Istanbul, Turkey

Hakki Yeten Cad. Selenium
Plaza No:10/C K:10
34349 Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: +90 212 999 6222

Montevideo, Uruguay

La Casa de Internet de
Latinoamérica y el Caribe
Rambla República de México 6125
11400 Montevideo, Uruguay
Phone: +598 2604 2222 ext 5701
Fax: +598 2604 2222 ext 4112

Singapore

South Beach Tower
38 Beach Road, Unit 04-11
Singapore 189767
Phone: +65 6816 1288

Engagement Centers

Beijing, China

5th floor, No. 1 Building,
Software Park
Chinese Academy of Sciences
4 South 4th Street
Zhongguancun, Haidian
District, Beijing, China
queries.beijingec@icann.org

Geneva, Switzerland

Regus Center
Rue du Rhône 14
1204 Geneva, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 819 1844
Fax: +41 22 819 1900

Nairobi, Kenya

Regus Center
17th Floor
JKUAT Towers, Kenyatta Avenue
PO BOX 15168-00400
Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: +254 (0)20 5157029
Fax: +254 (0)20 5157001

Washington, D.C., USA

801 17th Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006
USA
Phone: +1 202 570 7240
Fax: +1 202 789 0104

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